1-5-1831

**Letter from Stephen G. Roszel to James B. Finley**

Stephen G. Roszel

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

**Recommended Citation**


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.
Read James D. Finley
Cincinnati, Ohio

[Handwritten text]

 Beste, G. [Signed] This...

[Address]

[Postmark]
duty incumbent on us, and all the while we are to stand in our Watch Tents, and as soon as we can procure our well tried and living church, I will try to profit from your example as a people. Would a change in our government be for the better? Do any of those who have charge of our affairs in England wish for such a change? If so it is an injury to our commonwealth. The change they wish in the Presbytery, if they do wish such a change, would be an injury to our commonwealth.

The Presbyterians are in all the parts of the country, in the same as a treasonable conspiracy must be put down, and 

As a Presbyter, I think it is unfortunate that

I am writing to you, the bishop, in the spirit of Bishop Scott, in the spirit of Bishop Scott, and you have been in the habit of a house of representatives. This is enough, this is enough, this is enough.

As you know, the cause and church, God forbid, that you may attend to this business in your conference, and that you may write to the Lord of all, of the people of the Lord, and you will not be in the least degree countenanced or encouraged in any general system.

The bishop and church, God forbid, that you may attend to this business in your conference, and that you may write to the Lord of all, of the people of the Lord, and you will not be in the least degree countenanced or encouraged in any general system.
Roszel_ab1210

My dear Brother,

I did hope that it would have been my privilege to have been with you at your camp meeting this season, but many things seemed to forbid it, and one not the least, is the want of means to meet my expences; It is however a pleasing gratification to me that if denied the pleasure of seeing you I can converse with you be letter, a blessing highly to be prised, and one that may be employed to our mutual edification, and the good prosperity and safety of the church.

I was a visitor at the last session of the Philadelphia Conference and from all I can learn it is the intention of our eastern brethren to bring forward the Old Presiding Elder question at the ensuing General Conference, and if possible effect a change in our eclesiastical polity. Hence their deligates will all be selected in direct refference to that point, this gain’d they will fill the Episcopal Chair with men of their own political stamp, prepared to act agreeable to their views. You will readily discover this if you will look at the deligates returned from the New York Conference as published in the Advocate & Journal. They could not after all their professed friendship to Bro. Waugh at the last General Conference trust him far enough to elect him to the ensuing General Conference. Doctor Hall is now in this city, just from the New York Conference. He informed me that the only reason why Bro. Waugh was not elected, was that he could support their measures; With such evidence before us, it is a duty incumbent on us and all old side Methodists to stand in our watch tower, and as far as we can preserve our well tried and Heaven Blest Eclesiastical polity. In no period of our hystory as a people, would a change in our government have done us so great an injury. If our eastern brethren effect the change wish in the Presiding Eldership, Radicalism in all its parts as a legitimate consequence must follow, then farewell to an efective energetic itinerancy. This I think must be obvious to any old Methodist preacher attached to our Episcopal Government.

Alarming as appearances are, I still think if we are wise and prudent the evil may be averted and our Holy Ark saved. We should know the men we send to the Gen’l Conference. We should not hazard a doubtfull case. Let every deligate be a firm established old Wesleyan Methodist who know, love, and approve of our Church Government, and who will not in the least degree countenance an alteration in our general cystem.

As you love the cause and Church of God, I do confidintly hope you will attend to this business in your conference, and that you will write to brethren of standing and influence in the different western conferences, shewing them the great necessity of sending none to the Gen’l Conference but old side men firm and established;

Was it proper, I could most sincerely wish I could see you, that we might converse more fully on the great interest of our Zion, but as I have not this priviledge at present, I must be resigned in addressing you in part on those subjects by letter not doubting but you will do all you can to prevent inovations in our Church. I shall be much gratified in receiving a letter from you on the receipt of this.
Praying that the great head of the Church may be with you and yours at all times, and bless you with any needed and wanted blessing. I am dear Bro. yours in love

Stephen G. Roszel

P.S. I think it unfortunate that Bishop Hedding instead of Bishop Soule, visits the western and southern conferences this year. A hint is enough, this in confidence.