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Individual Friend might avail themselves of it. His views were ably and cogently stated, and while he showed great courtesy and kindness, he also manifested much firmness and decision.

Having stated fully the difficulties in which Friends would be involved, by complying with the propositions of the Secretary, we thought best to leave the matter for his further consideration.

BALTIMORE, 12th Month 8th, 1863.

SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY,  
FRANCIS T. KING,  
CHARLES F. COFFIN.

In reviewing the exercises of the Conference, we are brought in humility to feel that we have not met in vain, nor has the Lord veiled his face from us, and we are now, as the time of our separation is at hand, brought into renewed and very tender sympathy with our dear young men, who may be brought into trials which they have not yet known. We entreat all these, wherever located, to remember that obedience to the law of God is our first and paramount duty, and that He is omnipotent and omnipresent, and that His ear is open to the cry of all His dependent children, and that leaning upon His almighty arm, in faith, we have nothing to fear. We earnestly exhort you, prayerfully, to exercise an unflinching trust, and we believe you will find a way opened for your preservation and deliverance. Maintain a meek and quiet spirit—avoid unprofitable discussions on the exciting topics of the day—be not hasty in determining in advance what course you will pursue, as the contingency may not arise that will require a decision—wait in patience, and in faith, and in filial love and dependence, and your Heavenly Father will show unto you what you shall do.

Our elder brethren we exhort to keep very near to our younger friends. Counsel them in the wisdom of Truth—give them full evidence that you are ready to participate with them in all their burdens, that you really love them and are willing to suffer with them, if suffering for Christ's sake should be their lot; and while we are thus engaged in addressing our fellow members, who are concerned to walk in the light of the Lord and to obey the teachings of the Gospel and the commandments of Christ, we take comfort in the assured belief, that as a way has thus far been opened for us, the blessed Master will continue to strengthen us and enable us to keep his laws.

Believing that the interests of our Society would be served by the appointment of a Committee to watch over the legislation of Congress and the operations of the Draft, and to act in such way for the relief of Friends as Truth may direct, with full power, if they deem it advisable, to call together again this Conference, we appoint to that service—

Francis T. King, James C. Thomas, James Carey and Richard M. Janney; Post Offices, Baltimore. Benjamin Tatham, New York. Samuel Boyce, Lynn, Massachusetts. John Butler, Salem, Ohio. Charles F. Coffin, Richmond, Indiana; and Robert W. Hodson, Plainfield, Indiana.

Our Clerk is directed to furnish each Meeting for Sufferings, represented in this Conference, with a copy of its Minutes, and one to Iowa; he is also directed to invite that Meeting to any future Meeting of this body, should one be called by the Special Committee.

The precious covering which has been at times extended over us during the sittings of this Conference, has been graciously renewed, as we are about to separate, and under this feeling, we would commend one another, and the cause which has brought us together, to our merciful and loving Father. Adjourned to meet again at the call of the Special Committee, if the Lord will.

FRANCIS T. KING, Clerk to the Conference.

At a Meeting for Sufferings held in Balt.  
10th Mo. 22nd 1864.

Present 15 Members. + the acceptable company of Joseph James Neave + Wm Norton of England + also several brethren from other Yearly Mtgs on this continent.

A minute was received from Balt. Quarterly Mtg informing that they had appointed John W. Hopkins to fill a vacancy in its representation occasioned by the ~~death~~ <sup>removal</sup> of our late friend ~~Nicholas Hoffmann~~ <sup>John B. Hoffmann</sup>; his name is directed to be placed on our list of members.

The following report was read + approved + the Committee continued to further service.

The Com<sup>o</sup> to have a care over the interests of our religious Society in connection with the draft + other subjects relating to the war. Report, That the minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings in the 11th + 12th mo. past show a part of the service which has been rendered by us during the past year.

The Memorial which we were directed to print + present to Congress, was read in each House + referred to the Military Com<sup>o</sup>. Copies were also laid upon the desk of each Senator + member. We met, in Washington Com<sup>o</sup> from New York, New England + Ohio. Meetings for Sufferings with Memorials of a