

[Note: This transcript reflects the original as closely as possible but, as it is handwritten, discrepancies may occur.]

EPISTLES RECEIVED BY FRITCHLEY GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS, ENGLAND
1864 to 1896 (From New York, Pennsylvania & New England)

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EPISTLES RECEIVED BY FRITCHLEY GENERAL MEETING OF FRIENDS, ENGLAND
From:

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1864

EPISTLE FROM NEW YORK

From New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge Cayuga Co. New York by adjournments from the 23rd of fifth month to the 25th of the same inclusive 1864.

To the remnant of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

In [ferling] ourselves the fresh incomes of the Spirit and the Father's love vouchsafed amongst us at this season of our Annual Assembly tendering our hearts and inciting with fervent desires for an increased dedication to him who has called us to virtue and holiness, and peculiarly to uphold the Standard of Truth in the Earth, you have been brought to our remembrance with a breathing of spirit for you also, to the Father of Mercies that you may indeed in his Mercy, be clean gathered out of the apostasy that has overspread the length and breadth of our vineyard, whom the Lord planted a noble vine, and hath from generation to generation watered it plentifully. And yet sorrowful to relate, when the Lord looked for it to bring forth grapes, it hath in these latter days brought forth wild grapes; Excepting a few scattered branches here and there preserved like a few berries upon the tops of the utmost branches thereof. We need not Enlarge this theme, though Volumes would not Exhaust it.

But, dear hearts a little word of Encouragement arose with us to address you, though we feel to be a very feeble remnant of the Lord's mercy not consumed because his compassions fail not. Yet we have not been

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1864

so stripped as they have in some places in this land, for we have the order and discipline of the society still left us as a hedge that we feel bound to be faithful in: while in some other parts they have had to leave all – Their Meetings of Discipline their Meeting houses & property their near friends with whom they had gone often taken sweet Counsel together – and Escaped as it were “with their life in their hands”, and come out and be separated from the old order (as it had run into a Confederacy on the part of those who professed to hold it, “and touch not the unclean thing” Ere the plague was stayed. For whilst there was a staying with that the Numbers in the ranks became fewer and fewer and many waxed more feeble.

And dear friends it may be your portion to have thus to make a clean coming out of Egypt where the darkness is to be felt, and where the hard taskmaster would fain keep all he can. And may you come out without leaving a hoof behind that an acceptable sacrifice may be made to the Lord as in days of old in your land, where the Lord did in days gone by ~~terribly~~ lovingly shake the false heavens and Earth by his mighty power for his Names sake. that he may not suffer his heritage to be laid Entirely waste but that He may preserve a seed by whom the stones may be revived out of the heaps of rubbish that have been buried by the [fire] man's false human Zeal; and that the true Zeal as in former days may be rekindled and that upon Every vessel in the Lord's house may be inscribed Holiness unto the Lord of Hosts!

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1864

O then, may you with us be afresh incited to renewed diligence in the work whereunto we are called, whether it be in the vineyard of our own hearts or more publicly for the rebuilding of the walls of our Jerusalem, watching daily unto prayer with our weapon in one hand and a tool in the other, lest we be taken as unawares, and thus surprised fall an Easy prey to our Cruel Enemy who is continually watching an opportunity to betray us. Mournful indeed have been the instances with us, wherein those who had been placed as watchmen on our walls, and who had been valiant in the Lord's Cause, have through unwatchfulness become Entangled in the Enemy's net and now walk no more with us. May we be warned thereby to trust in the Lord alone and lean not to our own understanding.

Our hearts have been gladdened by the company of dear friends from your land, and it has been Comforting & Encouraging, that though strangers as to the outward we can feel that we have been taught in the same school, and we trust are in our several measures Engaged in the same holy cause.

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And now beloved friends, we feel to Exhort you in the language of the Apostle "Be sober be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion walketh about seeking whom he may devour, whom resist Steadfast in the faith knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in Your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all Grace who hath called us unto his Eternal Glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, [stablish], strengthen [illegible] you.

With a salutation of unfeigned love we are your friends

Signed by direction of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge Cayuga Co New York by adjournments from the 25th of the 5th Month to the 27th of the same inclusive 1868.

James D. Otis, Clerk

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1968

PENNA & C

From our General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware & c held at Falsington Bucks Co, Pennsylvania by adjournments, on the 2nd & 3rd of the sixth Month 1868.

To the Conference Meeting of Men & Women Friends in England.

Dear Friends

Our minds have been turned to you in this our General Meeting, with Earnest desires that we may be found more & more faithfully walking together in the narrow way and concerned to hold up Each others hands in maintaining the testimonies of the Ancient and unchangeable Truth. And herein we have felt somewhat called upon to address you, as brethren and sisters, And Encourage you "to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not Entangled again with the Yoke of bondage

We have believed that many among you have been set for the defence of the Gospel in a day of remarkable backsliding and defection wherein the very mystery of iniquity has been & is working to deceive the hearts of the simple. And we have desired that you and we might be strengthened by Him

who alone can help His little ones to do His will, to stand firm and faithful against all the Contrivances and insinuations of the Enemy.

This we believe will involve a walking in a very lowly and narrow path Even the path of testifying openly against the Apostacy from the ancient, fundamental and Characteristic doctrines and testimonies of the Society of Friends, which has so lamentably and so palpably [overtaken] the great [illegible] of the professors of our Name in the present day.

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But be not dismayed, dear brethren and sisters at the prospect before you. Remember the wonderful preservation Experienced by Israel of old at the Red Sea, when the Enemy was threatening them with destruction, but a way was made for them through the deep waters. “When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of Strange language, Indah was his sanctuary and Israel his dominion The Sea saw it and fled. Jordan was driven back; the Mountains skipped like rams and the little hills like lambs. What ailed thee O thou Sea that thou fleddest, thou Jordan that thou wast driven back? Ye Mountains that ye skipped like rams & Ye little hills like lambs?” Dear Friends it was when Israel went out of Egypt from a people of strange language that they became as the Lords sanctuary. It was as they were faithful in following Him that they Experienced the Sea to flee before them and the Great discouragements comparable to insurmountable Mountains skipped like rams at his presence, and their opposers as the little hills like lambs

O what Encouragement is there for us to trust in the Lord as saith the Prophet “Trust ye in the Lord forever for in the Lord Jehovah is Everlasting strength” And while we desire to sympathise with you in

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your close trials and provings, we feel to Encourage you to keep your Eye single to our spiritual Leader, How often is it, that He leadeth the blind by a way that they know not – how often doth He “make darkness light before them and crooked things straight! These things will I do unto them and not forsake them” And He continued to make the Wilderness a pool of water and the dry Ground Springs of water, to give drink (Spiritual refreshment) to his chosen.

But allow us, dear friends, tenderly to remind you of the instructive warning contained in the account of the Children of Israel, who when informed by Joshua and Caleb of the good land which they had seen, refused to go forward (Numbers Chap. XIV) and had to wander about in the wilderness forty years, in consequence of this disobedience. But we hope better things are in store for you “and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak” feeling our own weakness, that we are nothing Christ is all.

We have at this time been favoured to Meet together in much harmony, and we trust with a living Concern for the Sustaining of the precious cause of Truth as it was Committed to our worthy predecessors and according to the measure of ability vouchsafed to us by the Great Head of the Church. And we have been Comforted in having the Company of three dear Friends of your Number the Exercise of whose spirits and Exemplary walking amongst us have been to our Edification

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1868

We have tenderly desired their preservation from all the snares of the Enemy

Permit us, dear friends to Express our desire that you may be strengthened to take such steps in the Light of the Lord, that fellow servants may come in future, not only with the seal of apostleship from the Master Manifested by the life of the Gospel stream flowing through them as instruments but likewise with such credentials as it becomes a living, gathered Church of Christ to give to his servants, in the [Comily] order of the Gospel and for their Comfort and Strength in the arduous service allotted to them, as well as for the full assurance of those among whom their lot may be cast that they have come forth in the unity of the faithful

And now with desires for your and our advancement and establishment in the Blessed Truth, we commend you to God and to the word of his Grace, which is able to build us up and to give us an inheritance among all them that are sanctified

With a salutation of love,

We remain your Friends

Signed on behalf of the Meeting
Joseph E. Maule Clerk

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1868
NEW ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Newport Rhode Island for New England, by adjournments from the 15th of the 6th month 1868 to the 17th of the same inclusive

To Friends of the Meeting for Conference in England

Dear Friends

By the drawing cords of our Heavenly Father's love we are we trust, inclined to address those in your land, who bound to "the law and the testimony" have believed it right for you in some measure to separate yourselves from those with whom you have formerly walked on account of their departures from the Truth as professed and promulgated by our forefathers, and in the maintenance of which such deep suffering fell to their lot.

And dear Friends, in so far coming out from among them great no doubt, has been your Conflict, and you have been ready to adopt the language of the Psalmist "For it was not an Enemy, then could I have borne it; But it was thou a man mine Equal, my guide and my acquaintance: we took [sweet] Counsel together, and walked into the house of God in Company "But in proportion to your trials, has not your peace been made to flow as a river, and for Every act of dedication has not your reward been sure? We sympathize deeply with you and fervently desire that whatever suffering you may yet have to Endure in further

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1868
testifying against the innovations which have crept in amongst you, you may be strengthened with might by the Spirit of the Lord to stand firm at your posts, having on "the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the Devil; for we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against

principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against Spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Having ourselves partaken largely of suffering, we are thereby more fully prepared to remember those that are in bonds as bound with them, and them which suffer adversity as being ourselves also in the body, Sensible of our shortcomings and that “to us belongeth nothing but blushing and Confusion of face”. Yet we trust that we are owned by the Great Head of the Church, and we have at times during this our Annual assembly been made fully to realize that the wing of ancient goodness has been Extended over us, under which the various subjects that have come before us have been disposed of in harmony and condescension

The Company of the dear Friends from Your land who were made willing to Come and sit with us has been Comforting and strengthening to us; and we desire their preservation, and that when their services are accomplished they may be permitted to return to their families & Friends with sheaves of peace.

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1868

Finally in the words of the apostle “Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ

In the love of the Gospel, we bid you Farewell and are your friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell
Clerk this Year

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1869

NEW YORK

From New York Yearly Meeting of Men & Women Friends held at Poplar Ridge Cayuga Co. N.Y the 24th 5th & 6th of the Fifth month (inclusive) 1869

To Friends at Fitchley and its vicinity England.

Dear Friends

We received the minutes which you sent to us in the capacity of a monthly meeting and they were read to our satisfaction and comfort. We were made glad to learn that you had been favoured to take some steps forward for the upholding of the standard of Truth in that land and the rebuilding of the broken down walls of Zion

We feel to Encourage you, dear Friends, to continue to look unto the Lord alone in whom is our strength in all our trials and provings, for we have faith to believe that He will continue to be round about his little ones who fear Him and his eye is upon them.

These need not fear “the pestilence that walketh in darkness” nor the “Destruction that Wasteth at noon day. A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord which is my refuge Even the Most High thy habitation, there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come night thy dwelling”

[PS.XCL 6.7.8.9.10]

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1969

you have been brought very near to us at this season as well as other dear Friends on this side of the Atlantic from whom we have received tokens of Gospel fellowship, and O that we may continue so to walk as to be enabled to feel one ~~wish~~ another in this cementing bond Sheep of the one pasture and of the one fold.

The desire you express for our steadfast walking in the Truth we feel that we can respond to, believing that it is only by an Earnest travail of spirit individually, and thy receiving of the Holy Ghost day by day that we have any Ground to hope that this will be our blessed Experience.

This annual Meeting is felt to be a comfortable season, wherein the good Master has been pleased to remember us by the breaking of the little bread. Several dear Friends from different parts have felt their minds drawn to sit with us giving us afresh to realize that as “Iron sharpeneth Iron, so doth the Countenance of a man his Friend”

In a near feeling we trust of true fellowship, we bid you Farewell,

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting

James D. Otis Clerk.

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1869

PENNA & C

At a General Meeting of men and women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware & C, held at Fallsington, Bucks County Pennsylvania by adjournments, the 8th and 9th of the Sixth month 1869

A minute was received from a Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England the 6th of the 5th month 1869 which was read to our comfort. Much unity and Sympathy was Expressed with them in their tribulated course, and desires were felt that they might be Encouraged to persevere, remembering the language “The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall grow stronger and stronger.” The Lord hath promised to be near unto them that fear Him, and will continue to be a spirit of judgement to him that sitteth in judgement and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.”

The Clerk is directed to forward a Copy of this minute to that monthly meeting signed on our behalf.

Extracted from the Minutes by
Joseph E. Maule, Clerk.

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1869

NEW ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of men and Women Friends held at Newport, Rhode Island by adjournments from the 14th of the 6th mo to the 16th of the same inclusive 1869

To the Monthly Meeting of Men and Women Friends held alternately at Bakewell, Fritchley, and Monsal Dale, England

Dear Friends

Through the condescending goodness and tender mercies of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd, we have again been permitted to Come together at the usual time of our Annual meeting; and although it has been a time wherein we have had renewedly to realize our weaknesses – a time wherein we have felt the need of being administered unto rather than an ability to administer to the necessities of others, yet we can acknowledge that the sense of our manifold infirmities has not been sufficient to prevent the tender yearnings of our hearts towards our dear distant Friends, who are of the household of faith; and we beleive that it is in the renewed feeling of Gospel fellowship, that we are inclined to salute you at this time, with desires that "Grace, mercy, and truth from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ may abound and be multiplied among you, not only to the joy & consolation of your own souls, but to the furtherance more and more of the Lord's glorious Cause on the Earth, and to the establishment of his Kingdom in the hearts of some who have not yet come under the forming power of the Divine hand.

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1869.

Your salutation of love has been received and read amongst us to our Comfort, and it is cause of Encouragement to us even in the midst of deep and sore afflictions, that the Lord Most High is gathering more & more unto Himself a remnant in your land who are concerned for the maintenance of the principles and testimonies of Truth, and who Nehemiah like are willing to put shoulder to the work of repairing the broken down walls of Jerusalem and of setting up her gates which have been burned as with fires And it is the Earnest breathing of our hearts that He who hath through you begun this work, may carry it on to his praise and to the glory of His Excellent and adorable Name, which also we are persuaded He will do as there is an abiding in his Holy fear and moving under the direction of his Divine Will.

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And here may we not have the hope that through your dedication of heart, through your steadfast abiding on the Immutable Rock, Christ Jesus, many who are now alien to the "Commonwealth of Israel" may be induced to come to the light of Christ in their own hearts, and in beholding there his Glory, be prepared to come up in the footsteps of the flock of Christs Companions.

It is the renewed and Earnest desire of our hearts, that the faithful Everywhere may be encouraged to continued faithfulness, trusting their all unto the Lord, committing their way unto Him, becoming obedient ~~unto Him~~ in all things to the pointings of his Holy finger. Then shall

these realize that he who hath called them is faithful and is both willing and abundantly able to keep them, and to keep them from falling. Yes, He will Enable these to press forward through Every discouragement, whether from within or from without, Eyeing the mark for the glorious prize at the End of the race, the Crown Immortal, which is promised to all those “who love the appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” and who are found in the way of his commandments.

