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James B. Finley Letters

1845

Letter from John Brown to James B. Finley

John Brown

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Bro John Brown

Rev J. B. Linley
Chillicothe
At Conference

John Brown
Nov 2

Dear Bro Linley it is now almost four years since I had the pleasure of your company and conversation which has on all occasions been afforded me pleasure satisfaction and ~~benefit~~, the Ohio General Conference holding its session at Chillicothe was looked forward to with pleasure as I anticipated much satisfaction & spiritual profit in the society of a class of men to whom I am more strongly attached, than to any other men under heaven, to renew my acquaintance with my old friends and form an acquaintance with others who are strangers, understand how the old ship of Zion is sailing and give my vote in the choice of men to represent us in the law making department and sincerely wish the old ship may nail her flag, staff and sail under the same banner until she sails into port.

But I am disappointed & cannot attend conference owing to temporal business in addition to the loss & sustained by fire I have lost considerable by the man with whom I was in partnership. I could not get him to a settlement until I resorted to legal measures and impounded his property he then came into meadows and was arbitrated, having bound a security with security in the hands of J. B. to arbitrate keep a book and perform the answer, upwards of \$600 was awarded me to be paid in ten days, the principle left the country I bro't suit on the bond, the circuit court released the security I offered, the court of appeals reversed the decision & sent it back, this suit is now pending & court commences the 2nd day of Oct at which I cannot attend, otherwise I should attend conference if health would permit.

as to my health I have at present no prospect
until this tabernacle is taken down & when
it is rebuilt I expect to enjoy perfect health
I have been able to preach but seldom since
the severe affliction I suffered early in July
two, and for what purpose I am persuaded
unless to suffer the will of God I cannot
tell. Mistresses are his provocations, we are
holding his judgments and his ways fast finding
out, when I read the obituarys in the
advocate and see that many in health and
 vigor armed to the battle and making full
proof of their ministry and are called and
disposed to serve the Church are cut down
I may well say Lord what can I that I have
not mind full of me, perhaps it will be
thought I should rather have written to Bro
Hartley (whom I love on the truth) but I
wished to correspond a little with you my dear
bro. Linley and to be my prepared to write
much being under the influence of influenza
which is prevalent in our country, I do not
expect by writing to benefit you my dear Brother
but to elicit from you an Epistle that will
benefit me, if you can confirm my statements
or give me any communication to the con-
ference, or any message in relation to my health
Other most communicate other matters. Please
directly and give my love to sister Linley bro Brock
and family and to all the Brethren who inquire after
me, I will be glad to hear from you, if not
as soon as convenient, I want to hear from you
New Ipswich N.H. your affectionate John Brown

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