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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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2-7-1836

## Letter from John F. Wright to James B. Finley

John F. Wright

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Cincinnati Feb'y 1836

Dear Bro Finley

In your letter to brother Morris, you request that you be charged with postage. Now I wish you to know our method of attending to this business. - When an agent does much for the paper, in procuring subscribers and remitting money; there is always a standing balance in his favour, for in many letters he more than doubles what the rule requires to secure him from the payment of postage, and when he happens to fall short, his letter not being covered by the terms; we think the publication in debt to him, on account of former remittances, (on which perhaps he relinquished all commission) and never place anything to his charge. You will please receive this as a full explanation of your own case.

When will the Committee meet? We think it all important, for the interests of this branch of the Book Concern, that the Book Committee of the Ohio Conference, bestow very special attention on the establishment they are appointed

L. J. Wright  
1836

Paid 10  
James B. Finley  
Ridgeville  
Warren Co.  
Ohio



single  
paid

Would it not be well to allow subscribers at the Ohio Conference to buy a lot and have a suitable Book Concern with all necessary conveniences and in the end a great saving of postage and think of this. Properly done it is saving postage and sent well in numerous other articles



to watch over. We consider this a favourable crisis in the history of the western agency, and that the next general conference will furnish the very best opportunity to give it preminancy and efficiency. The committee of which you are chairman, are well qualified to recommend such measures to the consideration of the general conference as will directly subserve the best interests of the western branch of the book concern. When you visit us I will have a pleasure in stating various things which I deem important in relation to this matter.

In the mean time permit <sup>me</sup> to say that I think the relation of this branch to the principal agency at N York ought to undergo some change. They ought to charge the branch with printed tracts &c. at cost, and allow the branch to print such books as the agency and book committee might judge advisable, and whenever circumstances shall clearly indicate that the publication of certain books, or

pamphlets might be accomplished so as to save time and lessen the expenditure, in view of the delay occasioned by various obstructions in the transportation from N.Y. As an illustration I will just say, that within <sup>in this way</sup> two years, we have reaped the sale of 2000 disciplines whereas if we had been at liberty to print the work we could have filled orders readily and secured a net profit to the concern.

Such is the nature of the subordinate relation of the western branch, that however it may contribute in its operations to advance the interest of the general book concern it can scarcely ever show the smallest profit as the result of its own success. This I know does not lessen the proceeds of the whole, but it might be more satisfactory to have the profits kept in a way, to show the net profit arising from each branch.

I found the depository at New Orleans very unpopular in the view of many in Denney who think it a needless expenditure & that one efficient branch west of the mountains is enough. More when I see you. - my respects to sister F. Bro B. & Family. J. F. Wright