“Finally, brethren and Sisters, beloved in the Lord desiring that we with you may be found steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as we know that our labour is not in vain in the Lord.” We conclude and are your friends,

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell

Clerk this Year

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1870

NEW YORK

From New York Yearly Meeting of Men and Women friends, held at Poplar Ridge, Cahuga Co. New York the 23rd and 24th of Fifth Month 1870

To the General Meeting of Friends in England held at Fritchley

Dear Friends

Under the tender influences and contritings of the Father’s love Extended unto us in this our Annual assembly, we feel humbly and gratefully to acknowledge that He who remains to be King in Zion has condescended to the low estate of His Children, and agreeable to the declaration of his servant, has in some measure favoured the dust thereof and satisfied her poor with bread.

By the reading of the salutary Epistle from Fritchley Monthly Meeting you have been brought afresh to our remembrance and desires have arisen that you with us may so abide in the Root and Sud of life as to witness preservation from Every Snare of the fowler, and deepen and increase in true knowledge, bringing forth abundant fruit of righteousness and praise to the Glory of God the Father, and to the unspeakable peace of our own souls.

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1870

This is a day wherein is verified the declaration of the Most High by his prophet “I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people” and may the remaining portion of the text also be our condition “And they shall trust in the name of the Lord.” Then shall we find Him to be a strong tower and place of defence in the day of troubles; in the secret of His pavilion He will keep and preserve us, and no weapon formed against us will prosper. For He who is Almighty has declared this is the portion of the Lord’s servants whose righteousness is of Him. And though the Baalam-like spirit in this day may be seeking for curses against the true Israel, yet as in days of old his King shall be higher than Agag, and his Kingdom will be Exalted in the hearts of the

simple trusting ones who are found dwelling in their tents, the goodly tents of Jacob; these will be like gardens by the river's side, and as cedar trees beside the waters.

May you dear Friends, with ourselves be of this number against whom no divination or enchantment can prevail.

We have remembered how it was when the Lord in days of old would have His standard Exalted above the Midianites, the thirty and two thousands of Israel's host were reduced to the little company of three hundred, and these humble instruments were made use of in simplicity and lowliness to carry on the Lord's warfare unto a wonderful victory. And we have desired, dear Friends, in your stripped and reduced state, that you may be found faithfully standing in your allotments with the Earthen pitchers of Your own hearts broken, that the lights of the Lord's spirit through you may be displayed to the Exaltation of the standard and banner of Truth, which has been given to display before the host of the Enemy; for Our King is able in this day to save by few as well as by many.

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1870

And they that trust in Him will never be confounded but will be as Mount Zion, which shall never be removed: and “as the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth Even for ever.

With a salutation of love unfeigned we are your friends in this fellowship of the Gospel.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the aforesaid meeting

James D. Otis Clerk

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1870

NEW ENGLAND

From Our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island, for New England, by adjournments from the 13th of the sixth month 1870 to the 15th of the same inclusive.

To the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley, Derbyshire, England.

Dear Friends

By the reading of the savoury Epistle from your Monthly Meeting, held at Fritchley, we have felt you brought near to us “in the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace” and a salutation of Gospel love has seemed to spring up and flow toward you

Though we feel that we are realizing the fulfilment of the prophetic declaration “I will preserve in the midst of thee, a poor, a tried and an afflicted people” yet the few scattered here and there in different parts of the heritage, who are bound to that law which is written in the heart, and to the testimony resulting therefrom, may as ability is graciously afforded from the unexhaustible

Fountain of Strength be made instrumental in strengthening one anothers hands for the work and service of our day. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world against spiritual wickedness in high places". Thus may we fulfil the apostolic injunction "Be ye one anothers helpers in the Lord."

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1870.

Many are the discouragements and deep the baptisms of those who dwell with the Seed of Life which does indeed lie low, buried under oppression: but precious is the remembrance that they who are buried with Christ in baptism, shall walk with Him in newness of life.

Which in the maintenance of the precious testimonies Given us to bear before a backsliding people, in displaying the banner which the Lord hath given to them that fear Him, that it may be displayed because of the Truth, our names are cast out as Evil, and continually, and reproach are our portion. Are there not seasons when we are Enabled to rejoice Even in tribulation through the arisings of the fresh springs of Life, and are renewedly made sensible that the foundation of God standeth sure having this seal "The Lord knoweth them that are His"?

"Not by might, Nor by power, but by My Spirit saith the Lord of Hosts" was the word of the Lord until Zerubbabel, and although we have come together in Great Strippedness. feeling that we have no Might of our own, we have reverently to acknowledge that Israel's unslumbering Shepherd hath not been unmindful of us, but hath in adorable condescension been pleased to spread the Canopy of His love over us, contriting our hearts, and drawing us near one unto another. In conclusion, Commending you with ourselves "unto God and the word of His Grace" which is able to build us up, and to give us an inheritance among all them which are sanctified, we remain, in that love which is not limited by distance,

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1870

Your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell
Clerk this year.

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1870

PENNA & C

At a General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware & C, held at Fallsington, Bucks Co. Pennsylvania the 7th and 8th of the 6th month 1870

An acceptable Epistle was received from our brethren and Sisters of Fritchley Monthly Meeting. England, dated 4th of 5th month 1870 informing us that they had concluded to hold a General

Meeting in the Fifth and Eleventh months – and although we feel ourselves as the poor in Manasseh, a fresh desire has arisen in our hearts to Express the satisfaction and unity we have felt with the steps they have taken in regard to the establishment of a General Meeting and the language has arisen “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” “His place of defence shall be the munition of Rocks; bread shall be given him, his waters shall be sure”

The clerk is directed to forward a copy of this minute to that monthly meeting.

Signed on our behalf,

Extracted from the minutes

Jos E. Maule.
Clerk.

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1870
PENNA &C

From our General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware &C, held at Fallsington, Bucks Co. Penna. by adjournments on the 6th & 7th of the Ninth month 1870

To the next General meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

Being informed through Fritchley Monthly Meeting, that you have been strengthened to establish a General Meeting for the support of our ancient testimonies, we feel drawn, we trust in a measure of that love which reaches over sea and land. to address you as members of the same household of Faith, and to Encourage you to hold fast that you have received, that No man take your Crown.

It has been a comfort to us that you have been Enabled to uphold the standard of the principles of Truth, which by obedience to the Spirit of Grace in the hearts of our predecessors, were promulgated, lived in, and suffered for by many, Even unto death.

These principles, dear Friends, can only be maintained by humble walking according to the manifestations of the Light of Truth, which Enlighteneth every man that cometh into the World: and this light is Christ. May be faithful to Him, and not be discouraged at the fewness of our numbers, as the Servant of Elisha was when he saw the host that compassed the city, until his eyes were opened to see that they that were with them were more than they that were against them

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1870
PENNA &C

And as Aaron and Hur were instrumental in holding up the hands of Moses when Israel was Engaged in conflict with those they were not Commingled with, nor worship as they worshipped and Israel thus prevailed, – So may we dear friends, in childlike simplicity, be made instrumental in strengthening one anothers hands, in holding up before a backslidden and backsliding people the testimonies of Truth in their primitive purity, in keeping to the ancient landmarks, and in following the shepherd, Leader and Captain who was never foiled in battle, and he leadeth forth his faithful ones Conquering and to Conquer.

And we would affectionately remind you of the Language of David “Though an host should Encamp against me, my heart shall not fear though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident. One thing have I desired of the Lord that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the home of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to Enquire in his temple.

And may the dear Youth among you and us, be drawn near to the Fountain, Yielding to the Cross in the morning of their day – being willing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to Enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season “esteeming the reproaches of Christ Greater riches than the treasures of Egypt”

With a salutation of love we are your Friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting

Jos E Maule Clerk

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1871
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Fritchley, Derbyshire, England.

Dear Friends

The little companies who with us are Concerned to uphold the doctrines and Testimonies of Truth as originally promulgated by Friends, are brought near to our feelings at this time, and we feel to salute you, though under a sense of much weakness.

We feel our various necessities have been ministered unto in thus being together, and we trust we shall thereby be strengthened to preserve in the Christian course and become a more living people witnessing still more of the Lords power amongst us. We feel that we have not much to hand forth to others further than to reciprocate the feeling of Gospel fellowship according to our measure, which of itself we are sensible is a little strengthening feeling that we have a bond of union in one and the same concern, and are brought we trust measurably to speak the one pure language of the spirit

We received your acceptable Epistle and trust the concern therein Expressed will not be lost upon us. Especially do we feel with you, the Youth to be objects of tender solicitude, And we feel to crave that with you and us, they may with full purpose of heart Choose the Lord for their portion, and thus be partakers of those unmixed Joys which attend such a choice when fully made.

We desire Your Encouragement and that you may be strengthened from season to Season in that course which alone makes for peace.

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1871

In the love of the Truth we are your Friends

Signed by direction of New York Yearly Meeting of Men and Women Friends, held at Poplar Ridge Cayuga Co. New York, from from the 29th of Fifth month to the 31st of Same inclusive 1871.

James D. Otis Clerk.

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1871

PENNA & C

From the General Meeting for Pennsylvania

To the next General Meeting of Men & Women Friends to be held at Fritchley, England.

Dear Friends

In having our minds turned towards you at this time, our beloved and distant friends, the language thus freshly presented “By whom shall Jacob arise for he is small,” but as our spirits have been in measure drawn from outward and creaturely dependance, and turned towards the fountain of Invincible Strength, we have remembered that it is through this alone that one can chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight. Thus our strength is afresh renewed and our confidence increased in our only Helper, who never yet said to the wrestling seed of Jacob “Seek ye me in vain.” –

You have been brought very near to us in feeling under the belief, that although many trials yet abound, we are mutually Endeavouring to live in the same faith, and to up hold the same testimonies, in support of the unchangeable Truth; desiring to be found walking in the footsteps of the flock of Christ’s Companions, - neither halting nor turning aside: and is it not particularly binding on all who profess the name of Christ before men, and believe themselves Called to support his cause, to know that He is with them, and in them.

To those among you who are young in years our hearts have been turned, with desires that they may give up to serve the Lord Beloved of souls and Experience the fulfilment of the words of the prophet, “It is good for a man that he bear the Yoke in his Youth” that through faith and obedience they may confess Christ Jesus before men. and be confessed of Him before the Father and the holy Angels.

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1871

Your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last to us received and read to our satisfaction and Comfort, and whilst we have Much to abase and elicit Concern we also have ground for believing that the Good Master is near at this time in dispensing a Comfortable degree of His own presence.

With the salutation of love

We are Your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by.

Jos E. Maule Clerk.

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1871

NEW ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends, held at Newport on Rhode Island for New England, by adjournments from the 12th of Sixth month to the 14th of the same (inclusive) 1871

To the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends to be held at Fritchley (England)

Dear Friends

Through the tender mercies of our God, we have again been permitted to Meet on the occasion of our annual Assembly and although sensible that weakness and infirmities attend us, Yet we have reverently to acknowledge that the arm of Divine Goodness has been round about us whereby we have been measurably gathered under his heavenly wing, and have realized the circulation, as from vessel to vessel, of that love, the blessed effects where of are so fully and forcibly set forth by the Psalmist “Behold how Good and how pleasant it is for brethen to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard, Even Aarons beard that went down to the skirts of his garments. As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended on the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord Commanded the blessing, Even life for Evermore.

And while our hearts have been warmed by the tendering influences of this heavenly love which gathereth together into one bundle all the true disciples of our blessed and Holy Redeemer we have felt in the fresh springings up of the same to salute our dear brethren and sisters who are Companions with us in the sufferings and tribulations of the Gospel.

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1871

By the reading of your acceptable Epistle of last Month we were afresh dipped into feeling with you and in view of your great strippedness desires have arisen on your behalf that “He who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Shepherd of the Sheep, May be Mindful of you in all your tribulations and through the blood of the everlasting covenant Make You perfect in

every good work to do His will working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever Amen”

Divers dear Friends from other meetings have been in attendance with us at this time whose acceptable company, and labours of love have been Comforting and strengthening unto us; and our hearts have been bowed and deeply contrited under a sense of the continued goodness and loving Kindness of Him who still deigns to regard His heritage, Stripped and weak and scattered though it be, and to Manifest Himself in the Midst of the Two or the three who are gathered in His name, even as by the lifting up of the light of His Countenance.

And Earnest are our desires that those both with us and with you, who have largely partaken of the favours of the Lord and have seen His wonders in the deep “May know their dwelling to be in a low place, where they may receive of the heavenly dew, and thereby be kept in greenness of life and in freshness of Spirit before Him our **M**aker, who even in the night season “giveth songs” unto those who are concerned to walk in humility and fear before Him, Causing those to realize in their Experience that as tribulations abound so do the consolations of the Gospel abound also.

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1871

In true Christian love we bid you Farewell and remain your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk.

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1872.

NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends held in Fritchley. Derbyshire, England

Dear Friends

We feel to salute you at this time in the near feelings of Gospel love in that which neither time nor distance can separate: and dear friends we are persuaded that this will be the case as our eye is kept single unto the Master, - drinking at the same fountain, following Him in his proving dispensations for our good and deepening in the Truth. You can set your seals as well as ourselves to the Scripture declaration “No Chastening for the present seemeth Joyous, but Grievous: Nevertheless afterward it Yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness to those who are exercised thereby.” (HEB xii 9).

The people that the Most High by the Mouth of prophet promised to leave in the Midst, were to be a poor and afflicted people, and they were to trust in the name of the Lord.

We feel humbly to acknowledge the goodness of our Heavenly Father in that he has not been unmindful of us at this our annual meeting, but has been pleased to vouchsafe a little help from his holy sanctuary, and strengthening us out of Zion. Much tender counsel has been administered to our several needs, by Epistles and otherwise.

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1872.

The dear Young people especially have been tenderly addressed, the dangers which attend the slippery paths of Youth held up to their view and the blessings which attend those who give up their names to serve the Lord in the morning of their day; and we feel not only for those among us but wherever situated a tender solicitude for this class, that they may not be discouraged in taking an outward view, the fewness of the number of those who are endeavouring to walk in the straight & narrow way; but turn their minds inward bowing their necks to Christ's Yoke, for they will find it Easy and His burden light, because He gives strength to bear it, and such a rich reward in true and never ending felicity beyond the grave, whither we are all hastening, and will have to give an account whether it be with Joy or Grief.

Your Epistle has been received and read to our Comfort and Encouragement, Not feeling further to Enlarge at this time we bid you farewell

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Men & Women Friends held at Poplar Ridge Cayagu Co New York the 27th & 28th of 5th mo 1872

James D Otis Clerk.

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1872.

NEW ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island, for New England, by adjournments the 17th 18th & 19th of 6th month 1872

To the General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England

Dear Friends

Under an humbling sense of our own nothingness, and of the condescension of our blessed master in preserving and bringing us together at this time do we feel drawn to address you in Gospel love.

Again are we led to a grateful acknowledgement of the influence of that Holy Spirit which first led our forefathers out of the vain customs of the world, to seek a pure and Spiritual worship, revealing Himself unto them as their Law giver, Redeemer & Saviour; bringing them into that oneness of Spirit which remains to be the mark of true discipleship.

