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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

12-4-1816

Letter from Daniel Hitt & Abraham Paul to James B. Finley

Daniel Hitt

Abraham Paul

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DEAR BROTHER,

WE have taken the liberty to forward you a Prospectus for a second edition of DOCTOR CLARKE'S COMMENTARY. Last spring it was offered to the General Conference, by Mr. EASTBURN, the former Publisher; but on terms which the Conference would not accept. Since then it has fallen into the hands of ABRAHAM PAUL, Printer, of this city, with whom DANIEL HITT has associated himself, for the special purpose of procuring the opportunity of offering it to the *Methodist Book Concern*. D. Hitt has made known his intention to the Bishops, by giving them information of the terms on which the Book Concern may obtain the Work; but as this cannot be fully decided upon before the next sitting of the New-York Conference; pressed, moreover, with repeated calls for complete copies of the Work, and not doubting that the terms are such as will justify its purchase, we take this method to ascertain the number of Subscribers that may be obtained, thereby determining the necessary number of copies to be printed.

Should the Conference eventually deem it inexpedient to authorize its Agents to purchase this invaluable Work, we hope you will feel yourself justified in rendering your aid in its circulation; by which means a vast fund of useful knowledge will be disseminated, greatly to the advantage of the cause of Religion in general, and to that of Methodism in particular.

If it remain in our hands, we shall continue to publish it as fast as the copy can be obtained from Europe. It is our intention to publish an extra number of copies of the New Testament, that those who are unable to purchase the whole, may be accommodated with that alone. For every *Six* subscribers which our Agents may obtain, and become responsible for the price, they shall be entitled to the *Seventh* copy gratis. As soon as distance and convenience will admit, let us know (by addressing a letter to *A. Paul, No. 182 Water-Street, N. York*) how many Subscribers you can obtain, that we may lose no time in putting this edition to press. In this case we do not, nor in any case would we, designedly, retard the circulation and sale of books from the Book-room.

We believe that an extensive circulation of *Doctor Clarke's Commentary* will create a disposition for reading, and a thirst for that knowledge which maketh wise unto salvation.

With sentiments of due respect,

We are your Brethren in Christ,

DANIEL HITT,
ABRAHAM PAUL.

New-York, Dec. 4, 1816.

Notwithstanding, your predecessor had obtained a number of Subscribers for the above work, we have thought proper to forward you a few prospectuses, not doubting, but that the preachers within the bounds of your district, wish to avail themselves of the present favourable opportunity of getting a sufficient number of Subscribers to secure to themselves a copy of this valuable Commentary.

561

DEAR BROTHER,

We have taken the liberty to forward you a prospectus for a second edition of Boston Clark's Commentary. Last spring it was offered to the General Conference by Mr. Eastman, the former Publisher, but on terms which the Conference would not accept. Since then it has fallen into the hands of an individual, who has associated himself for special purposes with the Boston Book Concern. D. Litt has made known his intention to publish it, by giving them information of the terms on which the Book Concern may obtain the work, but it cannot be fully decided upon before the next sitting of the New-York Conference; pressed, moreover, with repeated calls for complete copies of the work, and not doubting that the terms are such as will justify its purchase, we take this method to ascertain the number of subscribers that may be obtained, thereby determining the necessary number of copies to be printed.

Should the Conference eventually decide it inexpedient to authorize its Agents to purchase this invaluable work, we hope you will feel yourself justified in rendering your aid in its circulation; by which means a rich fund of useful knowledge will be disseminated, greatly to the advantage of the cause of Religion in general, and to that of the Unitarian in particular.

If it remains in our hands, we shall continue to publish it as fast as the copy can be obtained from the press. It is our intention to publish an extra number of copies of the New Testament, that those who are unable to purchase the whole may be accommodated with that alone. For every six subscribers which our Agents may obtain, and whose names are responsible for the price, they shall be entitled to the second copy gratis. As soon as distance and convenience will admit, let us know (by addressing a letter to A. Paul, No. 182 Water Street, N. York) how many subscribers you can obtain, that we may lose no time in putting this edition to press. In this case we do not mean to say we necessarily intend the circulation and sale of books from the Book Concern.

We believe the circulation of Boston Clark's Commentary will create a disposition for reading, and a thirst for the knowledge which it contains.

With sentiments of due respect,

We are your Brethren in Christ,

DANIEL WITT
ABRAHAM PAUL

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118



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M. Finley.

Andoverville

Ohio.