

Ohio Wesleyan University

Digital Commons @ OWU

Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

5-18-1852

Letter from Werter R. Davis to James B. Finley

Werter R. Davis

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters>

Recommended Citation

Davis, Werter R., "Letter from Werter R. Davis to James B. Finley" (1852). *Finley Letters*. 674.
<https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters/674>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the James B. Finley Letters at Digital Commons @ OWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finley Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ OWU. For more information, please contact earutigl@owu.edu.



Hord,



Rev. James B. Finley

Indianapolis

Ind.

Ind.

Ind.

Ind.

Lebanon May 18th 52

Dear Father Finley

I have just heard of a matter that I feel it my duty to mention to you before I say any thing about it to any one else. I have heard that you wrote to Bro Joseph Newson and stated that those printed general conference tickets originated with me, that I had them printed and distributed through the conference under an anonymous name. Also that when my friends have spoken of my getting a respectable vote for General Conference as a young man and also when I have been spoken of in connection with the Presiding Eldership or some of the important stations of the conference, you have treated it in such a way so as to show all the contempt you could to me. Now believing that it is right and christian to let every man have the benefit of explaining his own act in his own way, I therefore respectfully request you to explain these matters to me and I will do the same let then so far as I am concerned in reference to the tickets in the month of August last I received a letter mailed at Hillsborough with a bolt of printed tickets in it, they did not originate with me, I did not have them printed, nor was my name put on them with my knowledge or consent. I never heard, thought or knew of them until I received them; on the day I received them I returned home

from the Post Office by the Star printing office
as I ^{am} accustomed frequently to do especially when
I receive no news paper for myself from the
Post Office, while I was there reading the papers the
Editor Mr Denny came in and asked me what the
news was, I ^{answered} nothing in particular, only that I had
just received a bolt of printed general Conference
ticket, which I regarded rather a new mode of proce-
dure, he asked why and I replied because such a
thing was ^{not} customary with us and that I would not
vote the ticket, for it had at least two names on
it I would ^{not} vote, well he said it could be copied in
a moment and those two names could be left out
and two more inserted, I then asked him if he
would do it, he said he would, I then told him if
my ^{memory} serves me, to take out Doornstedt and my own
name and put in R. O. Spencer and W. S. Morrow,
then I went to Dr Elliott's office and told him what
I had received and showed him the tickets and
for the first time read the letter in which they
came, as soon as we read the ^{letter} he said that an
erring truth done this, and immediately hurried
back to the printing office to tell Mr Denny not
to copy the ticket, but he had already done it, took
and destroyed them, no mortal man every saw them
so far as I know, but Mr Denny and myself and
the ticket that was sent to me I gave to every body
whether free or free sect men, that asked me. Now
sir if there was anything dishonourable, unchristian

or unministerial, ^{in all this} please say so to me as I am always
ready to be put right, if wrong, by ^{in the} in the gospel
and in reference to our deligation to the General Conference
those that voted for me did so ^{the most} the most
part my knowledge or consent that my old
friend and father in the gospel B. Finley was
one of them. In reference to the Eldership all
that I know about is this, that ^{at} ^{the} ^{time} ^{when} ^{Walker's} time
was out on Dayton District, I was just entering my second
year at Finley Chapel in Dayton, at the last quarterly
Conference of my last year, the quarterly conference without
my knowledge or consent, brought forward a resolution
requesting Bro. ^{Walker} to use his influence at the coming
Conference to have me sent on the District and passed
it unanimously, whereupon Bro. Walker stated to me at
the quarterly Conference that ^{he} had a number of petitions,
numerously signed from different parts of the district
and among ^{other} places he mentioned that one was from
Eaton, who the petitioners were, for the most part I
do not know, you and my old friend Rev J. C. Brooks
may of signed them, and therefore probably know as
much about them as I do and most likely all about them.
Was there any wrong in all this? If so speak to me as a
son and not as an enemy, because I may differ with
you in opinion in some matters. Now this is a fair and
honest ^{statement} of all the matters of which I ^{have} heard, and give them
thus frankly least you might be misled in reference to
me. I believe you incapable of writting the things that
it is said you have wrote to Newton. Please answer at your earliest
convenience and I subscribe myself your son in the gospel W. B. Davis