Your Salutation of love was truly acceptable, being to some of our thirsty souls comparable to a fresh spring in a dry land, and feeling you increasingly near in the Covenant of Life, desires have arisen that together we may forget "those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before" "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." May we with you count all Earthly objects and considerations as dross, that we may win

Christ, and be found in Him; having on not our own righteousness, but that which is of God by faith.

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1872

A concern has been felt among us that we may “lay aside Every weight, and the sin which doth so Easily beset us” in order that we may run with alacrity & patience the race that is set before us.

And dear friends, may we with you, so run as to obtain; so fight not as beating the air; but bearing about in our bodies the dying of our Lord Jesus, Manifest also the life of Jesus in our bodies, that the power of God may be known to the preserving cementing influence whereby and wherein we can acknowledge that we are all brethren and sisters in the Lord.

Therefore beloved “be ye steadfast immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as Ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” and “that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord” -

With a salutation of love we are your friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk

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1872

PENNA &c

From the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington, Bucks Co Pennsylvania by adjournments the 3rd & 4th of 9th mo 1872.

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

In a fresh feeling of a measure of Gospel love do we feel drawn to salute you as fellow pilgrims to that City which hath foundations, whose builder & maker is God.

As in ancient days “they that feared their Lord Spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened and heard it and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord and thought upon His name,” So we believe it will oftimes be the Experiences of the Christian travellers at this day.

We have been made renewedly sensible at this time; of the need of inward watchfulness. So long as we are faithful to the Lord, He will preserve from the snares laid on the right hand and on the left; and we shall realize that the path of obedience to manifested duty, is the path of preservation “My sheep hear my voice and they follow me, and a stranger will they not follow. but will flee from him for they know not the voice of strangers.” Such as day by day seek the Lord for their refuge will find that “he that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the

shadow of the Almighty” - these will witness His Holy arm made bare for their deliverance, for the promise to the faithful is “Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder, the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under foot”

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1872.

“The Effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” Wherefore dear Friends, let us take a little fresh courage and “Watch unto prayer with all perseverance” for “unto you that fear My name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings.” Dark night seasons are often dispensed to the disciples of Christ, when they are tossed as with a tempest and not Comforted, but He who said “It is I be not afraid!” will in His own time say to the winds and the waves which distress us “Peace be still!” And will put a new song into our mouths, Even praises unto our God.

May we not be dismayed Dear friends for “who is he that can harm us, if we be followers of that which is Good?”

May those with you and with us, who are in the younger walks of life, give up their whole hearts to the Lord Jesus, who will abundantly reward them with his love, which is beyond words to describe. May the remembrance of the accounts of many young in years who suffered death rather than sin against the Lord Jesus, Encourage you to give up all for His sake who died for us that we might live, who said “If any man will do the will of My Father which is in heaven, the same is my mother, and sister, and brother.”

Satan may Endeavour to persuade that if you do begin, you will not be able to hold out to the End. Believe him not. For as you are obedient to the still small voice of our Holy Redeemer, who continues to be the alone sure guide and leader to Everlasting happiness, the promise remains to be sure, “The Lord shall be thy Confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken”

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1872.

These shall receive the blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of their Salvation; they will feel that they have a Councillor to apply to in times of trouble who hath said “he shall Call upon me and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble.”

We Can only gather the Spiritual Manna day by day. If we neglect this daily inward work, we will lose ability to run the way of the Lords requirings, and shall be in danger of fainting in the time of adversity and trial. But the faithful will realize that all things work together for good to them that love God.

Your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last was received and read in our General Meeting held in the 6th month, to our Comfort and Encouragement

With a salutation of love we are Your Friends.

Signed on behalf of the meeting

Wm Waring Clerk.

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1873
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley Derbyshire England.

Beloved Friends

Under a renewed sense of the goodness and Mercy of a tender Heavenly Father's love do we feel to address you as fellow travellers in the narrow way, and while we are sensible of our Great weakness and that of ourselves we can do nothing, we do humbly feel willing to acknowledge "that the Lords hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither is his Ear grown heavy that He cannot hear, but for the crying of the poor, and sighing of the needy He will arise. Then let us not cast away our confidence which hath great recompence of reward, but press forward in the way we have felt was required of us, eyeing Him who was invisible.

Your Excellent epistle has been read to our Joy and Edification, much do we prize your concern for those in the younger walks of life and earnest are our desires that those, both with you and us, may become fitted to shine as light in the world, that when the Fathers and Mothers are gathered away there may still be a remnant whose chief concern will be to promote the blessed cause of Truth.

And now as the Apostle saith "Grace be unto you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We are bound to thank God for you, because your faith groweth exceedingly and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth; so that we ourselves glory for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations which is a manifest token of the righteous judgement of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the Kingdom of God for which ye also suffer, seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them which trouble you, and to you who are troubled rest and peace.

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1873

Finally brethren, farewell Be perfect, be of good Comfort, be of one mind live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you

With a salutation of love we remain Your friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge, Cayuga Co New York from the 26th to the 28th (inclusive) of the 5th month 1873

Jos. D. Otis Clerk.

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1873.

PENNA &c

From the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware &c held at Fallsington, Bucks County Pennsylvania on the 2nd & 3rd of 9th month 1873.

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends.

Our salutation of near love and sympathy has been towards you at this time, accompanied with a feeling similar to this, that although the barque be small and the members in it few, if the blessed Master is only found therein there is no cause to fear, believing the language to you now is as it was to the disciples formerly, "Fear not little flock, for it is your Heavenly Fathers good pleasure to give you the Kingdom"

We believe that God is as ready now as ever He was to show forth the immutability of his counsel and is ever willing to offer strong consolation to those who flee for refuge to lay hold on the hope set before us, which hope we have as an anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast and "which entereth into that within the vail" To this blessed hope it is our fervent desire that you and we may Centre, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of the Saints' faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross despising the shame

An earnest solicitude has arisen with us, on account of those in the Younger walks of life, that they may be made to feel the Truth, the ever blessed Truth to be worth suffering for., - that it is the same in all ages and in all places. And as they are brought to dwell lowly before Him, who can cause the mountains of opposition to flow down at His presence they will Experience Jerusalem to be a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down.

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1873.

Your last epistle was acceptable and Comforting to us, - and we remain your friends in the love of the Gospel

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting

Wm Wareing Clerk.

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1873

From Lydia D. Meader. on her return from a religious visit to Friends in England

From Friends of the General Meeting England.

Dearly Beloved. Whom the Lord hath chosen and espoused unto Himself in the Covenant of life, My spirit salutes you under the tendering cementing influence of Divine love and power which hath been signally displayed to the gathering and preserving hitherto a little remnant of testimony bearers in that land who could not sell their birthright for mere temporal Ease or Enjoyment and let fall the standard of Truth, which has been given you to up hold.

Though you may at times be given to feel very sensibly that many are the afflictions of the righteous, be not dismayed for the Lord delivereth & will continue to deliver out of them all, and will as the faith is kept and patience abode in, in His own time give You the victory over all that shall oppose, to your humbling admiration, and to the praise and exaltation of His name and power among you.

This is indeed the day of your peculiar trial and proving, as it was when Gideon was Commanded to bring his army down to the waters to be proven there; an humbling dispensation it was Yet the Lord had a design in it to be accomplished, And with the little army of tried men was the host of Midian overthrown. proving that it was not by numbers or by might and power of man but by and through His Spirit and faith therein: out of weakness they were made strong, waxed valiant in fight and put to flight the armies of the aliens

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1873.

And this warfare, dear friends, in which we are engaged is not at our own charges, but He who has chosen us and under whose banner we have enlisted remains to be the captain of our Salvation, and His power is above every other power, and He never suffers those who put their trust in Him to be overcome or Confounded; but His Gracious invitation and promise is “Call upon me in the day of trouble and I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify Me”

The Continued breathing of my Spirit is to the unslumbering Shepherd of Israel for Your preservation and advancement in the way high and holy; Each one coveting to walk nearest to Him and follow in His steps, and be fed as out of His hand so that strength may be received day by day to follow His pure leadings through the tribulated way [way] which leadeth unto His holy mountain where nothing can hurt or destroy; for there the lambs shall find and lie down none shall make them afraid Then shall the ancient declaration be fulfilled “Israel then shall dwell in safety alone, the fountain of Jacob shall be upon a land of Corn & wine his heavens shall also drop down dew”

What more could be done for His vineyard that the good Husbandman hath not already done?

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1873.

He hath from time to time sent forth his servants to labour therein as “plowmen and vinedressers” and in its season hath dispensed the early and the latter rain whereby the tender plants have been revived. And well may He now look for fruits of increase fruits which will gladden His heritage and remain to the praise of His own Ever Excellent name “Herein said our blessed Lord, is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit so shall ye be my disciples” As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you Continue ye in my love.”

Finally brethren farewell, Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind; live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you”

With love unfeigned I am your friend and sister in the tribulations, and in measure also of the consolations also, of the Gospel

Lydia D. Meader
Steam Ship "Columbia"
Atlantic Ocean
14th of 10 mo 1873

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1874
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

Through the condescending goodness of our Heavenly Father we are permitted once more to mingle together in this our Annual Assembly and we feel to acknowledge His loving Kindness to His poor dependent children; who regards our low estate and has on this occasion caused the overshadowing of His love to rest on many minds to the refreshing of their souls; and notwithstanding we have many times felt clothed upon with poverty and destitution and are compassed about with affliction, Yet we trust if our minds are kept low and humble before Him, He will Cause His light to break through the clouds at times and seasons, and will give strength to the humble and revive the Spirits of the Contrite ones.

And in a measure of that love which binds together in one however separated as to the outward, all who endeavouring to "walk by the same rule and to mind the same thing" Compose the Militant Church. We feel constrained to salute our brethren and Sisters of the household of faith desiring that we may all be found walking "worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called" "being fruitful in every good work" and increasing in the knowledge of God "that we might be made meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light"

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1874

Many are the afflictions of the Church in this her wilderness state, and the mourners in Zion oft go bowed down, their spirits being clothed with sackcloth and mouths in the dust; Yet the faith of these is at times graciously renewed in the all sufficiency of the Divine Arm that it is not shortened that it cannot save, and that "the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His."

And as these abide faithful according to the Command to His people anciently "To thy tents, O Israel, God is thy tent" He will carry through all, and these shall experience the "putting on the whole armour of God, that they may be able to withstand in the evil day, And having done all to stand"

Let us not then brethren and sisters beloved, faint or grow weary, though tribulation may abound; and may the Great shepherd whose love extends to all His flock and family over sea and land be with you in all your tribulated ways and support you in your hour of trial and proving.

By the reading of your acceptable Epistle you have been brought near to us at this time. We trust in the fellowship of the Gospel

With a salutation of love we are your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends, held at Poplar Ridge, Cayuga Co New York the 25th and 26th of 5th Month 1874

James D Otis Clerk

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1874

NEW ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of Men & Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island for New England the 15th & 16th of sixth mo 1874

To the General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England

Dear Friends

Having again been permitted to meet in the capacity of an Annual Assembly, we feel drawn to address you as a branch of the household of Faith. Your acceptable Epistle read in our meeting at this time has been like a draught of pure water from the living Fountain, bearing evidence to us that the cementing love of the Gospel continues to bind as in one bundle all those who are the true followers of their Divine Master inciting us to a closer walk with Him who hath called us from a formal religion to show forth the purity of that which Emanates from Him and will gather to Him.

We have humbly to acknowledge that although we came together in fear and trembling feeling that we had no might of our own to do any thing that would redound to the glory of our Holy Redeemer, our hands hanging down with very weakness yet Earnest desires have arisen that we with you and you with us may more & more deepen in the root of life, and thereby be enabled to work out our own Salvation with fear and trembling before Him with whom we have to do.

We are commanded to let our light shine before men so that they may see our Good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven;

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but we can only do this by a life of self denial by living daily, yea every moment as in the presence of Him who beholds all the actions of men, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ; then shall we be in a situation to invite brethren & Sisters to go up with us into the house of the Lord.

We have also to acknowledge a further extension of Divine regard in sending among us several Friends with minutes from their own meetings whose acceptable company has been encouraging and strengthening to us.

With the salutation of love we remain your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting by

Peleg Mitchell Clerk.

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1874

PENNA &c

From the Annual Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware &c held at Fallsington, Bucks Co Pa by adjournments on the 8th & 9th of 9th month 1874

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

Our hearts have been a little lifted up at this time in humble trust that He whose tender mercies are over all his works, has been with us in this our General Meeting; And although feeling ourselves unworthy of the least of all his blessings yet hath He had regard to our low estate, and given us to feel that He who preserved Moses when cast among the bulrushes, and sustained him for purposes of his own power & glory is waiting to do us good, and to manifest that his arm is not shortened ~~that it cannot save~~ nor his Ear grown heavy

Small as we feel ourselves to be, unity has been felt with you, our distant friends, as though bound together in true gospel fellowship. The prophets were at times ready to faint on their way - Yet the Most High sustained them and maintained his cause, for "Verily there is a reward for the righteous, verily "He is a God that Judgeth in the Earth," let us then still trust in Him who is mighty to deliver to the uttermost all who wait upon Him & trust in His Mercy! His promises are Yea and Amen for ever. and He has said "though thou passest through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee!

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When thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee, for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy one of Israel thy Saviour" May we then be animated to hold on our way, remembering the cloud of witnesses who have trod the same tribulated path before us, and endeavour to press forward with Holy help toward the prize, believing that the language of Him whose is the Holy Cause Continues to be "Fear not little flock, it is Your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Our minds have been feelingly turned to the dear young people desiring they may be willing to enlist under the banner of the Heavenly Leader, so that parents and children may be found going up together to the Lord's holy mountain where He teacheth his ways and enables to walk in his paths.

Your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last was received and read amongst us, Causing us to feel the value of speaking to one another in the fear of the Lord.

With the salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting

Wm Wareing Clerk.

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1875.

NEW YORK

A General Epistle to Friends of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge, to the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey, Delaware &c; and to the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends,

It is under an humbling sense of our own unworthiness and of gratitude to our Divine Master for the drawing cords of His condescending love, whereby we are united to those who acknowledge His constraining Power, that we are permitted once more to address you.

Many are the provings & trials permitted to assail us, yet we believe as it is our individual concern to know and do the Lords will manifested in us, He will fit us in our appointed places, so that having the Rock, Christ Jesus, for our foundation there will be no fear or disturbance to overthrow, when the Elements are permitted to try their force.

Truly we can acknowledge that altho' low places have been allotted us, a little manifestation of our Heavenly Father's love has at times been felt to flow towards us, and our hearts have been raised in humble Gratitude, that although a tried, we are not wholly a forsaken people, realizing the truth that our whole trust and dependence must be upon the Lord, and that all of our fresh springs are from Him "who is mighty in goodness fearful in praises, doing wonders," and that without Him we can do nothing.

