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James B. Finley Letters

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6-22-1823

## Letter from Elizabeth Burge to James B. Finley

Elizabeth Burge

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Wednesday June the 22<sup>nd</sup> 1823

Reverend and very Dear Sir

I presume you will be somewhat surprised in receiving an answer to a letter written in the winter of the year 1814 if I mistake not I have labored under a suspicion that Doctor Burge had answered that letter in my Name and have frequently purpos'd writing to you but could not ascertain <sup>the</sup> place to direct a letter untill coming to this place I happened at a Camp meeting on Brother Brokensiers circuit on enquiring I gain'd information I am happy to have it in my power to thank you for your letter which afforded me great consolation in the midst of my great affliction of mind which was caus'd by Doctor B.'s Backsliding and becoming Dissipated he continued in the same situation untill 1816 when meeting with a Misfortune in his practice he left me and went down the Ohio river I returned home to my parents I have not seen him this seven years nor heard from him but three times untill last winter I heard of his Death

Since I last saw you I have pass'd through  
 many very trying scenes but hitherto  
 the Lord hath helped me I never could have  
 surmounted my difficulties unsupported  
 by divine grace I still belong to the Methodist  
 Episcopal Church and am still striving to  
 make my way to the Mansions of Everlasting  
 rest through the assistance of My Father who art  
 in Heaven I have often thought that the Lord  
 wisely order'd all things for me for the good of my  
 soul I have had such Manifestations of divine  
 grace Communicated to my soul as has enabled  
 me for some time past and at the present  
 to bow with humble submission to the will  
 of the most High God in all things I desire  
 an interest in your prayers that the Lord  
 may keep me faithful to the end if it would  
 be convenient for you I should be happy to  
 receive a few lines from you Direct your letter  
 to Shippensburg Cumberland County Pennsylv-  
 vania Please to present my respects to sister  
 Hinley and accept my best wishes for your  
 welfare and success in the Gospel of Christ  
 Yours Respectfully Elizabeth Burge