

6-18-1833

Letter from Joseph Hollinshead & Mary Hollinshead to James B. Finley

Joseph Hollinshead

Mary Hollinshead

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Rev James B. Finley
 Ridgeville
 Warren County
 Va
 Wake Grove Furnace
 June 24th 1833
 J. F. Calverhouse

Joseph Hopkins has
 ask your favour
 as being pastor
 of the church

Wake Grove Furnace Perry County Va
 June 18th 1833
 Dear Father
 I Received your welcome letter
 and am sorry to hear of your affliction
 but the Lord knows best what is right
 for us. I left Phil^a in January last
 and moved to this Place, it appears to
 me there is a work for me to do here
 we have preaching every two weeks, and
 a society of thirty members. but there is
 no money salaries it requires hard fighting
 to keep ground, but since I have been
 here the Lord has been with me I feel
 willing to resign all for the sake of My
 Master. I have a Large Concern of business
 entrusted in my care. so I employ about two hundred
 men. in all my temporal concerns I
 wish to glorify God. and if I can be the
 Instrument of smothering one soul from the
 Devil I will do it, I have good it is to serve
 the Lord because his yoke is Easy and his
 burden is Light. The Christian has the
 Promise of the Life that never is and that
 which is to come. When I came to this Place
 I saw mountains in the way but the
 Lord sent them all away. there was
 many drinking Witches other employe
 here. but I rise the standard and all
 that would not come to that I told
 them to leave, and as soon as I
 discharge one drunken man there
 was a sober or Religious one in his
 Place I have good it is to live to the
 Glory and Honor of God

My Wish is if the Lord Wishes me, to try to
get to the West but it is uncertain about
my getting there next spring, as it will
take some time to get my concerns arranged
in Jersey my salary here is a liberal one
I get \$500 of annum my Family Expenses
all paid, but when I go I want to
get Mrs. You. but I shall first wish
to rent, and not purchase for some time
I am your unworthy Joseph L. Hollingsworth
Our much esteemed father

We were glad to receive a let-
ter from you not knowing whether we should ever receive another
from you & it was doubly welcome removed as we are from
our former friends & many ~~of~~ blessed privileges which we
formerly enjoyed & for which I often sigh. But the Lord is
with us Glory to his name I have experienced much of ~~his~~ good-
ness since I last wrote & have had some deep waters to wade
thru but the Lord has kept & supported me & my face is yet
Lionward. Yea I am daily astonished at his goodness towards me
feeling myself to be a weak unprofitable creature I must say that
I enjoy a sense of his presence daily & feel that Jesus is mine & I am
his & pray for me that I may ever sit at the feet of Jesus & nothing
denie, nothing esteem, but Jesus crucified - Sister Sarah He is with ^{the} she
desires to be remembered to you. Our children Henry, Ellen &
Maria are well & enjoy much better health here than they had
did in the city. I cannot tell what pleasure it would give me
to see ^{you} your dear family but we do expect to have the pleasure
of seeing you in our father's house above, O what a joyful meeting
shall we there have with many of our dear friends & the millions
who have gone before my soul exults at the thought that
we may urge on our rapid course, We have a flourishing Sabbath
School here of ^{which} Joseph is Superintendent. He has also a class
under his care & I trust his labors will prove a blessing to many
in this place. We feel much interested for the youth and our
care & we hope eventually to hear from their inquiries as they
shall be needed, We have also formed a Missionary Society among
the females, We do pray that a blessing may rest on our feeble efforts
to extend the blessing of the Gospel, please remember me to your family
& be assured I still remain yours in the Lord