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1875

NEW YORK

We were comforted in the reading of the Epistles at this time; they were refreshing Even as a brook by the way, and it is the fervent craving of our spirits that nothing may be suffered to lessen that love which now binds us together. We trust in the fellowship of the Gospel

The necessity of an increase of watchfulness has been felt to be of vital importance, reviving the injunction of our blessed Lord "What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch." We are persuaded for ourselves, dear brethren and sisters, that More of an inward Exercise even unto a deep silence, would increasingly tend to our preservation in the root of life, and shield from the approach of the Enemy of our souls, who in his various transformations, is Ever seeking to scatter and lay waste the flock. Let us then give diligence to make our calling and Election sure, for as saith the Apostle "If Ye do these things, ye shall never fall." for so an Entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We have had at this time the company of several dear Friends from other meetings, whose Gospel labours and sympathy with the suffering seed have been Comforting to us, and raised in our hearts a tribute of thankfulness to Him whose Mercies are New Every morning, in that he is pleased still to delegate

and send forth His servants and handmaidens to labour in His vineyard as it is written "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things; "and may such as are thus Commissioned to go forth as with their lives in their hands, be preserved on the right hand and on the left, having their feet shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace Ever bearing in mind the query "How shall they preach Except they be sent?"

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1875
NEW YORK

With the salutation of love we are Your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England, held at Newport on Rhode Island by adjournments the 14th and 15th of 6th Month 1875.

Peleg Mitchell, Clerk

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1875
PENNA &c

From our General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania. New Jersey &c held at Fallsington. Bucks Co Pa. By adjournments on the 7th & 8th of 9th mo 1875. To the next general Meeting of Friends in England to be held at Fritchley.

Dear Friends

Having again assembled as a General Meeting. we were made renewedly sensible, that Except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it, and that the work to be done is an individual work. Yet we are reminded that they that feared the Lord spake often one to another and were had in remembrance before him; and it is we trust in a measure of this fear we are led to salute You as co workers in the fellowship of the Gospel. And although bonds and afflictions have always awaited the true followers of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who through many tribulations have been brought out from the worship in the outward court merely, into the true worship which is in spirit and in truth, and is acceptable to the Father, Yet we believe there has been at this season a little ability given to those who mourn in secret to lift up their heads in hope, as seeing Him who is invisible, and who we believe has condescended in His infinite goodness, to offer the oil of joy and the garment of praise to some who have long sat in heaviness, calling them to wash and anoint and give glory to God in the highest.

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1875
PENNA

We have been introduced into tender sympathy and feeling with our absent brethren and sisters; believing that we have Each our peculiar trials and temptations, according to the conditions and allotments wherein it has pleased Divine wisdom to place us. And we would Encourage our dear

Younger friends in the assurance that as He our heavenly Caretaker is touched with a feeling of our infirmities, so from those who walk uprightly, He will withhold neither grace nor glory nor any good thing.

Our desire has been that we may get into the low valley, where the dew lies long, that we may be refreshed and strengthened thereby, to journey on through the wilderness of this world, holding fast the profession of our faith without wavering remembering, the righteous shall hold on his way and he that clean hands be stronger and stronger, and be enabled with holy help to fight the good fight and in the end obtain the crown incorruptible that fadeth not away.

Your acceptable Epistle of 5th month last was received and read to our edification and comfort

With the salutation of love we remain
Your friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting

Wm Waring, Clerk.

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1876
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends and fellow travellers through heights and depths towards the city of our God, very near to our feelings have you been brought at this time, having through the loving kindness and mercy of our Heavenly Father been permitted to gather once more in our annual assembly, and though with sadness we view the vacant places of those who will meet with us no more on Earth and feel our dwelling to be in a very low place, having affliction upon Affliction, Yet the Great shepherd, who watches over His flock and family the world over, knoweth His sheep and they hear His voice, and these He continues to strengthen and give at seasons to partake of His green pastures, and leads them beside the still waters, comforting the mourners in Zion, and the heavy hearted in Jerusalem. He has enabled us at this time to raise our hearts in gratitude and praise with the acknowledgement “Great & marvellous are thy works Lord God Almighty, Just and true are all thy ways, thou King of Saints.” We have felt renewedly as under the extension of His Heavenly wing, His healing virtue covering our spirits, whereby the weak have been a little strengthened and our feet quickened in the way cast up. And may we all dear Friends, be encouraged to hold on our way rejoicing in the Lord, who has been our stay through many trials, even through the six and He will not leave His afflicted churches in the seventh, as their dwelling place remains to be in Him, the immutable Rock of ages for He will continue to give power to the faint and to increase the strength of those who have no might of their own; for in Him is the strength of Israel, and none ever trusted in Him and were confounded, for they that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which shall not be removed but abideth for ever.

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1876
NEW YORK

And while there is an exercise that those who are endeavouring to bear the Ark may not faint nor grow weary there are fervent desires raised in our hearts that those who are now in the morning of life both with you and us may mind those visitations which are the gentle touches of the Fathers love and to willingly follow the Lamb which will ever be a path of perfect safety here, and in the end lead through the pearl gates into the midst of that Company who are clothed in white with harps in their hands, singing praises eternally to the Lord God and the Lamb.

We have reverently to acknowledge the Tender care of the watcher of Israel in sending to us at this time devoted servants whose labours of love have been evidence that the Lord will strengthen and comfort the remnant of His people.

And finally dear Friends, with ourselves do we commend you to God and the word of His Grace, which is able to build us up in His most holy faith and give us an inheritance amongst those who are sanctified.

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1876
NEW YORK

Your acceptable Epistle has been read to our Comfort and edification, and we feel the bond of Christian fellowship strengthened thereby.

With a salutation of love we are your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 29th and 30th of 5th month 1876.

Wm. C. Meader. Clerk. -

1876
NEW ENGLAND

A General Epistle To Friends of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge to the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey, Delaware &c and to the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England

Beloved Friends

You have been brought very near to us in this our annual assembly in a measure of that love, we trust that neither time or distance can lessen, nor many waters quench, under the influence we have felt it right to address you, though far from abounding. And while manifold are the causes of mourning because of the oppression of the Enemy, Yet we feel at times a comfortable assurance that the righteous Judge of all the Earth who knows the secrets of Each & Every one, Can and will plead the cause of His dependent little ones, and in His own good time say "It is Enough; and however poor & needy, they who in sincerity put their whole trust in Him will never be confounded.

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1876

Then let us with you Dear Friends, be found striving for this state of Entire reliance on that arm of power that is near Every morning and our salvation also in time of trouble and we believe such will know a growing in Grace, and [in] the saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Evincing in their daily walk at all times that Wisdom which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and Easy to be Entreated full of mercy & Good Fruits; which we have no doubt was the blessed Experience of those our beloved Friends who have been removed by death since our last salutation, in different parts of the Militant Church, to the Church triumphant, who having done their days work day by day were prepared when the final summons Came, to meet the Bridegroom of Souls and hear the welcome sound "Enter thou into the Joy of thy Lord."

We are often dipped into an Earnest travail of Spirit in behalf of the dear Young people in the different parts of the heritage. The Lord loveth an Early sacrifice and the desire of our heart is, that now in the morning of their days they may seek the Lord for their portion and the God of Jacob for the lot of their inheritance "Making Covenant with Him by Sacrifice" and by submitting to the turnings and overturnings of His hand upon them (and walking in the footsteps of those who being faithful in their day have Entered into rest be qualified to fill up their allotted stations in the Church

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1876

With the salutation of love we remain your Friends

Signed by direction and on behalf of our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island. for New England by adjournments the 12 & 13th of 6 mo 1876 by.

Peleg. Mitchell. Clerk.

PENNA &c

From a General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania. New Jersey. Delaware &c. held at Fallsington Bucks Co. Pa. on the 5th and by adjournment on the 6th. of 9th. month 1876.

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

While sitting under the weight of solemnity which spread over this meeting on hearing your acceptable Epistle of 5th. mo last, feelings of Encouragement sprang up with desires that we and you, might be Enabled to hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, going forward in the measure of Divine guidance vouchsafed for our help to make straight steps in the way cast up for us to walk in looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the Joy that was set before Him, Endured the Cross. despising the shame and is now set down at the right hand of God, making intercession for us, who having tasted death for all mankind regardeth the crying of the poor. and the sighing of the needy, and in His own time will arise for our help. if we faint not Neither grow weary in the way of well doing Seasons of proving and apparent desertion are the portion of the Lord Jesus when he walked among men in that prepared body, So that in the moments of agony when the sins of the whole world were upon Him. He cried out "My God My God. why hast thou forsaken me And may you Dear Friends be made willing to give up all for

Christs sake. which He may call for at your hands, and He will make hard things Easy and bitter things Sweet to the obedient soul;

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1876

So that if you are faithful to the heavenly Call you will realize in measure what Israel did of old; “When Israel went out of Egypt; the house of Jacob from a people of strange language” (and have not some of you come out from a people of strange language) “Judah was His Sanctuary and Israel his dominion”.

The path of obedience to manifested duty is the path of preservation wherein the wayfaring man though a fool shall walk & not Err. And we must be made willing to be counted as fools. and be dispised for Christs sake. The cruel adversary is unwearied in his Efforts to beguile and lead into captivity Not only the Young and inexperienced so that he might blight the budding of the precious seed of life in the morning of Youth which our Heavenly Father hath planted in their souls But the Aged & Experienced also who have been walking in humble dedication to the Lord. who having long desired that Every thought word and deed might be brought into subjection to His Holy Spirit are not Exempt from the assaults of Satan, who is permitted to buffet them, Even near the Close of life; but the blessed assurance remains unchanged “My grace is sufficient for thee, my Strength is made perfect in weakness.”

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1876

Let us then with renewed courage look to the blessed son of God for our help, and the language Sweetly revives. “Fear not little flock it is your Heavenly Fathers good pleasure to give you the Kindgom”.

Beloved Friends may we as with the heart of one Man press forward toward that city that hath foundations whose builder & maker the Lord is; Where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest, Encouraging one another in the way we have been called to walk in, so that when the summons comes to each one of us whether older or younger we may be prepared to render up our account with Joy and not with Grief

Having been mercifully favoured at this season with the renewed Extension of divine Love, in measure thereof we salute you and bid you farewell

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting by.

Wm. Waring Clerk

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1877.

PENNA &c

From the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington in Bucks Co Penna. by adjournments on the 4th & 5th of 9 month 1877

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley in England.

Dear Friends

With the desire that Grace, Mercy, & Peace may abound and be multiplied we are led at this time to address You not as though we were ourselves abounding but desiring that we may be strengthened as by the mutual faith of you and us. not only to hold fast to the end the profession of our faith without wavering but to press forward in that which is good. to press forward toward the mark for the true prize, willing to part with Every thing that is called for, or that stands in the way of obtaining the pearl of Great price the Crown immortal laid up for those who shall be found to have kept the faith and truly loved the Masters appearing.

May we be enabled to adopt the language “One is our Master Even Christ: then should we indeed be brethren. brethren under His Notice who said I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil” How greatly do we need that unseen hand and preserving power with us in all our steppings in life to keep us from sliding backward in slippery places and to sustain us in the hour of trial

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1877

PENNA &c

In that brotherly love in which you have been brought to our remembrance, we have desired that you and we may so watch and walk in the way of obedience, as to be preserved in that path wherein there is peace & quietness with holy fear

And it is our concern, that none may lose sight of the injunction “Fret not thyself because of evil doers but that we with you may Grow in the inner life wherein none can make us afraid Dear young Friends – our hearts have been drawn towards you at this time in tender love with Earnest desires that you may be encouraged to press forward in the path of manifested duty Now in the morning of your days. The Lord loves an Early sacrifice. And as he is sought unto and faithfully obeyed he will make hard things Easy and bitter things Sweet, we have desired that you may gird up the loins of your minds & hearken unto the voice of the Lamb of God which would show you the danger of Yeilding to the temptations and snares of the destroyer of your true happiness here and hereafter: & would invite you to take up the daily Cross & follow him that you might thus come to partake of the new wine of His Kingdom and be fed with the bread of life as you grow in watchfulness & obedience you will Experience the sweet reward of peace, and find that it is Good for a man to bear the Yoke in his Youth” & thus to have a hope Established in which he can “quietly wait for the Salvation of the Lord. We can assure you dear Youth that you have the earnest concern & prayers of Your Elder Friends that you may abide in the vine & thus become as fruit bearing branches in all holiness & meekness honouring one another and forbearing one another in love

Oh may we one and all Endeavour more and more to draw near unto Him who has promised to be with all those who put their trust in Him

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1877.
PENNA &c.

Your brotherly Epistle of last 5th month was received and read amongst us to our Comfort

With the salutation of love we are Your Friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting

Moses. Cadwallader Clerk for this Year.

1877.
NEW YORK.

To the General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends

Under an humbling sense of the continued love and mercy of our Heavenly Father we feel to acknowledge His Goodness in permitting us once more to meet together in this our annual assembly & we trust that under the Canopy of His love we have been a little refreshed

We have been comforted by the coming of some dear friends from a distance, who have felt Constrained to visit us in the love of the Gospel & our hope revives that He who careth for the sparrows will still care for us, and cause springs to break forth by the wayside to refresh weary travellers on their heavenward journey. How cheering is the assurance

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1877.
NEW YORK

“The name of the Lord is a strong Tower whereunto the righteous may flee and find safety. It was a promise made for those who live in His true fear. and it will endure whether there be night or day adversity or prosperity, storm or calm and the race is not to the swift, or the battle to the strong but those who trust in the name of Israel's God will be enabled to make straight steps having known that washing the Saviour alluded to when he said “If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me” The secret breathing of those whose sufficiency is alone of the Father, is not lost upon Him whose ear is open and whose eye rests upon the work which will if suffered to be finished give the privilege Granted to the few in Sardis “These shall Walk with me in white for they are worthy” Each one faithfully watching & obeying the pointing finger which directs in the way High & holy. a path in which the way farer does not fail which leads to the desired haven in the End and those who travel therein will be made instrumental in hastening the time when the Church shall come up out of the wilderness leaning upon the arm of her beloved

We have received Your Epistle which was comforting to our drooping minds, And our hearts salute you at this time with loving desires that you with ourselves may hold on our way though it may be in paths of tribulation not casting away our shield. or turning back in the day of [Battle] but gird on our armour and look to the Captain of our Salvation who was near overcome in the

field of conflict and never fail'd to succour those who trusted alone in Him and He will continue to give victory to those who are faithful, and will Crown them with His Heavenly peace.

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1877.

NEW YORK

Would there might be with the dear ones who are now enjoying the springtime of life a heeding the dawning of that Sun which will lead unto the perfect day. And though they may be Compared unto the few berries on the uttermost bough feeling almost alone yet as they abide in the true vine they will receive nourishment from the root and be enabled to abide in the greenness of life not so much regarding their surroundings or [considering] the appearance of the times as the Joys a well spent life will ensure, during the endless ages of eternity. and would there might be amongst us all more of a coming up as from the washing pool a clean handed and faithful people giving honour to the Holy one while labouring in His harvest then should we be permitted to reap those sheaves which are the promised inheritance of the righteous.

