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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

5-9-1825

Letter from John Todd to James B. Finley

John Todd

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Wednesday Augusta 22nd of May 1825

Dear Sir / at the request of your sister
Ginny of this place I address this lines
to you. the communication I know is of the
most painful kind. however in every disagreeable
circumstance there is some drop of consolation
to sweeten the bitter cup. so in this I think
there is more than the usual portion of Comfort
under this affliction. triumph crown
the conflict & mortal glory is won & the
soul of your deceased brother John is
reposing in the serenity of an eternal calm
in heaven - three weeks ago your brother
was taken ill & had to give up school
he took medicine & recovered so as to be
able to ride out 3 miles on Sunday
& return same evening. we suppose
the fatigue was too great & on Monday
he relapsed continuing to get worse untill
the following Tuesday week, when we thought
he was dying. but the symptoms became
more favourable & hopes were indulged by
his physician & friends that he would
recover these hopes were flattered by his
appearance & strength untill last Saturday

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August 14
Dear James B. Quincy
Wyan dot Jefferson
Upper Sandusky
Ohio
Death of my
brother John
in account of the
Epistle
1825
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night about twelve o'clock, when the symptoms
assumed the most alarming aspect, his
strength sinking fast, untill on Sunday night
at 20 minutes past eleven o'clock he sunk
in the ~~philosophy~~ of death. on the following
day at 3 o'clock he was carried to the
Methodist Church where Peter Akers
delivered a sermon from "I know that
my Redeemer lives" after which he was
interred in the meeting house yard — his family

as you may suppose are much distressed at
their loss. & wish you to come over immediately
that you may advise counsel or direct,
their circumstances are most necessitous at
the present, nor do they wish any pecuniary
assistance from ^{you}, but just wish you
to be here to give such counsel as their
confidence in you will induce them to follow

— In all the affliction of your
brother the most "lamb like patience" adorned
his breast, not a murmur, not a complaint
but the most unshaken confidence in
God, & the most placid & Meek submission
to his will — in consequence of his illness
another was appointed to fill his place
for the College ~~for~~ 3 months, & until
it should be known whether his health would
be better, & he was held in the most

reputable estimation in his connection with
the Institution, but he is gone. & the
question is will the next only stand in his
place, or will he fill it. I may be fill
it — the family are all in tolerable
health at present & the widowed support
with that degree of confidence that humble
~~confidence~~ in God alone can inspire with

Yours Respectfully
John Ladd