

12-28-1847

Letter from E.H. Taylor to James B. Finley

E.H. Taylor

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Warwick
Decr 29th

Rev J. B. Finley
Columbus Ohio

And
Edward Taylor
Dec 1847

Dr Bro Finley there is an old friend of mine &
the Methodist preacher in the town of Hopkinton
he pleads if you would if convenient see him
and in your letter the name is to be
his name is William Taylor or fine name

Warwick Decr, 28. 1847

Dear Bro Finley

Rev Sir it is many years since I had the
pleasure of seeing you or as much as receiving a line from
you I think of the days of other years when I was a
boy when you traveled the circuit on which my father
lived I think of Longs Meeting House where you gave
me leave to preach the Gospel and of your call
at my fathers a few weeks after and saying Edward
you must meet me at the year meeting at Wrights Church
on Mahoning Circuit and travel it with Davison and
bro the that was a time of trial and I have often
thought if I had not been better anchored than
some of the boys we got those days I should have
given the matter up but 30 years have passed away
since that and I am still on the walls and on the
way to heaven and I have passed through both
the shades and lights of an itinerant life.
We left the Ohio Conference the year the Pittsburg
Conference was organized, but we have often wished
we had stayed in the Ohio but now it is not
worth while to talk I suppose of a transfer I am over
fifty years of age my locks are becoming gray
and my eyes dim I suppose you would not have
me now - but I am traveling Warwick Circuit and
you know it is the line circuit if your Conference
should be decided next May perhaps you may ask
and get this territory for I do think that you
should have the territory back that was taken from
the Ohio Conf, or give Marietta and Zanesville to

the Pittsburgh Confer it is very awkward as
it now is and if you do decide you should
have a piece of Territory on this side of the River
or give up those Talens and I would just as
have you would get a piece on this side - but
how do you like to be where you have are
I should think it to be unpleasant but you will
say what difference does it make if a Man is
discharging his duty and I should think it very behav-
ious for you to travel there - and it is a little surprizing
that my old friend Jacob Young is still Traveling
a District - well what is to be done at the General
Conference you will not be likely to divide the funds
of the Church with the South and I suppose it should
not be done but if it is not they will prosecute and
in that event the will succeed. The General Conf.
of 1844. should have expelled Bishop Andrew and
have given no consent for the Division of the
Church and if the Church in the South went it
was wholly on their own responsibility -
But these days we have Abolition and Proslavery
and a host of other things and I think it is highly
probable the Church will suffer less - There is
Masonry and Sons of Temperance and many Methodists
- Preachers are for most as Masons - Formerly when
Masons got converted the cause to be adhering Masons
but not so now Formerly the Church favored the
Annual Conference favored you recollect how you
savored one or two of the young men at the Chillicothe
Conf. at which I was ordained Deacon Dear fellows
you showed them but little mercy but they were
inexperienced and ignorant of the System of Masonry

Brother Finley have you any good sermons in Columbia

for had they known before that ^{they would have} ~~there to pass~~
to pass through the barbarous Orgies of Masonry and
swear the fearful Oaths the did they never see him
Masons and Bishop Roberts said when he got
beyond the Province of God then he would join the
Masons Masonry is a Barbarous and Bloody System
and all its Oaths are Profane and some of them
are highly Blasphemous and have astonishing that
a Methodist Preacher who ought to be the light
of the world should present himself at the Door
of a Free Mason Lodge with a Wool and Hood -
Winked asking for light and of whom
Judith's Drummers Behadues Oh Shame Shame,
I saw a letter lately published in the Masonic Review
- written by N.H. Kaper professing to give the origin
of Red Lights of the Cross - but Sir there was not
a Knight nor a Mason on the face of the Earth
ages after the period when he gives its origin
and no Mason can prove from any authentic source
the State Ments made by that Bro - and Sons
are not a great deal better at least it is
the same song but the tune is different. I hope
Sir that as an old Methodist Preacher you will
deprecate all these things and use your influence
against these things likely to do us great harm
It would be pleased to see you one more and Lydia
wishes to hear from Mrs Finley and joins in love
to you - Yours Respectfully

J. B. Wright immediately - My address Fenwick
Muskingum Co
Rev J. B. Finley E. H. Taylor