In love we bid you farewell, and remain Your Friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of friends held the 28th of 5th month 1877

Wm C. Meader Clerk.

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1878

NEW YORK.

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends.

Though our dwelling is in a low place and we are compassed about with manifold infirmities, yet through gracious condescension, we can testify the blessed master has been pleased to meet with us to the refreshing a little of our drooping minds. “Out of Zion the perfection of beauty God hath shined to give us the light of the knowledge of His Glory through His son Jesus Christ; by the receiving of which our hearts are enlightened to see our real condition, and by heeding its reproof, and following its leadings, we are brought out of darkness into His marvellous light and become Children of the day, wherein the true fellowship is known a precious measure of which has been renewedly felt to Exist between the members of the militant Church, though many waters separate us outwardly, Yet are we not one in spirit contending according to the ability received for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Though often these are in want in hungerings and thirstings, with strippings and provings let not the faith fail, or love wax cold, faithful is He who hath called us to glory and virtue and He will not forsake the least child whose trust and confidence is in Him for hath he not said “Call upon me in trouble and I will deliver thee and thou shalt glorify me when thou passest through the waters I will be with thee and through the rivers they shall not overflow thee

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1878
NEW YORK

He sets bounds to the raging Elements and in His own time and way delivers His wrestling seed giving them to feel and acknowledge it is not by the might or power of man but by the Lords spirit is the overcoming known. Let then the hearts be lifted up in hope and the hands be strengthened for the work assigned, having on the breastplate of righteousness with the shield of faith, at His bidding move forward with eyes fixed on the Captain, and fear not, for He will not suffer the righteous to be moved, or they that trust in Him to be confounded

Your salutary Epistle has been received and read to our comfort and Encouragement

In love we are your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of friends, held the 27th and 28th of 5th Month 1878.

W.C. Meader Clerk.

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1878
NEW ENGLAND

From our annual meeting of men and women friends held at Newport on Rhode Island for New England the 17th. & 18th. 6 mo 1878.

To our beloved Friends of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge
To the general Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey, Delaware &c. and to the
General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England

Under an apprehension that something is due to the meetings with which we correspond by way of acknowledgement of the reception of their tokens of love to us the following has been adopted as Expressing the sence of this meeting

Epistles were received from your meetings respectively, and were read in this to our satisfaction and comfort, but way has not appeared to open at this time to address you by way of Epistle The Clerk has been directed to sign & forward this to your several meetings

Extracted from the minutes of the Meeting aforesaid

Peleg Mitchell Clerk

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1878.
PENNA

From the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey &c held at Fallsington Bucks Co. Pa by adjournments on the 3rd & 4th of 9th month. 1878.

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

Our minds have been drawn into a precious fellowship & Sympathy with you in your tribulation, from a degree of Experience of the trials which it pleases our Heavenly Father to dispence doubtless for our good feeling that we have nothing, and of ourselves can do nothing to promote the Lords cause – and the language of the Apostle revives for Your Encouragement, “As having nothing and yet possessing all things” We believe that as we seek more and more for the true emptiness the true poverty – we with you & you with us will in unmerited mercy Experience the call for the Empty vessels to be gathered together to receive the oil of Joy for mourning And the garment of praise for the Spirit of heaviness Then shall we realize the important meaning of the language of the Lord through the Prophet Isaiah “Sing O Barren thou that dost not bear” for more are the Children of the desolate than the children of the married wife saith the Lord who can yet in His own good time make of a little on a thousand and of a small one a strong nation the cheering language. “Fear not thy maker is thy husband. Even he who said let not your heart be troubled be of good cheer I have overcome the world.

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1878

PENNA &c

We feel to address to you and though our number may be small let us not be dismayed for the good Shepherd is continually seeking out his lowly ones. He will be with them in the furnace of affliction He will be with them in the lions den and at seasons He will put a new song into the mouth of those whose daily Exercise is to wait upon & Serve Him Even praises unto our God who continues to be the light and salvation of His people and dear fellow helpers in the Truth May He who has been with you and fed you & led you. all your lives long unto this day bless the Young people Enamour them with His love & bring them to see the beauty and the excellency there is in the Truth.

We believe that the Lord is on His way to disturb many false rests in various parts of His Land & possibly in Yours also. false rests - in which the enemy hath succeeded in setting down for a time Many honest souls. persuading them into an acquiescence with what is contrary to His holy will some of these in our Western parts appear to have of later time been Mercifully afresh awakened to see the danger of the path of inovation & are endeavouring to make straight steps to their feet out of many Entanglements & snares. If these or any of them should be led to look to us for an example how important is it that we be found standing in our allotments with our loins girded & our lamps burning.

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1878.

PENNA &c

How important is it accordingly that our lamp should be kept clean that no reproach rest upon us. through neglect or slackness of that wholesome discipline which hath so long been instrumental for reclaiming of Erring ones. or for the clearing of Truth and Friends. We feel that discipline is very precious & Equally to be maintained with the Maintenance of sound doctrine. and we would Encourage all our dear Friends to an honest & faithful Exercise of it in the Divine fear labouring in the spirit of restoring love for the restoration of that which may have gone astray

Our Meeting has been a comfortable season. and has been attended by a large portion of our Younger members

Your acceptable Epistle was read among us in the 6th month to our comfort and satisfaction with a salutation of love

We are Your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting

Moses Cadwallader Clerk

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1879.

NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania. New Jersey Delaware &c.
The Annual Meeting of Friends for New England and the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England

Dear Friends

He who raised up our forefathers in the Truth to bear testimony to that which was from the beginning which they heard had looked upon and their hands had handled of the good word of life gathering from the midst of the crooked and perverse generation those who shone as lights in the world. who walking in the light became children of the Light & of the day Designed we believe still to preserve a people who in his might shall testify of the Word which in the beginning was with God & was God. Yet was made flesh and dwelt among men to do the Fathers will to become the propitiation for the sins of the world. And in this day Enables all who yeild to His operation in the heart to become partakers of the benefits of His sacrifice without blemish and in much weakness feeling more need of help than ability to minister unto others desires have been raised for ourselves & for our Dear Friends who have been brought near in Spirit though outwardly seperated that we be found faithful to our trust the precious testimonies of Truth a legacy as it were left us by those who kept the faith & who finished their Course with

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1879

NEW YORK

Joy. So we are an afflicted and poor people May we trust in the Lord and stay upon our God serving Him in all His requirings in truth & Sincerity - Then May we be fed with the bread of live & lie down & none shall make us afraid God will be merciful unto them that trust in Him Yea in

the shadow of His wing they may make their refuge And Dear Friends it is comforting to feel that wherever scattered the sincere hearted in Zion will travel in Spirit - one for another & for Her prosperity and the enlargement of her borders Thus strengthening one anothers hands that are ready to hang down

Although many who name the name of Christ deny the redemption purchased alone by His blood. or rest in a literal belief thereof let us lay aside Every weight of discouragement & looking unto Jesus the Author and finisher of our faith, display the banner we have received. Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee that it may be displayed. because of the Truth The Word of God is not bound but is permitted to have free course and be glorified it will assuredly accomplish that which the Most High pleases & prosper in the thing whereto He hath sent it. As the faithful Standard bearers are called from works to rewards May there be among the Younger a succession qualified to cry mightily unto the Lord Spare thy people O Lord & give not thy heritage to reproach.

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1879
NEW YORK.

and though there be left but as the shaking of the olive tree Two or 3 Berries in the top of the uppermost bough 4 or 5 in the outmost fruitful branches thereof Yet the promise is where two or three are gathered together in my name. there am I in the midst of them abiding in the valley of humility May the remnant of Jacob be in the Midst of many people as a dew from the Lord as the showers upon the grass. that tarrieth not for man nor waiteth for the sons of men.

The Epistles we have received at this time have been read to our comfort and Encouragement - With a salutation of Gospel love we are Your friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 26 and 27th of 5 month 1879

W.C. Meader. Clerk.

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1879.
NEW ENGLAND ENGLAND

From our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Newport on Rhode Island for New England by adjournments the 16 and 17 of 5th month 1879.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge.
To the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey, Delaware &c.
And the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends

In coming together again at our annual meeting we have felt our inability of ourselves to do anything to advance the Cause of Truth. It is only as we become [illegible] of self and know

every thought to be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ that we can bring forth fruit to the honour of His Great Name.

Among the injunctions of Scripture Scarcely any is more emphatic than that of the Saviour To watch what I say unto you I say unto all watch, and it is not to be an occasional but a constant watch although bowed down under a constricting sense of our Great weakness Yet feeling our hearts drawn towards you in a Measure of that love as we humbly trust which Neither time nor distance can lessen under the constraining influence of which it rests upon us to acknowledge with gratitude to our Heavenly Father that His life giving presence has been felt at times to be spread over us begetting a hope that altho' stripped and peeled we are not a forsaken people

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1879

New England

But that the crook of His love is still held out to us and if in living faith we follow the pointings and leadings of that divine finger May we not hope to Experience a little of that healing virtue which was imparted to her formerly who pressing through the Crowd did but touch the hem of His garment & was healed of her infirmity

Your several Epistles were gratefully received and read amongst us tending to the strengthening of the weak hand which were nearly ready to hang down.

And although remotely situated it is Consoling to realize that we are at seasons brought near to one another in spirit and notwithstanding trials may be our portion we desire for you dear friends as for ourselves to continue to stand fast in the service allotted Eyeing the mark for the prize of the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

With Love we are Your Friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

Peleg Mitchell Clerk.

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1879

PENNA &c

From our General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Penna, New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington Bucks Co. Penna. the 2nd & 3rd of 9th Month 1879

Dear Friends

Your tendering Epistle of 5th month last was received and read in our meeting to our satisfaction and comfort These evidences of brotherly love afresh incite the humble diffident traveller to renewed Exertion to be found walking in the Truth. Let us then dear friends give diligent heed to the still small voice in the secret of the soul that thus we may be kept and led in the way of the Lords requirings May we with you increasingly Endeavour to hold fast the beginning of our Confidence steadfast unto the End for the Lord hath set before us an open door & He knows how

to strengthen his dependent Children and to succour them that are tempted Yea He continues to refresh His poor depending ones as they watch unto prayer with Heavenly dew from His holy Sanctuary whereby He Enables them to hold on their way Zionward without fainting or growing weary whilst under the precious influence thereof.

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting

Moses Cadwallader Clerk

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1880
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c.
The Annual Meeting of Friends for New England and the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends.

Though there may not have been a time in our day when those who are concerned for the welfare of Zion have been more closely proved and tried than at the present yet we are persuaded the Most High in fulfilling his glorious purposes He is ever true let men be what they may & will most assuredly carry forward His own work in the Earth and it is His design to dispense those baptisms that alone can purify and prepare for a seat in the Heavenly Kingdom and if this unspeakable gain is to be arrived at through losses Crosses & humiliation (and no heart was Ever refined without these dispensations) May there be a willingness in Every heart to say. “Do with me as thou wilt and in His own time to these will the language go forth. Be glad and rejoice for the Lord will do great things. The fig tree and the vine do yield their strength & ye shall Eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord Your God. that hath dealt wondrously with you & my people shall never be ashamed.

Your acceptable Epistles were received and read to our Comfort

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1880
NEW YORK

With a salutation of love we are Your Friends

Taken from the minutes of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 24th & 25th of 5th month
1880

William C. Meader Clerk.

NEW ENGLAND
1880

From our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island the 14th & 15th of 6 month 1880
To the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends held at Belper England.

Dear Brethren & Sisters

In assembling together [as] for the purpose of transacting the affairs of the Church we have been renewedly Convinced that of ourselves we can do nothing that will redound to His glory Who is Head of all things to His Church & people. Except He is pleased to favour us with His life giving presence and that He would condescend to our low Estate and Enable us to do all things to His praise We believe has been the prayer of many hearts And we have gratefully to acknowledge that while we feel that our family is poor in Menasseh & we the least in our Fathers house He has not been unmindful of us but has called and commissioned some of His handmaids from other parts of His heritage to sit with us who have broken bread amongst us to the comfort of our hearts Encouraging us to press forward through all that hinders our progress in the highway of Holiness towards that city of which it is said. Glorious things are spoken of thee O^h City of God.

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1880
NEW ENGLAND

Although we are in so low a place as scarcely to feel that we have whereof to impart to others we are bound to acknowledge ~~that~~ the reception of Your Epistle which was as a brook by the way refreshing and Encouraging.

And may we both we with you and you with us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering and remember one another for good when favoured with access to the Throne of Grace.

Under a grateful sence of the Mercies vouchsafed at this time with a salutation of love we are Your Friends.

Signed in behalf of the meeting aforesaid

Peleg. Mitchell Clerk

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1880
PENNA &c

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

Under feelings of the renewed Extension of divine regard to us at this time we have felt the salutation of Gospel Love to forth to you with desires that you also may be made partakers thereof and our hearts may be as it were refreshed together in the Lord and that we may be unitedly Encouraged to draw our supplies from the same divine fountain and press forward in the way of the Cross. With more full dedication of heart & for the help of His little poor dependent

ones. The Lords arm of power is round about And underneath to uphold and sustain through all the trials and tribulations in wisdom meted out for their further refinement and to keep them from every snare of the enemy.

Although it may be queried by whom shall Jacob arise for He is small Yet we believe that ~~with~~ availing prayers have been put up for help and can rejoice in some Evidence that we are not a forsaken people. And may we dear friends be Enabled to dwell low and humble before Him unitedly Craving that the true spirit of supplication may be more abundantly poured out upon us and that we may be strengthened to cry availingly to our God that He will spare His people & give not His heritage to reproach.

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1880

PENNA &c

For the dear young people it is our desire that their minds may be more & increasingly enarmoured with the beauty and Excellency there is in the Truth. Let them remember the advice of King David to his son Solomon My son, know thou the God of thy Father. Serve Him with a perfect heart and a willing Mind If thou seek him he will be found of thee But if thou forsake him he will cast thee off for ever. And may they in fervency of spirit give heed to the Council Let thine Eyes look right on and let thine Eyelids look straight before thee. Ponder the path of thy feet and let all thy ways be established so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man

With a salutation of love. We are Your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Fallsington Bucks Co. Pennsylvania by adjournments on the 7th & 8th days of 9th month 1880.

Moses Cadwallader Clerk

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1881

NEW YORK.

To the General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends

By the reading of your acceptable Epistles you have been brought very near to us in spirit and the Language to ancient Israel is revived I remember thee the kindness of thy youth the love of thine Espousels. when thou wentest after me in the wilderness in a land that was not known. Israel was holiness unto the Lord He led him about and instructed him He kept him as the apple of his Eye. And we are strengthened to believe His Compassions fail not towards wrestling seed wherever situated upon His footstool and because thereof these are not consumed, realizing the Experience fulfilled When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee and through the floods they shall not overflow thee for I am the Lord thy God the Holy one of Israel thy saviour Many indeed are the afflictions of the righteous in the present day. But those who continue with

the blessed Master through all the seasons of trial and temptation will know of His [owning] presence while here in mutability and an Entrance granted at the winding up of time unto that city which hath foundations whose builder and Maker is God Not from a sence of abounding do we thus commune with you but being a little animated by the renewed overshadowing of ancient goodness in this our annual gathering we feel to hold out the loving. invitation Come

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1881
NEW YORK

Brothers Come Sisters let us endeavour with more Earnest zeal to go up to the mountain of the Lord the house of the God of Jacob where He will condescend to teach of His ways. & will Enable to walk. in his paths more acceptable when closely followed have ever been found to be of Safety and of peace.

