

London, and another to visit our monthly and quarterly-meetings; and after their appointment, before the last adjournment of the meeting, it was agreed in the meeting, that these two committees should meet together in friends school-house in the city, at a time then concluded on, to consider some things in which the cause of truth was concerned; and these committees meeting together, had a weighty conference in the fear of the Lord; at which time, I perceived, there were many friends under a scruple like that before-mentioned*.

As scrupling to pay a tax on account of the application, hath seldom been heard of heretofore, even amongst men of integrity, who have steadily borne their testimony against outward wars in their time; I may here note some things which have occurred to my mind, as I have been inwardly exercised on that account: from the steady opposition which faithful friends, in early times, made to wrong things then approved of, they were hated and persecuted by men living in the spirit of this world; and suffering with firmness, they were made a blessing to the church, and the work prospered. It equally concerns men, in every age, to take heed to their own spirit; and in comparing their situation

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* Christians refused to pay taxes to support heathen temples. See Primitive Christianity, part III. page 327.