Letter from Squire Gray Eyes to James B. Finley

Squire Gray Eyes

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Dear Brother,

Your welcome letter of the 10th of June came duly to hand. Much regret indeed was I to hear from you of your health and your progress along the heavenly road. My health is as it has been for some weeks past rather feeble. Still I have thought not to travel about home and see to our brotherly the seeds of the love of Jesus. I have visited the Rockasposh once this second time in a great work that has already commenced among that people. One hundred and sixty have already joined the church; the Rockasposh Prophet, who has so long held out against the reign of the Bible, has renounced his pretensions and united himself to our churches. Among our Shamine friends there is no mutual indication but there is a faithful band of the true followers of our blessed Savior. Our Delaware friends are steadily advancing in the divine way.

The last time I was at Rockasposh, our worthy brother Peter Fisk informed me that they had unanimously decided to remain in the old M. E. Church. Brother Fisk is the Missionary to the Rockasposh and recently went to the north; he is an educated Shaminer. He preaches to the Shamines Delaware and Rockasposh without an interpreter. He is married to Master Jane, daughter of your old friend Jane. At a Quarterly
Meeting recently held among the Delaware brethren Brotherfish brought the subject of the Southern division of the church before the official members and with one dissenting voice they decided to remain with the North. The Delawares are also at work but have come to no decision yet. You will see by the accompanying papers how the Cayugas stood. Last Saturday we held a meeting and the official members were unanimous, as you will see by these pages. As to what conference we should publish was not to unanimous, a majority however decided in favor of the Ohio Conference. This paper I enclose to you and leave it with you to take what ever course with it you think best.

Some of our old friends have fallen away and among the remainder was Mrs. Meadmore who died last spring in great peace. I may have been called to mourn the loss of a dear beloved daughter-in-law, wife of my son John but I do not mourn as those who have no hope the child in the full triumphs of faith. The was the only daughter of Geo. Meadmore and has left one child a boy about four years old.

As to our future Missionary, we shall gladly receive whoever in the wisdom of the Conference shall be appointed, yet I may be allowed to express an opinion in favor Boston John W. White of your conference, he is a young man and we are all well acquainted with him.

In conclusion, I would, once more desire to press my assurance of love, friendship, and esteem. I wish you to remember me to my old friends.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Address]
Dear Brother

Your welcome letter of the 10th of June came duly to hand. Much rejoiced indeed was I to hear from you, of your health and your prayers along the heavenly road.

My health is as it has been for some years past rather feeble. Still I have thought yet to travel about some and tell to our brethren the riches of the love of Jesus. I have visited the Kickapoos above several time. A great work has gloriously commenced among that people. One hundred and fifty have already joined the Church; the Kickapoo Prophet who has so long held out against the religion of the Bible has renounced his pretentions and united himself to our Church.

Among our Shawnee friends there is no unusual indication but there is a faithful band of the true followers of our blessed Savior. Our Delaware friends are steadily advancing in the divine way.

The last time I was at Kickapoo our worthy brother Paschal Fish informed me that they had unanimously decided to remain in the old M.E. Church. Brother Fish is the missionary to the Kickapoos and firmly united to the North; he is an educated Shawnee. He preaches to the Shawnees, Delawares and Kickapoos without an interpreter. He is married to Hester Zane daughter of your old friend Isaac Zane. At a quarterly meeting recently held among the Shawnee brethren Brother Fish brought the subject of the Southern division of the Church before the official members and with one dissenting voice they decided to remain with the North. The Delawares are also at work but have come to no decision yet.

You will see by the accompanying paper how the Wyandotts stand. Last Saturday we held a meeting and the official members were unanimous, as you will see by their names.

As to which Conference we should petition was not so unanimous; a majority however decided in favor of the Ohio Conference. This paper I inclose to you and have it with you to take what ever course with it you think best.

Some of our old friends have fallen asleep and among the number Old Mrs. Mudeater who died last spring in great peace. I myself have been called to mourn the loss of a dearly beloved daughter in law, wife of my son John. But I do not mourn as those who have no hope. She died in the full triumphs of faith. She was the only daughter of George D. Williams and has left one child, a boy about four years old.

As to our future missionary, we shall gladly receive whoever in the wisdom of the Conference shall be appointed. Yet I may be allowed to express an opinion in favor Brother John W. White of your Conference. He is a young man and we are all well acquainted with him.
In conclusion I would once more renew to you my assurances of love, friendship and esteem. I wish you to remember me to my old friends in Ohio – Jacob Young, H.O. Sheldon, A. Poe, Power, Elliott and all other inquiring friends. I am still endeavoring to walk in the road to heaven.

I remain your brother in Christ

Squire Gray Eyes

Rev J.B. Finley

Ohio Conference