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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

3-23-1848

Letter from W.H. Smith to James B. Finley

W. H. Smith

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A. B. Finley

Dear Sir & Co.

Baltimore March 29. 1848.

Presuming upon that spirit of social sympathy and Christian kindness & charity which are characteristic of the Sons of Temperance we have concluded to tax your generosity with the following request.

Our Agents Messrs S. J. Plain & Co, whom we have made sole Publishers, for the Temperance in Ohio - have been quite delinquent in correspondence for the last few months, and we fear that the interests of the Sons of Temperance, and especially the interests of the Temperance may suffer thereby. We publish the Temperance at an exceedingly low rate, in order to disseminate Temperance Addresses, & information (in a permanent form for preservation) throughout the U. States. Some hundreds of Subscribers have been obtained in Ohio, by Messrs Plain, & Co. They have not forwarded to us however the Subscriptions received by them - and consequently the Temperance is withheld from their Subscribers. We do not wish to inquire them or their Subscribers, and since we can obtain no satisfactory communication from them personally as to the withholding of Subscriptions which are invariably cash, we beg you to have an interview with them and urge them to acquaint us with their reasons for non compliance with our terms. We are the more anxious to hear from

W. Smith
from Baltimore
March 48

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A. B. Finley
G. Chaplain. G. D. Phelps
Columbus
Ohio.

them, since one of them informed us several weeks ago, that they had collected money and were about to send it. We fear that they may have sent us a remittance which has miscarried and that they will find trouble in supplying their subscribers on account of our withholding the amount, which we feel compelled to do until the advanced cash price is sent us.

Should they have abandoned the amount, which their remittance seems to indicate. You will confer a special favor by notifying us thereof to enable us to appoint new officers agreeably to your state.

We would exceedingly regret violating the principles of our cause - in disappointing the numerous subscribers to the amount in Ohio, and are therefore anxious that Plain Co should act energetically & ~~promptly~~ ^{punctually} in their transactions.

By compliance with our request

You will much oblige

Yrs Brethren in L. P. Co
Williams, Smith & Co
Pub. Crystal Springs

M.B. We hope you will excuse our unceremonious introduction of ourselves & our affairs to your notice. Should we be able to return the compliment, we will be happy to attend to any commands. Yrs Truly