

10-18-1851

## Letter from John S. (J.S.) Inskip to James B. Finley

John S. (J.S.) Inskip

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Rev James B. Kinley

Eaton

Preble Co. Ohio



1857

Troy Miami Co. Ohio Oct 18. 1857

My very dear father

Among the first and most pleasant surprises of yesterday was the reception of a letter from the veritable "old chief" himself I wish my communication would convey half the pleasure <sup>to you,</sup> you did to me. At the time it came to hand I was in my room preparing for the arrival of my wife, who lingered a day in Dayton. I was also meditating upon the wrongs I have suffered. And to receive a letter of the right kind, as yours was - you may rely upon it, was just in season. It seemed as oil to my wounded feelings.

Your letter would have been received and answered before this, only that my wife and I have been in Cincinnati, making arrangements for the education of our son. I presume by this time you have received a full account of the resolutions &c of the Conference in my case. I, of course, appealed to the General Conference.

I have a full copy of all the proceedings and will show it you when you visit us, which I hope you will do at your earliest convenience. Your old friends here will be very glad to see you. I would urge you to be present at our Quarterly Meeting - but knowing

So Elliotts position upon the question we have discussed, I presume it would be full as pleasant to you and to myself to come at some other time. And yet I would like very much for you to be here at that meeting - It will take place on Saturday and Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> of this month.

By referring to the printed account of my case you will find I was charged with a violation of ~~my~~ a "solemn pledge" and "contumacious treatment" of the conference and the "publication of obnoxious matter or doctrine" - These two general allegations (there are three in fact - yet they were presented in the form of two) were sustained by a decisive vote - but not by the evidence in the case - for after pronouncing me guilty they then turned around and voted that in their judgment I was not guilty of any "willful and wicked violation of pledge" and that I be "admonished of my error" and my character pass.

The real design of the last resolution was to prevent an appeal. But in my humble judgment, it is one of the strongest grounds of appeal in the whole case. For the conference plainly therein admit, that they condemned me and proclaimed me guilty of a crime (which they afterwards say, might not be laid to my charge. Beside this there is not the shadow of evidence to maintain the truth of the charge - which you will at once perceive when I show you the record.

I hope you will be kind enough to make any suggestions you think proper in relation to the matter. You have often been to General Con. and know all the

detail of business operations there. I hope you will find it convenient to go to Boston in May. I would rather have you to be there, with the influence your age & we will give than any man I know. Hence I trust ~~you~~ make arrangements to go.

Considering the treatment ~~of~~ a man as yourself has received of Moody & ~~the~~ <sup>we</sup> ought to be surprised at their conduct ~~there~~. But still I cannot tell how men, claiming to be disciples of the Lord Jesus, should manifest such ~~conduct~~. It certainly is strange enough. But my worthy friends, one consideration should be sufficient for both you and <sup>me</sup> - It is this - "Our judgment is with God, and our record is on high" - And mankind will yet do us justice. I hope therefore we shall be enabled "in patience to possess our souls" - Our opponents will yet know feel the folly and injustice of their course.

I wish you had remained a day or two longer at Conference. You could have rendered efficient service. But all would have been of no avail. The matter was settled. Nothing could have prevented the result. Moody's charge begins with this expressive and ominous declaration - "After extensive consultation with aged and experienced brethren" &c. This extensive, <sup>consultation</sup> was had in reference to another matter viz. the election of delegates - and all know the result of that. But I must close. Kindest regards to yourself and family. Write soon - May the Lord bless and sustain you forever is the prayer of  
Yours paternally J. S. Ancker