

The Flushing Remonstrance

REVISITED ~ Protest for Tolerance

Name: _____

Date: _____

Remonstrance of the Inhabitants of Flushing Regarding Treatment of Quakers

(A **remonstrance** is an official petition or protest written to a government)

Right Honorable.

You have been pleased to
send up unto us a Certain Prohibition or
Command that we should not receive or
entertain any of those people called Quakers
because they are supposed to be by some
seducers of the people

for our part we cannot condemn them in this case
neither can we stretch out our hands against them
to punish banish or persecute them for out of
Christ God is a Consuming fire and it is a fearful
thing to fall into the hands of the living God we
desire

therefore in this case not to judge least we be
judged neither to Condemn least we be
Condemned but rather let every man stand
and fall to his own Master we are bound by
the Law to do good unto all men especially
to those of the Household of Faith

Who wrote this document?

To whom was this document written?

What was prohibited in Flushing and
why was it prohibited?

What do the authors of this document
refuse to do?

What reason do the authors give for
their refusal?

and though for the present we seem to be
unsensible of the law and the Lawgiver:
yet when death and the Law assaults us:
if we have our advocate to seek who shall plead
for us in this case of Conscience betwixt god and
our own souls the powers of this world can neither
attack us neither excuse us for if god justify who
can Condemn and if god Condemn there is none
can justify and for those Jealousies and suspicions
which some have of them that they are destructive
unto Magistracy and Ministry that cannot be:

How do the authors justify their
breaking of the law?

for the Magistrate hath the Sword in his hand and
the Minister hath the Sword in his hand as witness
those two great examples which all Magistrates
and Ministers are to follow M[oses] and Christ
whom god raised up Maintained and defended
against all the Enemies both of flesh and spirit and
therefore that which is of god will stand and that
which is of man will [come] to nothing: and as the
Lord hath taught Moses, or the Civil power to give
an outward liberty in the State by the law written
in his heart designed [for] the good of all and can
truly judge who is good and who is evil who is
true and who is false and can pass definitive
sentence of life or [death] against that man which
rises up against the [fundamen]tall law of the
States General so [he] [hath made] his Ministers a
savor of life unto [life] [and a sav]or of death unto
death.

How do the authors use the Bible to
argue against the law?

The law of love peace and liberty in the states
Extending to Jews Turks and Egyptians as They
are Considered the sons of Adam which is the
glory of the outward State of Holland, so love
peace and liberty extending to all in Christ Jesus
Condemns hatred war and bondage and because
our Saviour saith it is Impossible but that offences
will come but woe Be unto him by whom they
Cometh our desire is not offend one of his little
ones in what [soever] form name or title he
appears in whether presbyterian independent
Baptist or Quaker but shall be glad to see anything
of god in a[ny] of them:

Who do the authors think should be
covered under the law of love, peace
and liberty?

desiring to do unto all men as we d[esire] all men should do unto us which is the true law both of Church and State for our Saviour saith this is the Law and the Prophets

According to the authors, what is the true law of the Church and State?

Therefore if any of these said persons come in love unto us we cannot in Conscience lay violent hands upon them but give them free Egress and Regress into our Towne and houses as god shall persuade our Consciences and in t[his] we are true subjects both of Church and State for we are bound by the law of god and man to do good unto all men and evil to no man

What do the authors of this document intend to do?

and this is according to the Patent and Charter of our Towne given unto us in the name of the States General which we are not willing to infringe And violate but shall hold to our patent and

According to the authors, what document gives them the right to act according to their conscience?

Shall remain your Humble Subjects the Inhabitants of Vlising written this 27th of December in the year 1657

When was this document written?

by me Edward Heart clericus.

Tobias Feake

[List of Names continued on next page]

Who are the first two signers of the document?

Are the signers of this documents asking their government for religious tolerance or religious freedom? Use evidence from the document to support your answer.

The marke of William Noble
 William Thorne, senior Nicolas Blackford
 The mark of Wm. Thorne Junior
 Edward Tartte The mark of Mica[h] Tue
 John Storer
 Nathaniel Hefferd The mark of Phillip Ud []
 Benjamin Hubbard
 The marke of William Pidgion
 The marke of George Clere
 Elias Doughtie
 Antonie Field
 Richard Stocton
 Edward Griffine.
 Nathaniell Tue
 Robert ffeild, senior
~~Nicholas Parsell~~
 Robert Field, junior
 Nittkcolas Parnell
 Michael Milner
~~Benjamin Hubbard~~
 Henry Townesend
 George Wright
 John Foard
 Henry Samtell
 Edward Heart
 John Mastine *Seijt dat Jan Masteyn hem versocht h[—]*
~~Henry Townesend~~ *dat hij seijn naem weder daer [—]*
 John Townesend *stellen.*
 Edward ffarington *gingh naer eduars huijs en d[ae]r*
oñderteekent

Note: Spelling has been edited to modern English to facilitate the reading of the document.