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James B. Finley Letters

5-17-1848

Letter from David Young to James B. Finley

David Young

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Mr. D
Young
May 4th



J. M. Givley
Pittsburgh
Pa

Friend James Nashville May 17th 48
yesterday yours of 19th inst. came
to hand. Let the "Delegate & com. die"! I presume
by this time you have established some mea-
-sure wisely to prevent the evils of Unconstitution-
-al legislation hereafter. On the division of Church
property I make the following suggestions Viz
Divide or give this property — Don't pay them
keep out of your records every word & phrase
embracing the idea of justice or payment
I noticed a "Memorial" praying for "Division"
— and pay for a "meeting-house". Now if you
pay for this meeting house & a half dozen others
specifically named. Will you not thereby
relinquish or forfeit all your rights to 5000
other meeting-houses, which otherwise might
by some good providence be annexed by the
M & Church? I ask this question for the
purpose of calling your attention to the
fact that "Plan of division" may not have
forfeited the legal title to churches and
parsonages south of the ideal line. Of this
however I'm not certain — The Mayville
Church case was decided (I understand) on
the adopted "report of the Com. of nine"
tho an unrighteous division it is nevertheless
law in Ky until reversed by a higher tribunal.
I say then forfeit no more by any of
your acts or deeds!! your Church Com. act
generously without doing unjustly with the B. cause.
and

and by the bye this leads me to a word on
the funds of the Book concern ~~There~~ are there
funds now going & hereafter to go? — To pay
can them ~~seceders~~ — Canaction ~~seceders~~ —
and next "Dawn East" ~~seceders~~ & Dawn west
~~seceders~~ — Surely subsequent secessions will
provide for their share of the funds! —

To pay Bishops — enough to make the place
be eagerly sought by men without the grace
of our present incumbents —

To pay agents & Editors — to support papers
that sometimes turn round abuse us —

To pay a pittance to the A Conference (of which
you & I are too rich to deserve a cent) —

The consequence of this is our people think
or pretend to think, and our good brethren
(some of them) take pains to teach them
that the great sin of 5th collections ought
to be shunned at all events, because there
are two or three men on the list who are
not in danger of coming on the Tawiship!

If the whole proceeds of the concern were
distributed in good books it might do
more good. This is not given as law or gospel
it is opinion.

The strangest sign of the times exhibited
at this Gen. Con. is (I think) a disposition
to share responsibility in the administration
of Discipline. This is the weakest place about
your Fortref.

I receive 1/2 the dailys irregularly.

Wife unwell Sends love —

The Lord direct you all —

Yours ever
J B Finney

Write very often — Dy