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James B. Finley Letters

10-22-1847

Letter from Robert O. Spencer to James B. Finley

Robert O. Spencer

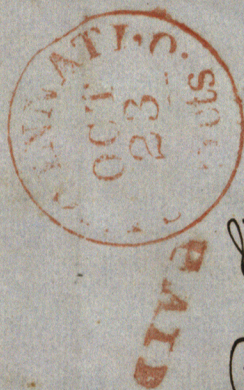
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Charge
Box 426



Rev. James B. Finley.

Columbus.

Ohio.

W. D. Spencer
Oct 1847
Ohio

Cincinnati O. Oct 22^d 1847

Dear Bro. Finley,

A few days since an interview took place between Dr. Elliott and Bishop Louie of which I deem it my duty to give you some idea. There were present on the part of Bro. Elliott, Bros. Teft, Timmon, Morrow, Ellsworth and myself and on the part of the Bishop, Bro. Parson, Lehou, Malay and Corvina. To detail the whole conversation between the parties would be impossible. The Bishop complained most grievously that it had been published in the W. C. A. that he had withdrawn from the M. E. Church under grave charges - that he had asked for a copy of these charges, but it was denied him - that he now asked for a copy - that he would be satisfied if they were read to him - that he would thank Bro. Elliott to publish them in the W. C. A. - and intimated that if he could not be satisfied in any of these particulars he would bring a suit in Chancery to obtain a copy of them - that he should attend the next General Conference and call for them and demand an investigation of them. But if he should obtain a copy of them, he would desist from these proceedings - He stated that he held himself accountable to the M. E. Church up to the time of the General Conference of the M. E. Church South at Petersburg which was held May 1846. He also had a good deal to say about the Lebanon affair &c. Bro. Elliott admitted that he was willing to read the copy of the charges if he could lay his hands on it - but had laid it away amongst his old papers and perhaps could not find it - He has since looked for it and has been unable to find it.

Having stated these facts, it does not become me to make any

suggestions in reference, ^{to} the course you had best adopt. Your age and experience are such as no doubt will lead you to pursue the best course. It may not however be amiss to say that in the opinion of your best friends they do not see that any evil would result from letting Bishop Soule have a copy, with the reasons why they were not presented.

I have been flattering myself with the hope of seeing you at the Grand Division of the S. of S. to be held next week in this place. If you come I hope you will put up with me. I am living on Race Street East Side - between Court and Ninth Streets. Remember me to all the friends in Columbus.

Yours affectionately
Robert C. Spencer