

APPENDIX

A. Application for Membership

“Friends receive into active membership those whose faith in Christ as a personal Saviour is manifest in their lives and who are in unity with the teachings of Christian truth as held by Friends.” Faith and Practice Part II, Chapter I, Basis of Membership.

On the basis of the above statement, accepting Jesus Christ as my Saviour, declaring it to be my purpose to devote my life to His services and to follow His teachings, agreeing to observe the rules and practices of Friends, and to be loyal to the interests of this Meeting, I do hereby make application for membership in _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends.

Date _____ 19 _____

Signed _____

Approved by the Meeting on Ministry and Counsel and recommended to the Monthly Meeting.

Date _____ 19 _____

Signed _____ Clerk

B. Removal Certificate

(One Monthly Meeting to Another)

To _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends:

Dear Friends:

This is to certify that _____ is a member of this Meeting. Upon due inquiry no obstruction appears to the granting of _____ request for a certificate to your Meeting. We therefore recommend _____ to your Christian care. Please acknowledge reception of _____ by returning to our clerk the annexed statement, properly filled and signed.

In love, we are your Friends,

By direction, and on behalf of _____

Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at _____

State of _____ day of _____ month, 19 _____

_____ Clerk

Address _____

Acknowledgment

To _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends:

We have received the removal certificate issued by you the _____

Day of _____ month, 19 _____, and have accepted _____

_____ into membership with us.

In behalf of _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends,

held at _____, _____ day of

_____ month, 19 _____

_____ Clerk

C. Letter to Other Denominations

To _____ Church.
_____ and _____ member(s)
of _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends, having
expressed the desire to unite in membership with the above named Church, this letter of dismissal is
granted in favor of said Church, and he (she) is (they are) commended to your Christian fellowship. Upon
receipt of official acknowledgment of the acceptance of this letter, the membership with Friends will
cease.

By Direction of _____ Monthly Meeting
_____ Clerk
_____ Address

Acknowledgment

To _____ Monthly Meeting of Friends:
We have received the letter issued by you the _____ day of _____ month,
19 _____, and have accepted _____ into membership with us.
In behalf of _____ Church, _____
_____ day of _____ month, 19 _____
Signed _____

D. Form of Affirmation

I affirm that I will tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

K. Marriage Vows

(Within the Meeting)

At a suitable time in the Meeting the parties shall stand, and taking each other by the right hand shall
declare -- the man first:

“In the presence of the Lord and before these friends, I take thee, D.E., to be my wife, promising,
with divine assistance, to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband as long as we both shall I live.”

The woman in like manner:

“In the presence of the Lord and before these friends, I take thee, A.B., to be my husband,
promising, with divine assistance, to be unto thee a loving and faithful wife as long as we both shall live.”

F. Certificate of Marriage

Whereas, A.B. of _____, County and State of _____,
son of C.B., and E., his wife of _____, and D.F., of _____, County _____
_____ and State of _____, daughter
_____ of H.F. and K., his wife, of _____ declared their intentions of
marriage with each other to the _____ Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends of
_____ held at _____
State of _____, on the _____ Day of the _____
month of the year _____, and nothing being found to obstruct, they were set at liberty by that
Meeting to accomplish their intentions.

Now these are to certify to whom it may concern, that from the accomplishment of their marriage,
this _____ Day of the _____ Month of the year _____, they, the said A.B. and D.F.
appeared at an appointed meeting held at _____ Under the oversight of the _____

_____ Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends in the presence of a committee thereof appointed for that purpose, and A.B., taking D.F. by the hand, declared that he took her to be his wife, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto her a loving and faithful husband as long as they both shall live; and then D./F., did in like manner declare that she took him, A.B., to be her husband, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto him a loving and faithful wife as long as they both should live.

And in further confirmation thereof, they, the said A.B. and D.F., (she, according to the custom of marriage, adopting the surname of her husband) did then and there to these presents set their hands.

A.B

D.F.B.

And we, having been present at the solemnization of the said marriage, did as witnesses thereto, set our hands.

G. Marriage Service, A Minister Participating **Introductory**

Marriage, in its deepest meaning, is an inward experience — the voluntary union of personalities effected in the mutual self-giving of hearts that truly love, implicitly trust, and courageously accept each other in good faith. Such marriage is honored and blessed of God as the fulfillment of His supreme design for man and woman, who alone of all creation bears His divine image. The State sanctions and the Church adorns marriage as the ideal relationship in human society. The wisdom of the ages bears testimony to the beneficent values which this honorable estate yields in the happiness and well being of mankind.

(If the “giving of the bride” is desired, the minister may say:)

“Who among the kinsfolk (or friends) of this bride-to-be shares her great joy and presents her to the man of her choice with benediction of her family?”

The father, brother, or other person will answer: “I do.”

To the Contracting Parties

Marriage involves at once the highest privileges and the greatest responsibilities of life. Its achievement of happiness and success is dependent upon the mutual love, the unflinching patience, and the absolute fidelity of one to the other. You will from henceforth live a blended life, each seeking and promoting the joy, the comfort, the health, and the enrichment of the other, all of which will divide your sorrows and multiply your satisfaction.

The Vows of Marriage

If you have carefully considered the sacredness of the obligations assumed when lives are wed, and are well assured that you are prepared to enter into this covenant, binding yourselves each to the other in holy sanctuary of the home as long as you both shall live, will you please face each other, clasp your right hands, and repeat these vows which have brought joy to so many others:

(Each repeat from memory if possible; if not, then follow the minister.)

The Man: “In the presence of the Lord, and before these friends, I take thee, (D.F.) to be my wife, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband, as long as we both shall live.”

The Woman: “In the presence of the Lord, and before these friends, I take thee (A.B.) to be my husband, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto thee a loving and faithful wife, as long as we both shall live.”

(Unclasp hands and face the minister.)

(If a ring is [or rings are] to be given and received, the minister may say:)

“What do you offer as a token of your pledge of love and loyalty?”

(The groom or an attendant places the ring, or both place rings, in the minister's hand, or upon his book, saying simply, "This ring.")

To the Man: "Do you, (A.B.) offer this ring as a token that you will keep this covenant and perform these vows?" He answers, "I Do."

To the Woman: "Do you, (D.F.), accept this ring as a token that you will keep this covenant and perform these vows?" She answers, "I Do."

(In case of a double ring service, the minister may say:)

To Both Parties: "Do you, (A.B.), and you, (D.F.), give and receive these rings as a pledge that you will keep this covenant and perform these vows?"

Together, they answer: "We Do."

The Minister: "Let this ring (these rings) ever be to you a symbol of the preciousness, the purity, and the permanence of true wedded love."

Recognition

In recognition of that real marriage between you, accomplished in the uniting of your hearts by mutual love and confidence, and in conformity to the laws of this state by whose sanctions these visible expressions of your pledged fidelity have been given and received, as a minister acknowledged by the church, I do now recognize you as husband and wife. Those whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.

Prayer by the Minister.

The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Alternate Vows

(If more formal vows than those in the foregoing ceremony are desired, the following is suggested:)

To the Man: (A.B.), will you take (D.F.), whose hand you hold, choosing her alone from all the world, to be your wedded wife? Will you love her and comfort her, support and cherish her in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity, and, forsaking all others, remain faithful to her as long as you both shall live?

He answers: "I Will."

To the Woman: (D.F.), will you take (A.B.), whose hand you hold, to be your wedded husband? Will you love him and comfort him in sickness and in health, in sunshine and in storm, and forsaking all others, remain faithful to him as long as you both shall live?

She answers: "I Will."