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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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10-26-1824

## Letter from Lydia Taylor to James B. Finley

Lydia Taylor

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Cambridge O  
26<sup>th</sup> Oct 1824

Rev James B. Fenley  
Upper Sandusky  
Crawford County Ohio



Miss Julia Taylor

34

Cambridge October 24 1824

Dear Brother Fenley it would be much more pleasing to me to see you and have a long chat than to write to you but as this is denied me I must have recourse to ink and paper hoping this means to hear from you soon for you know I was once one of your family and of course you will not forget me we have taken up our residence for this year in Cambridge the people here appear very kind and we have some good meetings Mr Brown and Mr Taylor say the prospect is pretty good on the 6<sup>th</sup> the people were so starved out for want of preaching last year that they appear to catch the word with greediness I hope the labors of this year will not be altogether in vain You have such a charge left you by the Conference that I should not be surprized if the very thought of it should throw you into a fever how do the affairs of the mission prosper how I do long to see the Dear children but fear I never shall in this world when I call to mind the happy hours I spent at Sandusky when I was almost daily witnessing the conversion of souls, when we lived as in the sunshine of Gods presence I must drop a tear at their remembrance - O happy days - how pleasing the reflections when we used to assemble in the kitchen all day light for family prayers - how have our hearts been warmed by the Sun of righteousness and we were enabled to go through the trials of the day with pleasure yes we could eat our dry morsel with singleness of heart - Sometimes when I have assembled in the congregations for public worship since I left Sandusky and behold the people even the members of society ~~are~~ so careless so unconcerned I have wished to be among the dear Indians

is it not a lamentable thing Dear Brother that instead  
of engagedness in the cause of God. Cranes and Birds  
and Leghorns appear to engross nearly all the conversation  
the methodist persecute one that appears plain & full  
as much as one of the world. formerly it was only from  
the wicked but now it is the house of our friends.  
Of late I have felt uncommon anxiety for the Church to  
which I belong while I was at Father Taylor's I had an oppor-  
tunity of conversing with some of these hotheaded reformers  
for Church government I defended ancient methodism with  
all my powers I suppose you know that Dr Mc ulroy is  
one of them I told him that after all he and J. Waterman  
had said they would as soon take the office of Bishop as any  
one Brother Finley the Devil has taken every means to  
overthrow the methodist Church formerly he has been de-  
feated - but he has begun now with the clergy and I fear  
he will prevail the general cry is tyrannical oppression  
monarchy and I know not what I even heard a Preacher  
say that Bishop McKendree would not speak to him if he  
met him in the street said he I have outbided by him  
at Conference and he never opened his mouth and to try  
to counteract my mind said he he treats your husband in  
the same way (which I know to be false) the Mutual  
Rights I suppose will furnish a good sword for I was going  
to say the rebels - for my part I love the doctrine  
the discipline the government of the methodist Church  
and I have often said if there is but one left I will  
be with that one if I can get permission  
this day I love God I think of late God is reviving

his work of grace in my heart I am surrounded with  
temporal mercies I enjoy good health have a kind  
husband and good friends for which I desire to be  
thankful please to answer this letter as I greatly  
desire to hear from you please to give my love  
to Mrs Finley William Hannah the Mifflin family  
and all the children Mr Taylor is not at home or  
he would send his love I remain your friend  
and Sister in the best of loves

Rev J Finley

L Taylor

I hear from your Country that Mr Parks and Mrs  
Lottspeck are married I have no news to communicate  
only that Mr J Hamilton has begun his ser-  
mon at patience on Granville Ct