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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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3-8-1838

## Letter from Charles Elliott to James B. Finley

Charles Elliott

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11  
New James B. Furley  
Vergennes

Ohio

Recd  
91 Elliott



~~Contents~~  
Cincinnati, March 8th 1838

I finished the first course of corrections on your manuscripts, previous to transcription, which, taken in connection with the table of contents, employed me closely about four weeks from 8 to 10 o'clock each day. This I have done with great cordiality, and am disposed to continue such labours as far as they can effect a good purpose to any reasonable extent.

The whole is now transcribed in a fair hand, with each chapter by itself. I have handed the whole to Bro. Perkins for perusal, and Bro. Chubb will perform his part as soon as his health will permit.

I expect to have received from you more matter before this time. For want of the balance there is a halt in any further progress. The time from 1827, to the present has to be filled up before the history can go to press. The chapter on the efficacy of the gospel to civilize savage man is not pursued by Bro. Dighton. He is now sick at Bro. Neffs and I think he has declined to pursue it. I have urged him however, all I could. The whole therefore of our movements here are now stopped for want of the balance of the history, so necessary towards its completion. I can do nothing more at present.

I find the sub-committee may possibly decide, that a more extensive revision than any amendments which can be made in the transcribed copy, may be requisite, before the work can go to press.

This too is to be taken in connection with the printed matter in the Magazine, which must be inserted to make the work what it ought to be. Now if



The decision will be, that the whole must be  
revised, corrected and arranged, so as to require that  
all must be re-written and re-composed, there will  
be a serious obstacle thrown in our way. And  
that such is the probable result, to which the  
committee may come, I am led to suppose from  
the present progress. I wish to advise you of every  
thing, fully and fairly, so that you may be prepared  
for the result.

Furthermore, it will be indispensable that you  
furnish the original <sup>manuscript</sup> letters from Mr. Cap. Belham,  
Mr. Sumner &c. that they may be compared with  
the copy furnished. This will be required because I find  
that in transcribing, several charms appear which  
we cannot amend by any conjectural amendments.

As the next committee will soon sit, it  
may be best, perhaps, if any difficulties are in the  
way of the sub-committee, to leave the ~~reference~~  
decision, as to the revision, correction and arrangement  
pending by them.

I have thus presented you with the matter  
as it now stands, on which I wish you to think  
until you shall have come to an opinion.

Yours affectionately  
Rev J. B. Sanley. Charles L. Chatin