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Letter from David Young to James B. Finley

David Young

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New
David Young
May 48

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ESSEXVILLE
MAY 21 1848

J. B. Finley
Pittsburgh Pa

905

illy old friend
Dear Jamison told me this morn-
-ing that you passed through town
yesterday & wished me to write to you
This I should have done as you requested
in your lat letter to me, if you had not
intimated that you expected to visit Lan-
-caster & reside here before Gen. Carr.
You have requested me to "Study & write to
you my opinion on the plan & division of
the church & her funds."
Now I have neither room, time, nor incli-
-nation to say much on this momentous sub-
-ject, for the last Gen. Carr. with regard to
this subject did nothing but what was wrong
and yet their words were not all alike
for the plan for dividing the church is
flatly contrary to all known laws either in
heaven or on earth. But there is no law
violated in recommending the A. Conference
to concur in dividing the funds. This might
have been done constitutionally. Whether it
would have been expedient, is another question
I hope you will declare all the acts of last
Gen. Carr. on this subject null & void, and
then make the best apology you can to God
the Church & the world for the evil done. This
perhaps you cannot do better, than to again
recommend an equitable division of the
funds to the An. Conference. I am aware
that many of our good brethren dissent from
these opinions, & say the "Gen. Carr. did not
divide the church." Now I say the same. But
why should it always be forgotten, that the
Gen. Carr. did make the south the judges of
the necessity for ^{not} dividing the church.
now for doing what we gave them leave to do

Shall we undertake to spite them by not doing
or not trying to do or fulfill our engagements? make
& entered into as far as binding as God. Can. ^{could}

But the slang is "They have forfeited all"
What if they have forfeited every thing?
They have forfeited (some of the south) ^{the last Gen. Conf.} honesty
in active the hypocrites, ^{truth} in making
false statements to the last Gen. Conf. integrity
& christian manliness. in the use ^{made} of the
"olive branch of peace". It is not dipped like
the hydrop of Moses, but in effusions of both
eyes & nose.

Remove your zig zag mathematical line
it has never been washed or surveyed
Take off the restrictions laid on our Bishops
& preachers - let us do like we used to do
go every where that God in his providence
& grace may call us, if it should ^{be to} Charleston
Mobile, or the Indian territory! And there
show the way to divide the 13 ^{Conf.} Concern with
the south (reserving in the final settlement
equivalents for all the wrongs) they may have
done us. Then I predict that by 1900 the
M. E. Church will do the principal preaching
& praying between Mason & Dixon's line &
the crazy city of Charleston & American
Slavery cast last always!

Legislate as little as possible, if this advice had
been followed last Gen. Conf. how glad would
we all be. — These remarks are very ge-
neral or if you should wish my
opinion on any particular point let me
know when you write. I wish I hope you
will write after this month.

You will enjoy yourselves best sitting with
closed doors
Let nothing be published of your doings only
tho a judicious & possible committee
Can't you get a Pittsburgh editor in whom the church
would have more confidence?

I have thought about visiting you at P. &
but am discomod in the lower part of my spine
and may not be able.

My wife would have
very glad to see you she is quite feeble
with the above exception I am in tolera-
ble health for an old man.

God bless the G. C. & you
I am as ever yours

J. B. Finley D. Garrison

P.S. My wife sends best respects to you
keep me apprised of matters & things D. G.