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James B. Finley Letters

11-22-1830

Letter from Wesley Browning to James B. Finley

Wesley Browning

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Rev. James B. Finley

Cincinnati

Ohio

Wm Brown
Nov 2

Pittsburgh Monday Nov^r 22nd 1830

My Dear Brother Finley

I thank you for your prompt reply to my letter, and assure you it gave me no small degree of satisfaction to hear of your welfare and prosperity. I hope you will soon get into your new Chapel, and I pray that the Lord may bless your labours in that part of the City. I rejoice to hear that Lord continues to raise up witnesses of his sanctifying power; & that the sacred flame may spread!

Since I wrote Bro. Coston has returned, and enjoys pretty good health. We have made a contract for a Church lot, situated rather toward the point, corner of Liberty & Hay Streets, about 2 squares from the Court house. We get it for four thousand dollars, and have our own time to pay for it, by paying 250 ^{per an.} dol. as the interest of the money. A corner lot 60 ft. by 90. Our subscription is about four thousand dollars, and it is thought we can get a little more. Our next Dr. Meeting (the 4 & 5th of Dec^r) will probably appoint a Building Committee.

We have also been circulating subscriptions for the purpose of building a small house in Allegheny Town. We have about 600 dollars & hope to get a little more.

In the mean time our friends have procured an upper room, and fitted it up for worship; And yesterday for the first time we had preaching in it. Our prospects are encouraging; we have had as many as a dozen at the altar as mourners several times. And several have been converted to God. We have taken in a few. And some of our classes are lively. Our officers are not so good to work as I have seen in some places. but we must try to help one another and strengthen all the weak places.

My health has been good untill a week ago. I had a severe cold, but am well now. We had a great deal of rain last night, and I hope we shall have a sufficient rise in the river for boats to run. I am badly in want of my clothes.

I hope you will write often, as we shall have frequent opportunities of private conveyance. I want to hear what you are doing — What's become of the injunction — of Father Burkes case &c. &c. I assure you I can but feel an interest in every thing relating to the Church in Cin.^{ty} Never can I forget the many instances of kindness I received from the friends of Jesus in that place; and among the rest my beloved colleagues in the Ministry. But I deeply lament that I did not render myself more worthy of their regard. God be merciful to me, a sinner!!

This will be handed you by Bro. Moreledge of this place, whom I wish to introduce to your acquaintance. He comes to reside with you; and you will render him a service by introducing him to some of your English Brethren. He would have been down sooner had not the river been so low.

You will please present my love to your colleagues to Lucia, and sister Finley, and believe me when I say I feel that I am

your affectionate brother
in Christ

M.B.

P.S. I will venture to send Bro. Bayards love to you for he asks if I have heard from you almost every time he sees me. They are both well.

I would have told you something about the racks but I have not heard any thing very good, and you know enough of the rest already. I suppose we shall have another mouse shortly.

Write soon:-

M.B.