Finally brethren farewell. be perfect. be of good Comfort. be of one mind live in peace and the God of love and peace shall be with you with a salutation of love we remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge New York the 23. 24th & 25 of 5th month. 1881.

William C. Meader Clerk

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1881
PENNA &c

To the General Meeting of Friends held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends.

You have been brought very near to us at this time in a measure of that precious fellowship which is Experienced at seasons by all those who are Endeavouring to serve the Lord with their whole heart.

We renewedly feel that He will have a tried people of His own proving and altho' Many are the afflictions of the righteous The Lord delivereth out of them all. and He is watching the furnace of affliction in many places where lowly ones are scattered in this dark and cloudy day and as in ancient days He heard the groaning of His people and came down to deliver them so we believe He is now by His inward working in the souls of many preparing a people for Himself

Some of the Lords servants who have been removed to their Everlasting rest have spoken of a brighter day "The Lord God who gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith yet will I gather others unto Him besides those who are gathered unto Him" He hath His ways in the deep and past finding out only as He is pleased at seasons to make them known to them that love Him. The watchword "Keep yourselves in the love of God" We feel for ourselves and for you this closer daily individual work will at this day as it did formerly cause all who are

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1881.

PENNA

Engaged in it to be very near unto Him and to one another in Him tho' in seasons of close proving some have been ready to Exclaim The Lord hath forsaken me.. How comforting is the language. "Can a woman forget her child that she should not have compassion on it" Yea she may forget Yet will I not forget thee. The Enemy is very busy to tempt us to look outward where the discouragements abound to persuade us that we shall not be able to Endure. But we feel renewedly Encouraged to believe that the Lord is on His way traveling in the greatness of His strength and He is Mighty to Save all who are serving Him with their whole hearts. We believe many who are wandering on the barren mountains of an Empty profession of Religion are secretly sighing unto the Lord "Tell me thou whom My soul lovest where thou causeth thy flock to rest at noonday and the cries of these scattered and lonely ones we believe are being answered We feel for ourselves & for our brothers and sisters in distant places Earnest desires to be strengthened to double our diligence in unreserved obedience and dedication to the Lord These dedicated ones are they that keep themselves through His holy [illegible] in His love. No [dividation] nor Enchantment Can prevail against these while thus daily faithful unto Him Cheering is the language of one of the Lords servants "Who shall separate us from the love of God

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1881

PENNA

Shall tribulation &c Nay in all these things we are more than Conquerers through Him that loved us. By this daily inward work we humbly trust that He who was with them that loved Him in days of old will also be with His little dependent ones at this day who often feel "whom have I in Heaven but thee and there is none on Earth we desire besides thee." these are Enabled through redeeming love to Extend the inviting language to the scattered tried & lonely ones Come and have fellowship with us & truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His son Jesus Christ" Then the dear visited young people and the older ones also can go on their way rejoicing in this midst of tribulation feeling the precious promise "Be of good cheer" from the Shepherd of Israel & thus we become one anothers helpers in the Lord.

May we all be enabled both younger and older to lay aside Every weight that may have been hindering our progress Zionward and wait upon the Lord. in deep introversion of Mind watching unto prayer with all perseverance For He is on His way proclaiming liberty to Many Captives & is preparing a people for Himself and we believe the Command has renewedly gone forth Gather my saints together unto me "those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice" Oh! may we be Enabled to keep our Covenants made with Him in our deep distress

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1881

PENNA

The Your acceptable Epistle was received & read in our meeting to our comfort and Encouragement causing us to feel that the Lord is Good to them that diligently seek and serve Him. And in a measure of the precious love of the Gospel we bid you farewell

Signed on behalf our General Meeting held in Fallsington the 6th & 7th of 9th month 1881

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

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1882.

NEW YORK

From. W. C. Meader.

My dear Friend

Enclosed I send thee a Minute of our last Yearly Meeting according to its direction which thou wilt please take charge of. We were favoured with the company of our John G. & Catherine Sargent at the Meeting. They are now in Canada I believe My Dear Wife and I are in our usual health which is not very good with Either of us I still suffer with my fall of last year with pleasant memories of thee and thine & with dear love to you in which my Lydia Joins I remain thy poor Friend

W.C. Meader

To the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends in England.

Dear Friends

We have we trust in our measure felt you near in our Heavenly Fathers love & have known something of that correspondence with our absent Friends which need no words but our way has not opened for sending any written Epistles this year.

taken from the minutes of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge N.Y. the 28 & 29th 5 month 1882

Wm. C. Meader
Clerk

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1882.

NEW ENGLAND

From our annual meeting of men and women friends held at Newport Rhode Island for New England by adjournments the 12th & 13th 6 month 1882.

To New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge The general meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c And the General Meeting of Friends held in England.

Dear Brethren and sisters

Assembled together at this time under feelings of great poverty of Spirit. sensible of ourselves we can do nothing that will redound to the Glory of God. and that "Except the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it Except the Lord keep the City the watchman waketh but in vain" the desire of some of our hearts has been that He would arise for our deliverance and set the Captives free. "For they that Carried us away Captive required of us a song and they that wasted us required of us mirth "Saying Sing us one of the songs of Zion"

But dear Friends how can the Lords song be sung in a strange land We are an afflicted and a poor people But oh let us trust in the Lord and stay ourselves on our God.

We feel more fit to be ministered unto than to minister But having been refreshed by the Communications from the different meetings with which we Correspond & remembering it is written that he that watereth shall be watered also himself we are made willing in deep humility of heart to acknowledge our shortcomings and desire that you will remember us for Good. When it is well with you.

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1882.

NEW ENGLAND

The Company of our dear Friends from other parts of the Lords vineyard have been Comforting & their labours Strengthening and Edifying

And may we all dwell so near the Master as that this language through the prophet Malachi May be our happy Experience.

"And they shall be mine saith the Lord of Hosts in that day when I make up my Jewels & I will spare them as a Man spareth his own son that ~~spareth~~ serveth him"

With a salutation of unfeigned love we are Your brethren and Sisters

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid

Peleg Mitchell Clerk.

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1882

PENNA

To the next General Meeting of Friends of England to be held at Belper.

Dear Friend

As Children of one family we salute you in love feeling that the life in you answers to the same in us our desires are Earnest both for you and ourselves that we may keep to this which is alone able to Establish us on the true foundation as a God fearing people we are small and feeble, therefore feel it necessary in this day of Commotion to abide patiently in the Lords tent keeping our Eye

single to our Shepherd and Leader who Hath gathered us to uphold the true Christian principles and testimonies so faithfully upheld by our predecessors in the Truth in all their bearings Oh! that none be drawn out to put forth a hand unbidden to stay the ark and thus bring upon themselves a withering of life But let us labour to have salt in ourselves and bread in our houses that others whose Eyes are opened and who are made sensible of a call from the father of all our sure Mercies may be led to join with us as Members of our fold led by the Same shepherd

Our beloved Friends J G & Catherine Sargent are again acceptably with us at this time

With a Salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Fallsington the 5th & 6th days of the 9 month 1882.

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1882.

PENNA &c

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

1883.

NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of the Men and Women Friends in England

Dear Friends

We Trust it is not formality or force of habit that prompts us to address a few words to you But rather a sence of our Fathers love which often fills the hearts of his Children & flows from vessel to vessel. We are sensible of our own weakness and dependence upon the Divine source of all wisdom and saving strength But we believe the present is a season wherein the great Head of the church is renewing His work and will condescend to Employ as His instruments those who are so poor as to depend upon Him in lowly Confidence for their all If we may be favoured to be found of that number our lot will be Joy in the midst of mourning and praise in the midst of heaviness and if we daily live in submission to the divine will revealed in our hearts and walk faithfully in the way of our high & holy Calling we shall not be as a once goodly heritage laid desolate or a people forsaken of the Heavenly one.

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1883

NEW YORK

But the remnants of Israel in whom the Lord is moving by His spirit may in their measures realize the ancient promise made to them I the Lord do keep it I will water it Every moment lest any hurt it. I will keep it night and day.” And we are sensible of the springing up of fresh fountains in our thirsty souls so that the desert and solitary place is in some measure made glad We feel that in relation to this work that the Great Master builder is now renewedly calling the lonely ones to that we can only be & that through ~~the~~ divine favour as hired servants and burden bearers in His cause and that Unless the Lord build the house they labour in vain who build it and unless the Lord

keep the City the watchman waketh but in vain And so come to know Him to be in living Truth as He is in our profession our leader and guide in that spiritual appearing promised by the redeemer in which He would lead and guide unto all Truth. As travellers in weary Journeys may Encourage Each other and improving seasons may say to Each other be of good cheer so would we salute you in tenderness of Spirit and Encourage You to faithfulness in all your provings and Constancy in your allegience to that Merciful one who is revisiting his people & is waiting to do us good. to bind up the wounded and renew the hope and Confidence of those who are ready to faint who is calling Even those who have hung their harps on the willows to again sing His praises in places of His own preparing and who through the weakness and dependence of His Chosen ones will make His own Heavenly wisdom more clearly known and His mighty power and adorable name to become more and more a praise and Glory in the Earth

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1883.

NEW YORK

What more shall we say We need not multiply words But in that which is above and beyond words we would hand you a cup of water in the name of the Lord. & bid you affectionately farewell & remain your Friends.

Your acceptable Epistle was received and read to our comfort

Signed by direction & on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge Cahuga Co. New York the 28 and 29th of 5th month 1883.

William C Meader
Clerk.

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1883.

NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends held at Leeds England.

Dear Friends

Altho' no Epistles from your last general meeting has come to hand Yet we are constrained to address a few lines to you in token of our remembrance and as an evidence that you are still near to our best feelings. Our meeting is smaller than usual but the business that has come before it has been transacted in a good degree of harmony and condescension for which favour we desire to be Thankful to the giver of Every good & Every perfect gift and we cannot but hope that every thing that tends to alienate one from another may be removed and all become more united and in the fellowship of the Gospel the present is a day of much discouragement the lives of confusion and the stones of Emptiness stretch'd over us but what Ever may be the Condition of the condition of the society the work is through divine help an individual work the waters of life flow freely and none are debarred from partaking thereof on account of the unfaithfulness of others An Epistle from our dear Friends of New York Yearly Meeting held at Poplar Ridge and one from the ~~friend~~ General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c have been rec^d & Read to our satisfaction and Comfort with a salutation of love We are your Friends.

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1883
NEW ENGLAND

Signed in & on behalf of the Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island from the 10th of 6 month to the 12th of the same inclusive 1883.

William T Oliver
Clerk.

1883.
PENNA &c

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held in England.

Dear Friends

Truth being the same Now & its source as in former days when they that feared the Lord Spake often one to another and the Lord heard⁽²⁾ and hearkened⁽¹⁾ it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared Him and that thought upon His name.

We have felt drawn to communicate a little with you in this way desiring we might become encouragers one of another to steadfastness in the faith, the true faith, that works by love to the purifying of the heart and without which it is impossible to please God. Incouragers of one another to humility and lowliness as evinced by Mary “when

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1883
PENNA &c

she sat at the feet of Jesus to hear the gracious words that proceeded from Him having chosen that good part which He told her should not be taken away from her Encouragers of one another to seek to have our affections set on things above and not on things on the Earth that we may thus become obedient children of our Father in Heaven.

John in writing to his well beloved [illegible] remarks I have no greater joy than to hear of my children walking in the Truth and truly it is a pleasant thing and Joyous to the living to see in the young and rising generation amongst us a willingness to wear the yoke and bear the Cross of Christ.

And we would that this class both with you and us might be more & more Enamoured with ~~the~~ a love for the Truth. And brought into an Exercise to let their light shine before men that others might thereby be drawn to serve & Glorify our Father in Heaven Your acceptable Epistle of 5th Month last has been received and read to our satisfaction

With a salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held the 4th of 5 [~~days~~] of 9th month 1883.

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

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1884

NEW YORK.

At New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge. Cahuga County.
New York the 26 & 27th of 5 mo 1884

The Clerk is directed to forward a copy of the following Minute to those Meetings we have been in Correspondence with

Signed on our behalf

Dear Friends

We have received and read your welcome Epistle which was a Comforting token of your love and regard for us in our low Estate and Your concern for the promotion of that precious & holy cause. we are mutually Endeavouring to uphold. though with us we feel it is in weakness and while we trust a measure of corresponding love returns from our hearts to you we have not found the way open for a further Expression of it at this time

We remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid.

W. C. Meader Clerk -

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

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1884

NEW ENGLAND

At our Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island beginning with Public Meetings. for Worship on 1st day the 15th of 6 month 1884 and on 2nd day morning the 16th of same for discipline.

The Committee appointed yesterday morning to take into consideration the subject of preparing Essays of Epistles to the Meetings with which we correspond and if way opened attend thereto and produce them at a future sitting report that owing to our weak & stripped condition the way did not seem clear to send any Epistles this year And the Clerk is directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Epistle from the General Meeting for Penns New Jersey Delaware &c and that of the General Meeting of England with both of which satisfaction & unity have been Expressed

He is also directed to acknowledge our reception of the satisfactory minute from New York Yearly Meeting and to send to Each of the Meetings with which we have corresponded a copy of this minute

Extracted from the Minutes by

Wm T. Oliver Clerk

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1894

PENNA &c

To the next General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

In the fresh flowing of Gospel love we feel drawn to address you altho this is a time in our society Comparable to a day of treading down and of Commotion of reports & rumours which tend not to the Exaltation of the Redeemers Kingdom in the Earth

Yet we can say with heartfelt gratitude that Evidences are from time to time afforded us that He whose love filleth all Space is mercifully near Encouraging to a holding fast the faith Committed unto us and to a diligent seeking unto Him who hath proved our all sufficient helper in Every needful time in the midst of all we have remembered. the language of the Prophet in former days they that feared the Lord spake often one to another and the Lord hearkened and heard it and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord & thought upon His Name under this feeling of Gospel love for one another you have been sweetly brought to our remembrance with earnest desires that the stakes may be strengthened and the cords lengthened which bindeth together & that Holy help may be vouchsafed to cement all who have given in their Names to serve the

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1884

PENNA &c

Lord in the same covenant of life that our profession may be exalted in the earth and that we may continue to salute one another with the precious greeting of Come ye let us go up to the house of the Lord together and He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths

Your late Epistle was received and read to our Comfort and Encouragement

With the salutation of love we remain Your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the general Meeting of Men and Women friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington Bucks Co. Pa. on the 2nd and 3rd days of the 9th Mo. 1884

Moses Cadwallader

Clerk.

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1885.
NEW YORK.

To the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania. New Jersey Delaware &c and the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends.

