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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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11-1-1824

## Letter from William Simmons to James B. Finley

William Simmons

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Sinking-Spring, Dec 1874

Very dear brother I raise my pen to  
address you a few lines; I have had a severe  
attack of the fever since Conference  
but have recovered. So as to be able  
to attend to my circuit, and I am bound  
as ever to serve God and his Church as  
long as I live.

I am astonished when I look at the  
providence of God that called me unworthy  
as I was, with my infirmities & imperfections  
to face sinners to flee the wrath to  
come, when I consider the duty of

preacher the situation of sinners and  
awful account that I must give  
to God at the day of Judgement for  
how I have declared the unsearchable  
of Christ, I tremble under a sense of  
my duty & for grace & wisdom to do the  
will of God, I have been some more  
than once round my circuit, the prospects  
are but dull generally - the love of  
the world hinders some the devil others  
of the flesh devil & whiskey altogether  
hinders more, even of the methodist.  
So called but notwithstanding all these  
things are against us, there are many  
real good methodists on this circuit  
souls that will shine when the sun  
grows dim with old age -

These good people are groaning and  
praying that the Lord may revive  
his work, and I do hope that the  
great God will give us to see good days  
this Conference year,

My colleague is well & well received  
a week or two ago I heard from your  
brother John family they were getting  
pretty well, Brother Light preacher.  
Bro. Jos. Armstrongs funeral last Sunday  
two weeks ago about which time the  
trustees of the College met. but I have  
not heard the particulars of what was  
done, I have not heard a radical groan  
or speak since I came to the Ch. as  
I know of - I do believe that if all  
those preachers that are in favour  
of reformation of heart, would preach  
for God and for souls, that the green eyed  
monster prejudice would be starved  
to death - if our brethren that suppose  
them selves to be injured would get more  
religion - and then these difficulties  
would vanish like the dew before the  
warming rays of the sun -

Now my dear brother Finley (as you  
took me by the hand when I first  
came forward to fill the place that  
I now do), I beseech you (if it is convenient  
with your business) to write me a long  
letter - or Epistle



In which give me directions as you  
may think proper by all means  
give me a particular account of the  
work of the Lord at Sandusky  
~~How~~ how many have you in school  
how many have you in the Church  
Can you get your red misthodes  
to live without whiskey, is the work  
prospering, have you visited any other  
nation of Indians, (if you have) what  
the prospects there, if you please  
answer these interrogatives, with any &  
every thing else that you may think  
proper - I hope & pray that God may  
prosper your labours among the heathen  
& that you may have stars in your  
crown of rejoicing from among the  
savages of the west, in Altha we are  
parted in this world. I expect if we are  
faithful we'll <sup>met</sup> in the broad plains of  
uncruated glory, there to reign with God  
forever. Give my love to Christian Love  
to sister Emily - Bro. & sister Hooper  
and also if you please to brother Betworn -  
the logs - and all the rest through him -  
I long to God for the prospect of red white and  
black people getting to heaven together  
Brother pray for me - may God bless you  
& yours Sa  
Rev. James B. Finley

Wm e Simmonds

George's black house

Edward 9<sup>th</sup> King of England

Dear Anna D. Smith  
By the Indians  
of the West,  
—  
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