

From our Yearly Meeting held at Philadelphia, for Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, from the 22d Day of the Ninth Month, to the 28th of the same (inclusive) 1759. / To the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends belonging to the said Yearly Meeting

[Philadelphia]: [William Bradford, Jr. ?] 1759

\$25,000

*From our Yearly Meeting held at PHILADELPHIA,
for PENNSYLVANIA and NEW-JERSEY,
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ing to the said Yearly Meeting.*

Dear beloved Friends and Brethren,

IN an awtul Sense of the Wiidom and Goodness of the Lord our God, whose tender Mercies have long been continued to us in this Land, We affectionately salute you with sincere and fervent Desires, that we may reverently regard the Dispensations of his Providence and improve under them.

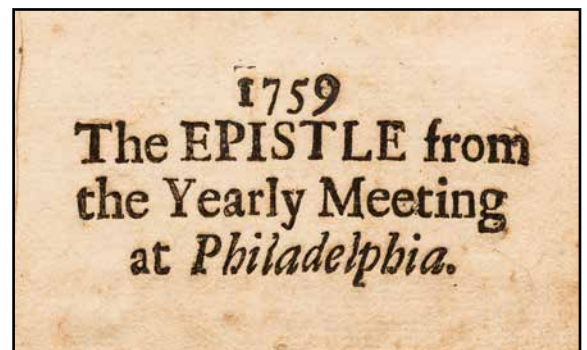
THE Empires and Kingdoms of the Earth are Subject to his Almighty Power; He is the God of the Spirits of all Flesh, and deals with his People agreeable to that Wisdom, the Depth whereof is to us unsearchable: We in these Provinces may say, He hath, as a gracious and tender Parent, dealt bountifully with us, even from the Days of our Fathers: It was He who strengthened them to labour thro' the Difficulties attending the Improvement of a Wilderness and made way for them in the Hearts of the Natives, so that by them they were comforted in Times of Want and Distress: It was by the gracious Influences of his holy Spirit, that they were disposed to work Righteousness and Walk uprightly one towards another and towards the Natives, and in Life and Conversation to manifest the Excellency of the Principles and Doctrines of the Christian Religion, and thereby they retained their Esteem and Friendship: Whilst they were labouring for the necessaries of Life, many of them were fervently engaged to promote Piety and Virtue in the Earth and educate their Children in the Fear of the Lord.

If we carefully consider the peaceable Measures pursued in the first Settlement of the Land, and that Freedom from the Desolations of War, which for a long Time we enjoyed, we shall find our selves under strong Obligations to the Almighty, who, when the Earth is so generally polluted with Wickedness, gave us a Being in a Part so signally favour'd with Tranquillity and Plenty, and in which the glad Tidings of the Gospel of Christ are so freely published, that we may justly say with the Psalmist, "*What shall we render unto the Lord for all his Benefits?*"

OUR own real Good and the Good of our Posterity in some Measure depends on the Part we act, and it nearly concerns us to try our Foundations impartially. Such are the different Rewards of the just and unjust in a future State, that to attend diligently to the Dictates of the Spirit of Christ, to devote ourselves to his Service and engage fervently in his Cause, during our short stay in this World, is a choice well becoming a free intelligent Creature; we shall thus clearly see and consider that the dealings of God with Mankind in a national Capacity, as recorded in holy Writ, do sufficiently evidence the Truth of that saying, "*it is Righteousness which exalteth a Nation,*" and tho' He doth not at all Times suddenly

execute

A scarce, colonial era Quaker Meeting Epistle on the "Calamities" suffered by Friends and fellow Subjects during the French and Indian War, most likely printed by William Bradford, Jr. at Philadelphia.



Folio (8" x 13"). pp. [1] 2-3 [4]. Untrimmed. Docket title printed in letterpress on page 4: "1759 / The Epistle from the Yearly Meeting at Philadelphia". Light folds, two small tears near the center of each leaf, near fine. With an armorial watermark on the second leaf. An historically important report dating from the height of the French and Indian War (1754-63): "In former Wars between the English and other Nations, since the Settlement of our Provinces, the Calamities attending them have fallen chiefly on other Places, but now of late they have reached our Borders; many of our fellow Subjects have suffered on and near our Frontiers, some have been slain in Battle, some killed in their Houses, and some in their Fields, some wounded and left in great Misery, and others separated from their Wives and little Children, who have been carried Captives among the Indians." Ascribed to the press of Benjamin Franklin and D. Hall by Evans and Hildeburn. Miller rejects the ascription and suggests that William Bradford Jr. may have been the printer. A well-preserved, untrimmed copy.

Evans 8350; Hildeburn, *Pennsylvania* 1627; Miller, *Franklin* B84; *ESTC* W12278. [BTC#423205]