Our Hearts are clothed with gratitude to the author of all our sure mercies that by & through His holy help which we feel has been Newly Extended to us this time we are enabled to offer the salutation of near and dear love to you a measure we trust of that love of which the blessed Redeemer spoke when he said "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples that ye have love one toward another

As living travel of soul has been witnessed for the salvation of the immortal part and the welfare of Zions children from the Ends of the Earth to the uttermost parts of the sea that her cords may be lengthened and her stakes strengthened and that they may be bound in their inseparable bundle of life and love and we feel constrained the blessed invitation Come brother Come sister let us go up to the house of the Lord and to the mountain of our God and He will teach us of His way and we will walk in His paths for He does remain to be the teacher and leader of His people and in the abundance of His mercy will Enable them to see eye to Eye as their Eyes are kept single unto Him and to worship Him in the beauty of holiness with one heart and with one mind

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1885
NEW YORK

Your acceptable Epistle was received and read to our Comfort & Edification.

In dear love we remain your Friends.

Signed on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge Cahuga Co. N.Y. the 25. & 26. of 5 month 1885.

W.C. Meader. Clerk.

1885
NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends to be held at Fritchley, England.

Dear Friends

We have been bowed down under a sence of our utter unworthiness of the many blessings vouchsafed unto us at this time of weakness and poverty. We renewedly feel that the arm of the Lord is round about his dependent children to guide them in His paths which are paths of peace The language of the Psalmist arises Bless the Lord oh my soul and forget not all His benefits

Your Excellent Epistle has been received and read at this time to our comfort and satisfaction.

With a salutation of love we are your friends,

Signed by direction & on behalf of our Annual Meeting of Men & Women friends for New England held at Newport on Rhode Island from the 14 to the 17 days of 6 mo 1885

[cut off]

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1885.

NEW England

Annual Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Newport Rhode Island. from the 14th of 6 mo 1885. to the 17th of Same inclusive

Extract from the Minutes.

A minute from Sandwich Quarterly has been received and read in regard to a change in holding our Meetings for discipline & after weighty deliberation it was the sence of this Meeting that the time has arrived to discontinue holding the Annual Meeting and to Establish a Quarterly Meeting under the name of A Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England to be held on the 5th day following the Second 2nd day at Newport in the 6th. mo at Nantucket in the 9th month at [Lymer] in the 12th month and at Centreville in the 3rd month. The said Quarterly Meeting to be possessed with the power and function of the Annual Meeting to decide any matter which may claim its attention the Clerk is directed to place upon record a minute of the above change & forward a copy of it to Sandwich Quarterly Meeting to be held on Nantucket the 2nd day of each month & also a copy of to Each of the Meetings with which we correspond.

Wm. T Oliver Clerk

To the General Meeting of ~~the~~ Friends in England.

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1885.

PENNA &c

To the next General Meeting of Men and Women Friends to be held in England.

Dear Friends.

You have been brought very near to some of us at this time being renewedly made sensible that the pure river of the water of life as it is individually partaken of and its Heavenly influence Yeilded to brings all such partakers into a precious unity with the Lord & these know one another in Him these are as individual duty is yeilded to one anothers helpers in the Lord. We feel there is great danger to tenderly Visited Souls. of keeping back part of the price when the Master calls for the sacrifice of the one thing thou lackest to make us true Friends of the Lord Jesus Many

have by this drawing back after putting their hands to the Lords Plough Come short of the Kingdom of God whilst Even making an outward profession or appearance of being His Friends. We feel our shortcomings but under ~~divine~~ renewed quickenings of divine Love we desire for ourselves & for you that we may press forward with the Lords help so mercifully Extended Leaving the things which are behind Let us dear Friends be Encouraged to renewed dedication of our whole hearts so that we may through divine mercy be partakers with all His true friends of the precious promise "Fear nor little flock it is Your Fathers Good pleasure to give you the Kingdom"

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1885

PENNA

"In this world ye shall have tribulation which is indeed Experienced by all who truly love the Lord "But be of Good Cheer I have overcome the world." let us dear Friends seek daily for divine aid to draw near with a true heart to the secret place of the most High & He will Enable us to pray to Him for help. Great deliverance hath He granted & will continue to grant to His poor and needy ones who persevere in waiting upon the Lord day by day for His help. these when they go to their religious meetings will Experience the gathering in Him these will at seasons realize "where two or three are gathered together in my Name there am I in the midst of them" & such will have "times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord" However lonely these faithful ones may be however close their trials and afflictions may be they will be enabled to say Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven & to such He will grant the assurance "We know that all things work together for Good to them that love God".

We renewedly desire at this time that by our daily walk and inwardness of Spirit before Him we may be enabled to Extend the invitation to those who are wandering upon the

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1885

PENNA

barren mountains and desolate hills in an Empty profession many of whom are mourning before the Lord. "Come & have fellowship with us and truly our fellowship is with the Father & with His son Jesus Christ"

May you with us & we with you witness an increase of this godly zeal is at this time the desire of our souls. So that when we come to die we may feel the internal Evidence that the foundation of God Standeth sure having this seal. "The Lord knoweth them that are His & be prepared to Join those who have gone before us into Everlasting joy before the Lord God and the Lamb.

Your acceptable Epistle was received & read to our Comfort with a salutation of love we are Your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the General Meeting of Men & Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington the 8th. & 9th. of 9th. month 1885

Moses Cadwallader Clerk

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1886.
NEW YORK.

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends,

We read in the scriptures of Truth that as two of the disciples communed by the way though in sadness. the Saviour drew near and his presence accompanied them while they knew it not And in this day so long as remnants are found in Israel whose chief desire is that they may be preserved in the faithful maintenance of that cause which is dignified with immortality and crowned with eternal life these may at seasons Even whilst feeling poor and weak commune by the way and find the Masters blessing therewith The hearts of burden bearers are at times saddened by the discouragement of the day But may none look so much at these as to be at all unmindful that we have individual duties and that only by faithfulness therein. Can we fulfill our allotment in the militant Church. As the members thereof abide in living faith following the guidance of Him who is the head our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ No weapon formed against them shall prosper but they shall walk safely. And the language of the heart may be whom or what shall we fear? Precious are the promises of the most High to His people When thou passest

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1886
NEW YORK

through the waters I will be with thee & through the rivers they shall not overflow thee when thou walkest through the fire thou shalt not be burned neither shall the flame kindle upon thee for I am the Lord thy God the Holy one of Israel thy Saviour May there be with you and with us a full dedication & devotedness of both older & Younger unto Him who has redeemed & call His Israel by name. and would say to all thou art mine.

These will Experience their [bow] to abide in strength and the arms of their hands to be made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob.

On such faithful devoted ones as one of the vessels in the temple shall be the inscription Holiness unto the Lord and among these will he design to place his Name.

Then shall Judges continue to be raised up as at the first and Councillors as at the beginning on whom the spirit of true wisdom shall and the shout of a King be heard in Israels camp. For the Lord their God will be with them

With love unchanged. We are Your Friends

New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge N.Y. the 24th. and 25th. of 5 mo. 1886

W.C. Meader
Clerk.

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1886
NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends in England.

Dear Friends.

Your Epistle of Fifth Month last was read to our Comfort & great Encouragement & now we have been permitted to meet again in this Capacity a poor little handful as it were of what was once a highly favoured society. But though few in number we trust the same cause which gathered our worthy forefathers as a people is still held dear by us and though that cause is foolishness to the worldly wise we do ~~not~~ know for a certainty that the Master has Condescended to own us from time to time in a great Mercy by the breaking of a little bread it is with a sence of our weakness and Not of fullness that we feel to address you the language is revived at this time why art thou cast down oh my soul and why art thou disquieted within me. hope thou in God for I shall yet praise Him ~~of~~ the help of His Countenance. then let us be Encouraged to renew our Covenant with the Lord of Hosts by dying daily to the world. and receiving Him in the way of His Coming Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. Yet how few there are in this day that Love the Lord & His lowly appearing in their hearts with Truth and sincerity Oh that we may with you be found watching unto prayer to the End.

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1886.
NEW ENGLAND

with love unfeigned we are Your Friends.

Signed on behalf & by direction of the Quarterly of Men & Women Friends for New England held at Nantucket the 16th of 9th month 1886.

Wm. T Oliver
Clerk.

1886
PENNA &c

From the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania. New Jersey Delaware &c held at Falsington Bucks Co. Penna. on the 7th & 8th. of 9th month 1886.

To the next General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

In a measure of that love which Compasseth sea & land. and knows no bounds but the will of our Father which is in Heaven have you been brought this day very near to our better feelings accompanied with [loving] desire that we all may be bound together in the one bundle of life which is in the holy keeping to go no more and we realize in our better moments the truth of that

declaration They that fear the Lord speak often one to another and fervent are our desires that we may Carry one another in our secret breathings before the throne of Grace asking for deliverance from the power of the Enemy of all Good whose many & varied besetments assail us on Every side but we can rejoice in being able to say we can realize when the Lords Spirit rises into dominion ~~Even~~ He is made to flee away as the mist of the morning whilst the humble Spirited Disciples who feel & know they have no might of their own are fed with the bread which nourishes up unto Everlasting life & which is dispensed from the Lords table to such as in sincerity [illegible] and serve Him as their only Hope & Trust & confidence to the End.

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1886
PENNA &c

Then let us dear friends as with the heart of one man come boldly up to the work assigned for Each to do while the day of visitation lasts laying hold of that hope in Christ Jesus which is an anchor to the soul laid up in store for the dedicated followers of His unerring spirit.

In Near love & with fervent desires for Your best welfare as for our own we bid you farewell in the love of the Lord.

The reception & reading of Your minute of 5th month last was cordial to our feelings.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Meeting.

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

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1887.
NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends.

Under a sence of mourning rather than of great abounding we address You at this time. When the most of those who remain of our little flock here met we trust in His name who has promised to be with the few so gathered as well as with the many and while some hearts have been cheered with hope revived you have been brought near in sympathy in that way which leads us we trust to greater Experience of the fullness of the blessings of the Heavenly country

When the daughters of moab in the old time gleaned in the field of Boaz she could not boast of great substance Yet there was a blessing in the few gathered sheaves she shared with her companion who like herself was a mourner She was content as a gleaner Yet as the harvest days past and found her faithful in her allotment the field she gleaned became her inheritance & manifold blessings rested upon her from the bounteous hand of him under whose wing she had come to trust.

May not mourning overtake courage in these seasons of trial by remembering and Emulating the constant devotion of that faithful gleaner in those far away fields where Israels God had given his people bread & though the Evening of Each weary day finds these laden only with a few sheaves of gleaning may they not partake of them with Joyful and thankful hearts,

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1887
New York

Something of this Experience tender Spirits have known while remembering You on this occasion and though we have but little like Ruths gathered sheaves Yet hungry souls have been fed with the reapers portion at the noonday as well as in the Evening hours with handfuls that have fallen for them Our faith has been a little revived that if we continue constant in the service in the service to which we are called we may have a portion of blessing here & when these probations are past we may rejoice together in a fuller possession of the blessings of that Good land we seek. Sometimes in weariness and tears like those companions in widowhood who journeyed from Moab to the Hebrews Country. We offer you a few words of kindly greeting and Encouragement for though wide waters separate us outwardly Yet we trust in our measure we are united in the bonds of Christian union our calling being from the same Heavenly source with kindred Endeavours to be found obedient thereto with the like Encounters in the fields of conflict and with the same cheering hope of the crown of life at the End of our vicisitudes here Each heart knows its own bitterness & are there not Joys with which a stranger cannot [intermedale] there are no Joys like the Joys of Gods Salvation and from the [wiles] thereof though often seeming deep and hidden devoted souls may allay their thirst for in all ages and in all stages of the Journey bread will be given and water will be sure we would Encourage you who have long laboured in the vineyard of the Lord to faint not as the Eleventh hour is passing

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1887
NEW YORK

Oh these closing hours will decide for us our Eternal inheritance faithfulness unto death is succeeded by a Crown of life but neglect in the days when the harvest is Ending may deprive us of blessings in the world to come And to you who have seen less service in the spiritual warfare who may have to bear the standard when others have been called away we would Encourage to faithfulness reminding you that the Lord makes such more than Conquerers through Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

Since we last addressed you we might speak of many blessings, but trials have also mingled in our Cup and bereavements have Entered our borders the aged the middle aged and the young have been called away to ~~the~~ a better world.

May we with you strive so to live that the breathing of our spirits may be that we too may finish our course with Joy And that the Lord of the harvest may draw more Youthful labourers into the field not only to fill our broken ranks now but also to bear the Churches burdens which some have been called to lay off their armour and receive the unfading Crown

Your Epistle was received and read to our Comfort. Farewell

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1887.
New York.

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 23rd & 24th of 5th month 1887

Wm. C. Meader. Clerk.

1887.
PENNA &c.

To the next General Meeting of Men and Women Friends to be held in England

Dear Friends.

By the reading of Your acceptable Epistle you have been freshly brought to our remembrance though widely separated as to the outward fervent are our desires that we may all be built on the one & only sure foundation and inwardly gathered to the one shepherd and into the one true sheepfold that so we as a people may continue to be one in faith and doctrine

You are as we a feeble few but the promise remains sure “When Two or Three are gathered together there am I in the midst of them” Is not the call lonely sounding at this day gather my saints together unto me those who have made a covenant with me by Sacrifice, As we individually gather inward to the place of true waiting such will realize a sitting under his shadow with Great delight feeling His banner over them to be love. These have the Light of Christ in their souls which oftentimes under brokenness of heart shine as a light on a

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PENNA &c
1887.

candlestick and is a great Encouragement unto seeking ones these tho’ they feel clothed with weakness and unworthiness are mercifully permitted many times to witness the fulfillment of the declaration “My grace is sufficient for thee my strength is made perfect in weakness”. -

Dear Friends May we renewedly seek to put on this strength let us call to remembrance how the three faithful ones of old in the fiery furnace trusted in the Lord & how He wrought their deliverance while they held their peace - We believe the Lord is at work among the Children of men. Staining in the views of many the things of this world. in tender mercy so that their love may be set on Him Let us brethren and sisters day by day individually wait upon the Lord for a renewal of our strength. - let us watch unto prayer with all perseverance May all both older and younger come unto Him in living faith then shall be Experience more and more of that precious virtue which heals the living wounded Soul and binds up the broken hearted and gives to His dependent children the oil of Joy for mourning and the garment of praise for the spirit of heavyness and saith to the tried and proved ones whose lamentations may be By whom shall Jacob arise for he is small The Lamb and His followers shall have the victory

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1887
PENNA &c

In conclusion dear Friends May we be encouraged to mind the charge of the Apostle “Take heed therefore unto Yourselves and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers to feed the Church of God which He has purchased with His own blood.”

That He might present it to Himself a Glorious Church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing.

With a salutation of love we remain Your Friend

Signed by direction and on behalf of the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c held at Fallsington. Penna. the 6th. & 7th. days of the 9th. month 1887.

