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Letter from Augustus Eddy to James B. Finley

Augustus Eddy

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Rev. James W. Finley

Warrum Co.

Ohio

Recd
Jan 3 1832



Chillicothe, Jan. 3^d. 1832
(Tuesday morning)

Dear Bro. Finley,

Your of Dec. 23. 1831 was rec'd last Sat. evening, in the midst of the bustle of our 2nd Q. meeting for this place, and for your kind remembrance of me you have my thanks, & be assured your letter was hailed as the coming of Titus was, by his fellow labourers. It is "passing strange" to me, how you could be so sentimental, & imaginative after so long a buffeting by ^{cold} Turas, for indeed the cold had been so intense, that it cold my warmest thro'ts before they could get to the point of my pen, or travel from my lips to a congregation. However I suppose you had become thawed out by indulging "the refreshing stimulus of warmth of Hannah's room". Indeed altho' your thro'ts seemed to distance the whirlwinds, they were none too much so for my poor hypochondriac spirit your letter made me feel like laughing & crying, but enough of this.

I do most sincerely sympathize with you in your family affliction, in the affliction of dear sister Finley & your aged Father. May God bless them in time & eternity. With both of them, I have "taken sweet counsel" & set with them "in heavenly places in Christ Jesus". I trust "that neither of them regrets

their toils & long labors in the Stimulant Campaign
~~ever~~ now, much less will they regret their
"in the spirit world," the rest that lies before them.
As to yourself, I trust you will be spared yet
many years, to cultivate Emmanuel's land, tho'
you have had affliction & depression of spirit
to pass thro'. I am truly glad to hear, that you
have peace in your charge, & some prosperity.
I too have finished my first round of S. Meetings.
I have never known so general a state of peace.
The preachers are generally, I may say invariably well
recd. in all the circuits & stations in Scioto Dist.,
and on most of the circuits there is a good work
in progress. I have suffered much crucifixion
of spirit since we parted, but why should a
living man complain. There are a great many big
men & wise (like Solomon's man, who ^{was} wiser in his own
conceit than seven men who can render a reason) men &
those who will ask you your opinion that they
may have a chance to put in, their own wretched opin-
ions, that my soul sometimes is sorely weary of their
brainless domineering. But if life is spared I shall
have my turn, & if they do not get some point blank
broadsides this year, I am much mistaken.
My health has been very poor since conf. & have been
afflicted with chills - fevers - pleurisy &c all round
the Dist. but I am now better, altho' am now suf-
fering under the influence of the common epidemic
that is prevailing thro' the Scioto valley - Influenza.

Our S. Meeting here is still in progress.
previous to its commencement we were very
low in this place, altho' Bro. Mathews is a great
& faithful preacher & as popular as any man
ever was in this place. On Saturday night we
held a watch night & by much labour we got
a few to come to the altar for prayers, yet there
was a cloud still over us. Sunday during the
services of the sanctuary & at night I joined the
church. yesterday the clouds broke and there
was a blessed time among the members, but
last night was among the most powerful times
I have ever seen. The altar was crowded with
Deep penitents & six or 7 professed to find
the heavenly pearl. It is almost 11 o'clock. I must
stop, I go to church. To night is our lovefeast.
I will not close my letter till after the meeting.
Thurs. evening. We had a precious meeting to day my soul was hap-
py. Bro. Lions is dead. He was Doct. M. Adams' son-in-law. He died
in peace - yea in holy triumph. Please write again, & tell me whether
a quarterly meeting Conf. can try a Local Minister & expel him, be-
fore he has been tried by a committee? Can a member of our
Church be expelled from our the church without being cited
to appear before the Socy. or a select committee? I mean legally expelled.
I mourn over the neglect of a judicious administration. What can
I do? The discipline requires me to report the state of the Dist. to the
Episcopacy, but I do not know where & to whom to write. I'd like
to see you at home. I had a pretty good meeting last. Give my love to sister Stanley &
Bro. Brook & your Father & Martha's too & take a large share yourself
In love I am a
as ever yours A. Eddy
Rev. I. B. Fauley