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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

6-16-1852

Letter from Adam Sellers to James B. Finley

Adam Sellers

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Lebanon June 16 1852.

Rev. J. B. Fenley -

Respected Father -

I wrote you some time since giving you a history of my progress in the ticket enterprise - since then I received a letter from Boston from one of the Ohio delegates, informing me that he had some of those Gen. Conf. tickets and the letter that contained them, which were at my service if I wished them to ferret out the author. I have just written for them. I also received one from bro. Smith, but do not know where he got it. When I get all that I can of them I will approach the Printer with them. He says he will recognize the one he printed. I also learn that during the Conf. Davis talked to Bro. Gasner about the matter and said emphatically "The enemies done that" referring to the pew men. Davis lately got into a great fever and employed two phlegm-foggers that he told was the most eminent Lawyers in the County and bawled about on the corners of the streets and in Radicals Shops, when he spends a large portion of his time, that he was going to prosecute me for a libel in reference to those tickets. He said he would not care any thing about, or his

answered
June 1852
J. B. Fenley

own account but he would do it for the sake of his wife and children. But just as he was getting his feelings to the demoralizing point he got some of his friends to hold him, and he graciously concluded to wait until after Conference. What a pity that a man will degrade himself and the sacred office in that way. He now tells that he and Doct. Elliott thought best to surpuss the tickets he had printed at the Star Office for they found out that the others were printed and circulated by the Pew Men to defeat this election. He says he got 33 votes and ran better than any man of his age had done before.

What say you - had I better include those items in the charges I intend to prefer against him? Can you get the testimony of Mr. Russell if needed? The Preachers all unite in saying that the thing should be investigated.

I think I am getting my own case clear. Bro. Conrall, Smith, Miley, and others have volunteered their services to help me, but they say I must make the opening speech in my own defence, by way of giving a history of the whole affair and they will follow in the close. You have known me almost from my infancy. Put a few shots in the locker for me if you think it necessary, & feel like

it when you hear the case. Davis, ^{is} seeking certificates of the Radicals to prove that I have been the cause of all the difficulties in Lebanon. I wish he may present them. There are some that know that the spirit of misrule and insubordination date back to the days of Madde and Bishop Soul and others. The Lord pity us it will not be cured in our day.

Write at an early day, and let me know if you have seen D. D. Davis or have got any more light about those tickets.

Yours truly,
A. Selley

Direct your letter to Mr. John Britney