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

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1887
NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends

As one by one of those that have stood long for the precious cause of Truth are being removed to their eternal rest we in the younger walks of life feel more and more the responsibility to rest upon us with the desire to be fitted for our duties that Truth may not utterly fall We keenly feel our stripped and scattered Condition but at times when we are gathered in this our little company the presence of the most High is sweetly felt to cover us we feel too poor and weak to hand forth any good to our distant brethren “unless the Lord build the house they labour in vain that build it”. We desire for ourselves you as for ourselves that Each individual may be more faithful to the Lord’s requirings Whether it be in little or in greater things.

Your Epistle of fifth month last was received and read to our 6th months Quarter and at this time. It was an evidence that we are joined together by a precious bond of love that time or distance cannot sever as long as we are alive in true faith.

With love we are your Friends,

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Nantucket the 15th of 9th Month 1887.

Wm T. Oliver Clerk

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1888.
NEW YORK

Dear Friends of the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania &c and the General Meeting of Friends in England.

“The angel of the Lord Encampeth round about them that fear Him” is a promise that should draw every one within the fold of Christ. Blessed indeed are those who are really of the flock of Christs Companions.

These have been made willing to sink deep into Jordans waters & there to wait for the reaching forth of that arm which is all powerful to bring them up & to put the song of deliverance into their mouths These may stand as lights in the world & by the daily walk & inward Exercise of Spirit be helpful to those who are looking for the true yet hardly have faith to step into it.

Would this true & living fear of the Lord was more fully begotten in Every heart amongst all the remnants of the Lords people It is not a slavish fear but a real love for Christ & his teachings which if heeded will bring into the desired haven where light holy light for Ever rests on all the dwellers there

Your acceptable Epistles have been read at this time to our Comfort & desires were felt that the Good Council might not be lost upon us

With a Salutation of love we are your Friends

Signed by direction & on behalf of New York Y.M of Friends held the 28 & 29 of 5 Mo 1888

W C. Meader, Clerk

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1888
PENNA

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held in England

Dear Friends

We have met together at this time under a sence of our weakness & inability to do any thing for ourselves or one another without divine aid In times of discouragement we feel the Language of the Saviour to His disciplines to be true Satan hath desired to have you that He may sift you as wheat” Yet we believe as we are daily more & more concerned to obey the divine Command. “Watch Ye therefore and pray always. that ye may be counted worthy to Escape these things and to stand before the son of man” that He will strengthen our weak hand & cause us to realize “Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I Command you” May you with us be renewedly quickened in remembering the language of a deeply tried servant of the Lord. Seeing we are Compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses “those who through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus our Lord and for ever happy in Heaven let us lay aside every weight & hindering thing & Seek to double our diligence by faithfulness to Make our Calling & Election sure. Then shall we realize that although many are the afflictions of the righteous Yet the Lord delivereth them out of them all We desire for you & for ourselves that we may Count Nothing too near or too dear to part with when he calls for the sacrifice He hath enabled many who have gone before us to Say “Thy will be done”

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1888
PENNA &c

and He will Continue to help His poor. dependent little ones in this day So that they will Experience in seasons of trial and Close proving “who shall separate us from the Love of God”? & He will cause such to realize. If God be for us who Can be against us These poor dependent ones will be of the Number of whom it is written “I will leave in the midst of them an afflicted and a poor people & they shall trust in the Name of the Lord” May we not have a humble hope that He will Gather these together as was prophesied “I will Gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly” & these will Experience “The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want”

In the Love of the everlasting Gospel do we dearly salute you & wish you Godspeed. on your Heavenly Journey For the Name of the Lord remains to be a strong tower into which the righteous runneth & are safe a sun and shield unto His dedicated ones who trust in Him.

Your acceptable Epistle was received and read in our General Meeting in the 6th Month to our Comfort and Encouragement

Signed in and on behalf of the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey & Delaware held Fallsington by adjournments on the 4th and 5th of the 9th Month 1888.

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1888
PENNA

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

1888
~~PENNA.~~
NEW ENGLAND

To the general meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

As members of the same household of faith we salute you, knowing that the same experience which has been our lot has also been yours for if we abide in the vine we surely shall produce the same fruit and have the same Experience. We feel much our low and humble condition yet we know wherein we trust. Times and seasons are not at our Command. It is only as we embrace the small openings that we know a growth in the Truth. May you not have to mourn over neglected opportunities, but be Earnestly diligent to watch for and obey the pointings of the Fathers finger. Oh dear Friends Our hearts go out to you in Gospel love May we all be strengthened to fulfill our allotted parts then shall we each individually feel the reward of peace and the Church will be strengthened although we feel poor and weak

With a salutation of love we are your Friends

Signed in and on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women Friends for New England held at Nantucket on the 13th of 9th Month 1888.

Wm. T. Oliver Clerk

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1889.

~~NEW YORK.~~

PENNA &c.

To the next General Meeting of Friends to be held at Fritchley in England

Dear Friend.

Being again gathered together in a General Meeting the care and love of our Heavenly Father has been felt to Extend over us and in this you have been brought very near Precious indeed is this fellowship far Exceeding any of the friendships of the world. May it be an abiding concern so to walk in humility and watchfulness that an example will be gathering to those about us, - that our loins may be girded and our lights burning. It is a day in which the language is being realized, by not a few, I will leave in the midst of thee an Afflicted and poor people and they shall trust in the Name of the Lord. We feel that the Cruel Enemy is Continually seeking to Catch us of the watch. It was said of Joseph. The Archers shot at him and sorely grieved him but his dwelling place was by the well Spring of life and his bow abode in Strength and his hands were made Strong by the mighty God of Jacob As the Lord Led him Even in prison until his time for enlargement came So is he not hiding as it were some in this day secretly in His pavilion from the strife of tongues He knows every one of these poor and needy ones. who wait upon Him continually for strength

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1889

~~NEW YORK~~

PENNA &c

Let us be encouraged dear friends to seek for help from the Lord to lay aside Every hindering thing and wrestle for the Divine blessing so that we may be found filling the places of those who have gone before us who were faithful unto death and we reverently believe they have received a Crown of life. - Let us remember Daniel and his Companions and how the Lord strengthened them (A very small Company) how they were found faithful and how they Committed the keeping of their souls unto the Lord in well doing as unto a faithful Creator as we are faithful day by day the Good shepherd will gather such Exercised ones closer and closer unto Himself and to one another in Him But He receives to Himself the Gathering He sees the Nathaniels in this day under the fig trees seeking by prayer unto Him for help for themselves and for others also And these will through His mercy at times feel that the Lamb and His followers shall have the victory These are they that walk with God. And when such gather to their religious meetings they will bring good with them and will often realize where two or three are gathered together in His name there will He be in the midst of them

Your acceptable Epistle received in the 6th Month last was read to our Comfort and Encouragement.

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1889

~~NEW YORK~~

PENNA &c

With a salutation love, Farewell.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey. Delaware &c held at Fallsington Bucks Co Penna by adjournments. on the 3rd & 4th of 9th Mo 1889.

Moses Cadwallader Clerk.

1889

NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends in England.

Dear Friends

Gathered again in our Annual assembly, we have reverently to acknowledge renewed evidence that the Lords arm is not shortened that it cannot save Nor his Ear grown heavy that he cannot hear "but for the sighing of the poor and the crying of his needy ones. he doth arise, opening for them in seeming dessert places the Springs of life watering his heritage and overshadowing with redeeming love and as our hearts have been bowed before Him and the tribute of thanks giving has arisen, Our distant brethren and sisters have been brought near, with desires that we may one and all be Enabled to take Courage and gird up the loins of our minds in the strength He only can give Run with yet greater alacrity and increased dedication of body soul and Spirit unto Him the race set before us looking unto Jesus the auther that He may be the finisher of our faith.

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1889

NEW YORK.

The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong but we have the assurance that the Lamb and his followers shall have the victory

Oh that the Youth with you and with us may more generally more unreservedly Enlist in the spiritual warfare. The weapons of our warfare said the Apostle are not carnal but mighty through God to the putting down of strong holds of Sin and Satan

When thus enabled to combat with the foes of our own hearts ability is received to strive against that which opposes the Coming of our Redeemers Kingdom in the earth

Thus may standard bearers continue to arise from your ranks who will uphold the precious testimonies of the everlasting Truth before the world The vacant places of dear ones who were with us at our last annual gathering but who, we trust, are now joined to the Church triumphant remind us of the need of working while the day lasts and may of all ages be qualified to strengthen one another in Good works those works which are a necessary accompaniment of living faith that we may present ourselves acceptably before the Lord of Hosts the Head over all things to His Church and people.

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1889
NEW YORK.

Now unto Him that is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of His Glory with exceeding Joy to the only wise God our Saviour be Glory and Majesty dominion and power both now and evermore.

Your acceptable epistle has been read to our Comfort and encouragement

With a salutation of love we are your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held the 27 and 28th of 5 Month 1889

Wm. C. Meader. Clerk

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1889.
NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting for Pennsylvania N J. Delaware &c. And to the General Meeting of Fritchley England -

Dear Friends

Having been permitted to meet once more in the Capacity of a quarterly meeting our minds have been turned towards you in Love with desires that we may with you walk consistent with that high and holy profession for which the worthies of former times suffered so deeply for Counting it dearer than their natural lives The cause is the same to day as then, And it was declared by the Saviour of men to His followers through great tribulation Ye shall Enter the Kingdom of Heaven. We Cannot have a smoother way to that Kingdom this day the servant is not to be greater than his Lord then let us with more dedication of heart Enter into that suffering which must be filled up for the bodys sake Even the Suffering of a Crucified and risen Lord Trials of faith and patience will come to all but as the eye is kept Single unto the Lord and the Spiritual ear open we may realize of a Truth and adopt the language “By thee have I run through a troop and by my God have I leaped over a wall.

Tis not by might nor by power but by my Spirit saith the Lord and though we feel it a low time we are persuaded the foundation of God standeth sure having this seal “The Lord knoweth them that are His” and to the merciful He will shew Himself merciful and to the upright He will show himself upright

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1889.
NEW ENGLAND

But oh. the importance of daily watching unto prayer for our blessed Lord hath said “What I say unto you I say unto all Watch.

Your last acceptable Epistles were received and read to our satisfaction

With love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Quarterly Meetings of Men & Women Friends for New England held at Nantucket by adjournments on the 31st day of 10 month 1889.

Wm. T. Oliver. Clerk

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1890

NEW YORK

To the General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends.

In a measure of that love which many waters cannot quench do we feel to address you, at this time of our Annual Gathering fully realizing our great weakness & inability do do one Good thing without Him who goeth before & prepareth the way for His dependent Children. And truly Can we say that He has in Great mercy Condescended to break bread with us to the refreshing of weary souls and the desire has arisen that the Condescending love that has overshadowed us may not pass away as the early dew but rather sink deep in our hearts causing us to show forth to beholders that we have been with Jesus and are in deed and in truth of that blessed Company of whom the Prophet spake They shall come with weeping and with supplications will I lead them I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way wherein they shall not stumble. for the Lord hath redeemed Jacob and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he While we can acknowledge the Goodness of the dear redeemer unto us we have felt for you dear Friends believing that the Lord is very near the little remnant there who are endeavouring to uphold his banner for the Truth.

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1890

NEW YORK.

In a measure of that power which was granted so Eminently unto our forefathers who for the precious principles of Truth sacrificed their lives & Suffered the spoiling of their Goods, O the blessed Experiences that many have left on record of the sustaining help & strength of Israels shepherd who sleepeth not by day nor slumbereth by night. Is not His power the same now. Will He Not uphold His little dependent ones Even the Young in years who look to Him with an eye of faith His promises are Yea & Amen forever. He will not leave any or forsake any that come unto Him These He will feed with the bread of life & open unto them of His Heavenly mysteries & keep them as ~~with~~ the apple of His eye. Where None Can make afraid.

And may we all adopt the Language of the psalmist when he said. “As the Hart panteth after the Waterbrooks So panteth my soul after thee o Lord My flesh and my heart faileth But thou art the strength of my heart & my portion for Ever.

Your acceptable Epistle of 1st of 5th Month was rec'd and read to our Comfort

With a salutation of love we are your Friends.

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1890
NEW YORK

Signed by direction and on behalf of New York Yearly Meeting of Friends held at Poplar Ridge. the 26th & 27th of 5th month 1890.

Wm C. Meader Clerk

1890
PENNA &c.

From the General Meeting of Men and Women Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c.
To the next General Meeting of Friends in England

Dear Friends

You have been brought Very near to us in feeling at this time in the belief that the Lord in watching Over his Heritage.. I will leave in the midst of thee a poor and an afflicted people and they shall trust in the Name of the Lord, Those who are endeavouring to serve the Lord with their whole heart are often permitted to pass through Close trials and to walk in low places ready to ask as did one formerly, that these distressing things might be removed but the Language to us is as then. My Grace is sufficient for thee My strength is made perfect in weakness therefore dear Friends let us day by day double our diligence in waiting on the Lord and watching unto prayer as this Exercise is Maintained we shall often realize I sought the Lord and He heard me and delivered me from all my fears.

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1890
PENNA &c.

This Exercise will tend to humble us and Cause us to feel our Nothingness and inability to do any thing of ourselves Such exercised ones will Experience the Lord to be their tent & refuge in Every trial. It was said of some formerly by One who was employed by an opposer of Israel whom he was endeavouring to curse When he looked upon that dispised people. How Goodly are thy Tents o. Jacob & thy tabernacles O Israel. If we are faithful to the Lord he will be faithful to us as He was to those who loved Him of old.

Dear Friends Is not a measure of the same Baalam spirit at work at this day to Endeavour to weaken the hands of those who have felt constrained to come out from the people of strange language? But no divination nor Enchantment will be permitted to harm those who are daily found seeking & serving the Lord with their whole heart - Although many are & always have been the afflictions of the righteous Yet the Lord delivereth out of them all in His own way & time The precious promise to His poor & afflicted Children both Young and old is Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a Crown of life”

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1890.
PENNA &c.

And to us and to you. may the language apply “Be ye therefore steadfast immoveable always abounding in the Work of the Lord. For as much as Ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Your last acceptable Epistle was received and read in our meeting in the 6th Month to our Comfort & Encouragement

With a Salutation of love we are your Friends.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the meeting

Moses Cadwallader Clerk

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1890.
NEW ENGLAND

To the General Meeting of Friends for Pennsylvania New Jersey Delaware &c And to the General Meeting held at Fritchley England.

Dear Friends.

In addressing you at this time we feel it to be a blessed Experience when we can adopt the Language of our Holy Redeemer while on the Mount Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after Righteousness for they shall be filled.

Our love for the truth and for the brethren induces us to press through our feeling of fewness and littleness and in our feeble way Encourage you to press on while it is to day for soon the night Cometh wherein no man can work. the Cause is His who promised. I will never leave thee nor forsake thee. and Oh! dear friends does not the present day loudly call for more spiritual worshippers to “worship the Father in Spirit & in Truth. For the Father seeketh such to worship Him.

Your acceptable Epistle was read at our 6 month Quarter and at this time to our Comfort and Encouragement

In that love which distance Cannot sever

We remain your Friends

Signed by direction of & on behalf of our Quarterly Meeting of Men and Women friends for. New England held at Nantucket on the 11th day of the 9th month 1890.

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Wm. T. Oliver Clerk