3-25-1837

Letter from James B. Finley to Wright & Swormstedt

James B. Finley

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

Recommended Citation
Finley, James B., "Letter from James B. Finley to Wright & Swormstedt" (1837). Finley Letters. 1211.
https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters/1211
March 25th 1837

My dear Miss Wortley.

Brotherrin, Wright & I swear God.

This evening I received yours of the 21st inst. and only have to say I reply that when I received your former communication I was much taken by the form but for the year for it was so

unexciting, and my impression is, I am at this time, am I hearing been affected & am I might never misunderstood your meaning and

as Mother allways makes an act motion or crinminal you might not have intended what I supposed yours intened at and at Whart you said

have I had the pleasure of some things I'd like to thank your feelings and on more

reflection I believe it was not might and had been better to allow for soft words always term a way who and now if you will

the satisfied Parer Lute book that you think

is so Lesthenable but still to my understand there is something strange in your doubts of yours you do know that it has been always

the decided opinion of South Morris & the this

annually compounded & the Book have made and your own. Not the

itself in not concearn is not substantial to the show your Book concern but a book

inheret one and the all the flowers to sit

not they when I took your clothes & read

through the main the librarin to show it to Miss end and he did not hesitate to

to say he had no doubt but that you

and the same proves the act in the end that

the dey's kommen had and this thing

is understood determined as it relates to the

affairs of mine. This was the proof of my affection
one thing is your last letter urging to come and that is in consequence to my saying that Bishop Morris had promised to help me and I said that other two had and not all Morris would do it now this summer I would try to get down I have now only to rely on the turn you can learn your own judgment about the matter I will not insist on your knowing my opinions if you think it wrong and get down willing to comply with the request of the committee Bishop Dows left to know all the existence of it himself and we have made an agreement that if you do not we will go in partnership and publish it ourselves. We will go together to supervision of some one of the needs will not permit but this is not perfectly understood that I'll take any other time and all this means I hope to be able to make the work complete. It would prove detrimental to me to wish to publish the funds of the church and improperly I may have done it and I have been trusted with my share of the work, but at the same time I want to live as well as others in this world. I know that my being in that state of suspense to me is all very disagreeable. If you are convenient I would like to know whether you will sustain the expense of the work or not and I hope you will have the charity to believe me when saying that I am sincerely your friend and not your enemy although I do some very hard things that letter last winter and hope my Mathematical and commercial knowledge have been used thus as can be confirmed for it is one of my nature.
March 25, 1837 Ridgeville

Breatheren Wright & Swormstedt

This evening I received yours of the 21 inst and only have to say in reply that when I received your former communication was much excited at the ______ for it was so unexpected, and my temperemnt is warm at the hottest times and having been afflicted & serious I might have misconstrued your meaning and as Mother allways makes an act virtuous or criminal you might not have intended what I supposed yours hinted at. And as it respects mine I handedly acknowledge some things I did intend to hurt your feelings, and on more reflection I believe it was not right and had been better let allone for soft words allways turneth away wrath. And now if you will be satisfied I will take back what you think is so exeptonable. But still to my understanding there is something strange in your doubts & fier. You do know that it has been allways the decided opinion of Soule, Morris & the Ohio Annual Conference and the Book Committee and your own, that the Cincinnati Concern is not subordinated to the New York Book Concern but a cooperative one and has all the powers to act that they have. I took your letter & road through the rain to Lebanon and showed it to Bishop Soule and he did not hesitate to say that he had no doubt but that you had the same powers to act in the case that the N. York Concern had. And this thing I understood was settled as it respects the opinion of the West. This was the ground of my assertion.

I have read the Discipline again at your request and more confirmed than ever that my former opinions are the fact in the case and I never expect to change them and as we had acted on this principle it seemed very strange that in this single case after Bishop Soules strong recommendation (and he doesn’t recommend things until he is persuaded they are legal) the Committee and Editors and yourself (I did not know that you had drafted the Resolution) all agreeing that it was all perfectly understood and that there was no room to doubt on my part that it was a covenant made in good faith.

Your expression respecting its immediate forthcoming for the press to me seemed to imply that it was as lovly wrote as some obituary notice but still I felt it to be a herculean task, a general history of the Western Indians with their ______ & subduction of nations. Tradition, customs, language for the Wyandotts and the Mission. For this is a work that cannot be done in a week, month or perhaps a year. Your expressions in reference to a western tour did seem to me to indicate a fier that I for no purpose was going to extend your cost for some dole curiosity, would undertake such a journey at your expense. And now I give you credit for all you say but still think your letter might have been more softly expressed. I have no desire to fallout with you or any other person but my feelings were wounded very much and I know of no better way to do then to scratch all out and begin again for I never harber ill will to any one.

One thing in your last letter I wish to correct and this in reference to my saying that Bishop Morris had promised to help me. I said the other two had and that as Br. Morris would [be] at home this summer I would try to get home. I have now only to say, in conclusion, you can exercise your own judgments
about the matter. I will not insist on your bearing my expenses if you think it wrong. And yet I am willing to comply with the request of the Committee. Bishop Soule offered to bear all the expense of it himself and we have made an agreement that if you do not we go in partnership and publish it ourselves. We will go together to Upper Sandusky as soon as the woods will permit. But this I want perfectly understood that I will take my own time and use what means I think necessary to make the work compleat. It would grate depravity in me to wish to spend the funds of the Church unnecessarily. I never have done it and I have been trusted with Thomson, of their cash, but at the same time I want to live as well as others in supply.

I now close by saying that a state of suspense to me is always disagreeable and as soon as you can conveniently I would like to know whether you will sustain the expense of the work or not-- and I hope you will have the charity to believe me when I say that I am sincerely your friend and not your enemy although I do sometimes say some things that had better be left unsaid and I hope my Merciful and Omnipotent Judge will overlook this as an infirmity for it is one of my nature. Please remember [me] to Brs Elliott & Hamline and to all friends and enemies.

Your _______

JB Finley

Messrs Wright & Swormstedt