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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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6-21-1830

## Letter from Dr. Lockett to James B. Finley

Dr. Lockett

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### Recommended Citation

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Louisville June 21<sup>st</sup> 1830

My Dear Friends

Don't you think I am as hard to move as a seventy four gun ship. It has always been perfectly constitutionally with me, and improved on by habit, to live my home & domestic quiet so ardently, as seldom to leave it without regret, for the bustle & novelty of Strangers.

My Partner with his Family returned a few days ago, but have left Town, for a Country site, for the health of his little Boy, who is indisposed and which will detain me here, till too late in the season, for visiting Cincinnati.

I have it in contemplation, to spend a few days at the Harrodsburg Springs in August, as the water, but now the Country air, may assist to fortify me against the second edition of last fall's fever, the first time I ever was sick, and I hope in God the last I ever have of such continuance & intensity, with<sup>out</sup> a passport to the world of Spirits, unless it should be sent as a providential chastisement, then I bow with reverence and kiss the rod to any dispensation however afflicting, aid being afforded, to quell rebellious nature in her uprisings. We have nothing new here, no variety or incidents or innovations, to break in on the mo-

I should I had to leave here, in August, and to our friends of Cincinnati, my trip to the Springs, and stay, the Cincinnati to Augusta, to attend the examination of the students.

Doct  
Lockett  
Louisville

1830

1830

The Rev. Wm. G. Finley

Cincinnati

Ohio



notion & sameness of routine, all as perfectly unchang-  
ing, as the diurnal revolution of the Earth.  
Physic, Religion and Law, and every thing appears to have  
felt that awful depression, which sometimes follows the  
highest state of excitement. Matrimony, a dissertation  
on which, could once throw me into phrenzy, is losing  
its former potency. Not that my voice isn't still for  
such alliances, but I am daily becoming more &  
more morbidly sensitive, to the probable, fortuitous or  
perhaps the unavoidable & necessary risks, disappoint-  
ments & mishaps, of that condition of life, here are  
uncongenial qualities, and traits of character, misfor-  
tunes to children, loss of a wife &c &c, all start up in  
dark array & solid phalanx, against the specter, the  
atoms of unalloyed bliss of married life.

Tell our friends and sister P. . . . I received the Mysop  
to me. She need never fear. This is another of my peculi-  
arities of organization, amounting to antipathy - that I co-  
uld never marry a widow, it matters not, if there  
are concentrated in her, all the beauties, accomplish-  
ments, talents, respectability, wealth & amiable  
ity, that could be culled from human nature, it  
would avail not, whilst that one thought intru-  
ded itself on my mind's eye. This is "entre nous".  
But I give her the credit of possessing possessing, accord-  
ing to my judgment, more predominating splendor

and lofty charms with patrician dignity, than  
any other of her sex, I have ever seen. Yes Sir  
she is a most magnificent woman.

Dr Harris passed thro' this place some days  
since, on his way to Philad<sup>a</sup> and will return  
& locate himself in Lexington. He has entered  
into a temporary partnership with Early, sent  
him out on some Quisctic expedition in itin-  
erant Dentistry. That Girl of Early's has better  
than him under her own eye, on Harris will make  
him as visionary trust up in his professional hab-  
its as himself, & run him wild, away on the  
Southern frontiers towards the tropics

I shall visit your City next fall, & perhaps  
spend two months in it, to do some anat-  
omical dissections. I should like to hear from  
you by letter. Remember me to Bro<sup>r</sup> Sisters Spencer  
& Quainton.

N.B. I don't mean by what I say { with affect & earnest.  
to disparage Widowhood, but merely, { A friend  
that it don't comport with my fast { &c  
idleness, to marry a woman that has been slept with { Lettell

P.S. I received a letter yesterday, from Bascom.  
He writes in good spirits, from Mansfield.

We are making preparations for building  
our church forthwith.