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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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5-13-1823

## Letter from William Blair to James B. Finley

William Blair

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### Recommended Citation

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Recd  
William Brewster  
Ridgely 13 May 1823

Rev James D. Smith  
Wm Brewster

May 13 1823  
Ridgely

Ridgely 13 May 1823

Dear Sir  
You will see by the head of my  
letter that I no longer address you by  
the endearing appellation of Brother.  
Under my present circumstances I dare not  
claim the privilege. Suffice it to say that  
on last Saturday evening I was  
expelled from the Society the charge  
against me was "imprudent conduct  
in being at the tavern and drinking  
too much cider," to the charge I pled  
guilty and had previously made  
every acknowledgment that I could  
and ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> humiliated. all the marks of  
humiliation I was capable of without  
acting the hypocrite, but all would  
not suffice although 3/4 of the Society  
expressed entire satisfaction to my  
fame and was offered by the clergy  
leaders that they were all perfectly  
satisfied with <sup>my</sup> yet charge to tell  
the Brook of the all this happened  
selected a committee and the Eliot  
to canonize the discipline as to make  
the committee decide against me  
I am out but God still reigns



I do not wish to hurt your feelings but  
I must say that I believe the Brook to  
be my violent enemy for what cause  
I know not unless it be for my kindness  
in trying to oblige him and you. Old  
Father Guffy is now here and talks that  
he wants some cash from you —  
immediately, write what you can do  
that I may satisfy him. My destiny  
is in the hands of God and he  
will do right. I feel that he has  
pardoned my late offence and  
is still precious to my soul, and  
more word about the Brook and some  
done he is now busily engaged in  
trying to secure a horse thief from  
Guthrie which I consider an offence  
equal to mine but I do not want  
to retaliate it is a small thing to  
me that I am forsaken of men if  
God is on my side.

Yours

Rev. J. B. Finley

William Harris