

Extracts from the minutes of the Yearly Meeting held in New York 1797

On the 1st This meeting was led into a renewed consideration of the subject respecting our friends remotely situated by the report of the committee thereon which was read as follows (viz) To the yearly meeting now sitting The committee appointed to the consideration of the situation of the Members of our Religious Society in Upper Canada as represented in the Report to the Yearly meeting on that subject having carefully attended thereto and compared our prospects and sentiments thereon are united in proposing that in order to strengthen and encourage those remote Members it would be right to receive a brotherly extension of sympathy and care towards them by an appointment from the Yearly Meeting to make them another Visit and which visit we believe might be more effectual if it was performed in conjunction with an appointment from some of our Partners Quarters for the like purpose and being impressed with a belief that there would be a propriety and safety in granting these friends the privilege of holding a preparative Meeting and to be furnished with a copy of our Discipline that so they may be enabled and encouraged to a consistency in principle and conduct and as they reside at a great distance from a monthly meeting we would suggest whether it might not be reasonable and proper to grant them the Liberty of accomplishing their Marriages and such other Privileges as the Committee in the course of their Visit and attention to the case may apprehend safe and proper and also may also fix on the most suitable place for holding the said preparative Meeting and to the extension of such care and advice in the Establishment thereof as may appear necessary and proper and as all the Requesters mentioned in the Report are received into Memberships by the monthly meeting of some Partners we apprehend there would be a propriety in their continuing to belong to the Quarterly meeting of some Partners as well as those who were members before and to be joined to the Monthly meeting which the Committee may judge will be best for them and most likely to set easy with Friends