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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

1-9-1825

Letter from Jonathan Doty to James B. Finley

Jonathan Doty

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27 Champagne County Ohio January 9th 1826

Dear Bro. Threw the mace of Gods Law
in good health in body but agreed
my spirit in consequence of sore oppression
I've been a member of the Methodist Church
a number of years, and have fought there
many a battle sore, but never more, was
I so wounded as at the present time.

Lamentable, to relate, As A shepherd I
endeavour to defend my flock, but in vain
my suffrage is gone my hands are tied
and my mouth is gaged, I am not
allowed to speak for myself nor for
my beloved society, it is to you we
fly for help, Oh lend us aid; harken
to our cries and give ear to our complaints
and remedy our case, ~~Thou~~ man you give
to rule over us for good (I pause) is not
what he ought to be. for the sake of it

Few dead weights, to the society, he has
assumed the authority of A Conference
(as we think) and over ruled our discipline.
Our society is numerous consisting of between
Eighty and Ninety members, nine tenths
of whom, earnestly solicit deliverance,
without we are likely to suffer great loss.
The officers (with the exception of one) consider
themselves treated with great contempt.

The society generally believes, he
has ruled with extreme partiality, and
we doubt his veracity in many
instances, and utterly refuse his
sovereignty.

And Bro. Men as A free
and independant people ought
to take into consideration the
disadvantages resulting from tyrannical
principles

Both in church and state and
 as we consider our privileges curtailed
 we solicit your reverent protection
 and this almost without dissenting voice
 for the major part of the society
 consider this time sacred in
 attending his appointment. I add no
 more but conclude with the expressed
 respects of this society and your
 Neworthy friend
 Jonathan Doty

B. Bro. Pinley I want you if you
 regard me or this society to be
 shure to attend our next quarterly
 meeting

Jonathan Doty
 Mechanicsburg
 1805

William Colby
 Feb 13th
 James Finley
 Wm. Pinley
 Ohio

Bro. James Finley