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James B. Finley Letters

2-22-1852

Letter from Adam Sellers to James B. Finley

Adam Sellers

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Lebanon Feb. 22^o. 1852.

Rev. J. B. Finley -

Respected Father -

You have doubtless heard of my expulsion from the Church. It is a dark day to me. I never knew or felt the full import of the word expelled before. But as dark as it is, the means employed to accomplish my expulsion look still darker. To me they look as dark as the pit. All the testimony in the world would not satisfy my mind that W. B. Davis was not a very bad Man and that Doct. Elliott was not a very strange Man.

I commenced writing you a history of the whole affair, with a view of getting your advice as to the best course for me to pursue, but I became fearful that I might be troubling you too much about a matter you could have no interest in farther than the cause of truth and righteousness might be involved in it, and I concluded to defer it for the present. I may renew my purpose, by your permission at a more convenient season as I have three sheets of it already written - if not you will hear it at the next Conference as I have appealed. I am fully persuaded that the Conference will rebuke the wickedness and correct the errors of those Men. If Davis is one of the Lord's Ministers all I have to say is that he did not make them according to that pattern in our day.

For the present I am on an other track. I am

Looking after the origin of those general Conference tickets
that were printed and circulated at your last Conference
just before the election of delegates. I suppose you have
read Doct. Henderson's reply or review of an article pu-
-lished in the east, in which he charges the publication
and circulation of those tickets on the friends of prom-
-iscuous sitting. Harris has been publishing peddling the
paper round here in great glee. Now I am well satisfied
that he had them published himself at the Star office in
Lebanon. I want him sent out and if quietly have
the matter exposed. I have several links in the chain &
my object in writing to you at this time is to get an other.
I have been informed by some of the Preachers that you
have received some items on that subject through a
Mr. Russell - brother-in-law to Harris. I would be
glad to be put in possession on any information you
may have touching that point, and I will pledge mys-
-elf that no farther use shall be made of it than
you authorize. He was half crazy to get to general
Conference & I suppose he thought that was the golden
moment and the high road. When all my plans are
matured I will give you a history of what I know -
Please drop me a line soon.

Yours truly
Adam Selous