

to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of our late friend Vick. Huppmann. His name is directed to be placed on our list of members.

The Com^e on the education of the Colored people, reported considerable attention to the object of their appointment - they are continued to the care thereof & desired to report to next meeting.

Then concluded

John Scott. Clerk

At a called Meeting for sufferings held in Ball^e 12 M^o 31. 1863 present 14 members.

This meeting was called to consider the propriety of memorializing Congress in relation to the Enrollment Bill which is now upon its passage. After due consideration it was concluded to present the following memorial to the U. S. Senate & House & also to furnish each member with a copy.

The printing & delivery of the Memorial is committed to the friends who have the general care of this subject.

"To the Senate & House of Rep^s of the U. S. in Congress assembled.
The religious Society of Friends within the limits of Ball^e County Meeting, embracing M^d, V^a & the adjacent parts of Penn^a, would respectfully represent:

That we view with much concern the action of Congress upon the Enrollment Bill now before it, involving as it does

a fundamental principle of our religious faith.

Many of the early Christians would not fight, & our church has consistently refused to do so since its origin, over two centuries ago, even in self defence, on the ground that it is contrary to the commands of our Saviour; this belief is a part of our religion, & we would respectfully ask for a continuance to us of liberty of conscience & our constitutional ^{right} "to the free exercise thereof," by granting us exemption from military service.

We acknowledge civil government to be a divine ordinance & we do not wish, especially in this day of trial, to shrink from any of the duties of faithful citizenship, which do not contravene the paramount law of Christ.

We feel deeply for our beloved country & earnestly crave that the divine blessing may rest upon it - upon the President, Congress & all in authority.

Signed by direction & on behalf of the Representatives of Ball^e County M^d of Friends held 12 M^o 31. 1863.

John Scott Clerk.

A memorial from Indiana M^d for suff^r to Congress on the subject of the draft was rec^d from that M^d & read & it is our Clerk is directed to place it among our papers & ackⁿ its receipt.

The following report was rec^d & read - it is satisfactory to the meeting & the Com^e is continued to act on behalf of this meeting if occasion should require - viz

The Com^e to represent Ball^e M^d for suff^r in any Conference of Com^s which may be convened on subjects connected with the war Report - That in accordance with the call issued by this meeting, a Conference of Com^s from New England, New York, Ohio,