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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

2-6-1830

Letter from Samuel Capers to James B. Finley

Samuel Capers

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Columbia, S.C. Feb 6th 1830.

My dear Brother Finley,

Your kind remembrance of me, by

Bishop Soule, was duly received and heartily welcomed. Upon its perusal imagination soon surmounted the lofty summits of the Alleghany's towering cliffs, and placed me by your side to live once again the happy scenes and rich enjoyments which we mutually shared in the too short, but pleasing little history of events that marked the days we saw together, singing, praying, preaching, praising! - Who could ever forget such noble work - such heavenly things? Who, that once enjoyed them upon earth, would not find his soul estranged from mortality, and swelling big with unutterable longings for the rapturous bliss of Eternity's joys? I rejoice in God, my Saviour, for the pleasing anticipation I entertain of outriding the storms of life's tempestuous ocean, and safely arriving in the Harbor of Heaven's Broad Bay; where the vast fleets of Salvation's Ships, freed from high swelling billows, or tempest's fury, shall spread their Heaven-sown canvass to the odoriferous gales of the celestial atmosphere - while Eternity's copious triumphantly waving, shall read in large letters "The warfare is over."

"There all the ship's company meet
 "Who sailed with their Saviour's Colours;
 "Their union will then be complete,
 "And soon they never shall know."

Our annual conference closed its session on yesterday. It was one of the most interesting meetings of the kind we have ever had in this country - The greatest peace and harmony prevailed during its whole continuance. The congregations were uniformly very large and much of the Holy Spirit'sunction was manifested in the public ministrations and social intercourse - Several professed to find pardoning grace, and the altar was constantly crowded with sin sick souls. In pursuance of the provisions of the General Conference, we have divided into two conferences, making the Savannah River the separating line - The new conference will take the name of Georgia. You will in due time hear all the particulars through the Advocate & Journal. The parting scene

Rev James B. Finley

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Single.

Reverend James B. Finley.

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far surpassed all human conception or human description
the power of the Most High came down in rich abundance
and we all parted remembering to meet on earth, with con-
fident hopes of meeting in "a better country".

Brother Bradley is attached to the Georgia Conference and
appointed to Alabama circuit. I showed him your letter
and gave him your address - he says he will write
to you soon. I am stationed at Camden where
I am told there is much of the form, but very little of
the power of godliness. O how can I live in such a
frigid zone? - I shall have enough to engage all my
head and all my heart and to make the former to ache
and the latter to tremble. - But I have equipped myself
for the war - drawn my weapon - flung away its scabbard
and have for my motto "Victory or Death" in the name
of the strength of the God of Battles I intend to march
fearlessly into the enemy's territories, and do him all the
harm I can. I know you will say Amen. -

Give my best respects to Sister Finley
Brother Brownings & Christie - let Bro Barker read
this letter and let him write to me at Camden
S.C. - and do the same yourself - My love to all
the Holy Brethren.

May grace, mercy, and peace be
multiplied unto you abundantly.

Yours in Christian love.

P.S. I have paid the Bishop
for Snap and loaned him
this year to my Bro. Benj.
so that he has not located yet.

J. W. W. W.