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James B. Finley Letters

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10-29-1845

## Letter from Michael Marley to James B. Finley

Michael Marley

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P.S. Some of the Seceders are coming back.  
Two last Sabbath at ~~morris~~ Morris Chapel, we think  
the run on us, is over, or nearly so. The Preachers  
are all of one heart, and mind praying to  
God for a revival of religion. my love to  
all the Brethren that I am acquainted with.  
M.M.

Rev. James B. Linley  
Zanesville,  
Ohio.  
Milford O.  
Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>

Milford Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 1845

Dear Bro Linley.

I have delayed writing until this time, that  
I might give you a full account of the State of Things  
in the queen City. Bro Elliott however, has given you  
a very correct Statement of facts, and this will relieve  
me in part. In the first place Sken, and Latta,  
made a tool of Moley, and he attempted to organize  
a Society in Burks Church, by collecting the disaffected  
from the different Churches. When I went down to  
attend my first of meeting I pronounced it all  
an irregular affair, and told them that should  
they vote themselves South it would be in violation  
of their beloved Plans, and that after denouncing the  
Conference for disapproving it, they themselves would be the  
first to violate its provisions. In this opinion I was sustained  
by both Morris, and Hamline, they both hold, that should  
the South recognize them, it will be in violation of the  
Plans. They tried to provoke me to lay hands on Moley  
and remove him from the Mission, that they might  
raise the cry of oppression. But I saw their design and  
just let them swing, for I knew that they would gain  
and determined that they should not make any  
capital out of me. and in less than a week they  
went, shouldering the responsibility themselves.

You know who are the leaders, and these men have  
got Moley with them to do the dirty work, and for



This he is well qualified. I regard him as a corrupt deceitful mean man. and to this conclusion I have been driven.

As it respects the persons that are gone, Jeff, Lonsome, Quinton, Spencer, and Iselson, one the principle from the Wesley Chapel. Seger the root of from Albany, Mrs Thompson from South St. and the rest may be numbered with the Maine Halt Blind, and withered. They aim to make it a real face to face an operation, affair, and have taken from the world some prominent Democrats, such as gen Hale, Lorman, and Holms. The Lord show us from their secrets. Jeff has acted a most singular part in this matter. I suppose he has cut friendship with you in full. he thinks you acted rudely towards Haverough. They have as many reasons for leaving the Church as there are persons amongst them. One says because the Conference treated Bishop Doak badly, another because the Conference nullified the act of the gen Conference, another because you spoke so unkindly to Haverough another because the Committee did not ask the Kentuckians to preach. another because Dr Elliott did not publish the protest of the minority, and another because the Ohio Conference did not divide the Book Concern with the South. Another because all the rich are going and another because he will go. I prophesy that these elements went stick together, too many Capital Ps.

You must not think strange that we are looking up, I am fully persuaded that Wesley will be more Methodist, than she ever was

you know that we have been under an aristocratic rule there, and that the men that are gone were the rulers. For the last two years they have been cheer up, and the result is they are gone. You recollect what Mr Wesley said on the subject of the Church being under the rule of rich men. I have thought of that saying more than once in the last two years. He was the most sagacious man that has lived in five Hundred years. There has not been such congregations in Wesley Chapel for several years. and on last Monday night we had one of the most glorious congregations I was ever in. I believe that Bro. Trimble's appointment was from God. he will have a revival of religion this winter without doubt. I now notify you that I hold you to your promise to stand by me. I have taken Marysville into the Auguster Cir. They have a clear majority of twenty three. This fact was testified to in Court, and the South did not pretend to contradict the fact. There is a suit pending for the Church, and the M.E. Church it is believed will hold it. Brothers Elliott, and Walker have pledged themselves to stand by me. I hope however that I may not fall under the Episcopal censure, as the evidence in Court is a strong item, not before the Bishop. I wish you could attend one of our or meetings in Kentucky, write soon. Pray for me. The Lord Bless you.

M. Marley