

might not prevent me from doing what he required of me ; and standing up, I spake in substance as follows : “ I have felt a tenderness in my mind toward persons, in two circumstances mentioned in that report ; that is, toward such active members who keep slaves, and such who hold offices in civil government ; and have desired, that friends in all their conduct may be kindly affectioned one toward another. Many friends, who keep slaves, are under some exercise on that account ; and, at times, think about trying them with freedom ; but find many things in their way : and the way of living, and annual expences of some of them are such, that it seems impracticable for them to set their slaves free, without changing their own way of life. It has been my lot to be often abroad ; and I have observed in some places, at quarterly and yearly meetings, and at some houses where travelling friends and their horses are often entertained, that the yearly expence of individuals therein is very considerable : and friends in some places crowding much on persons in these circumstances for entertainment, hath often rested as a burthen on my mind for some years past ; and I now express it in the fear of the Lord, greatly desiring that friends now present may duly consider it.”

In the fall of this year, having hired a man to work, I perceived in conversation that he had been a soldier in the late war on  
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