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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

3-4-1836

Letter from Jonathan Jones to James B. Finley

Jonathan Jones

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Snow Hill, o
March 4th

Dear J. B. Finley
Madagascar
Ohio

John B. Finley
Snow Hill
Ga. 1836

Venerable Father,
Through the blessing of God
I am at this time in pretty good health
though since I saw you, I have gone through
some severe disputation of Divine Providence
in all of which, I can now see wisdom & love
beyond description. Shortly after I received
your Fatherly letter, I sat in at the Cincinnati
Academy, at which place, I continued
until I obtained a Certificate from the Board
of County Examiners, stating my ability
to conduct a School, in the English branch.
The same week I was taken with a violent
Cold that settled on my lungs and terminated
with an inflammation on the same. For nine
months I was truly a son of affliction! Mean-
while it pleased God to dissipate some of my
disingers, and as "his thoughts were not
as my thoughts", he convinced me that it
was right I should leave Father & Mother and
leave to a wife. I took up my residence
in Delhi Township for a short time, but seeing
my health improve, Holy and no door open for
improving ^{my} mind, through the persuasion of
friends I removed to Richmond, Va. where
I continued to teach School, for nine mo-
onths, mostly winter until toward the
late; then paid a visit home and it being
at the time of General Conference I became
acquainted with Bro Simon Peter a P. Elder

of the Conference, who offered myself and
wife (in or near Aston) a large School and
his assistance if I should go home with him
being still of the same mind I was when I was
to you I thought it ^{to be} an opening of Providence and
came to the conclusion of accepting the offer
but Oh! how uncertain are all of our Calculations
here through the combined influence of an angry
Father and the entreaties of my Mother
was obliged to give it up; but oft have I been
stricken for it since, and not a day hardly
passes over my head but what I think of it
though I never was in a fairer way of getting
along in this world and by using every-
morning by 4 O'Clock I ^{have} a considerable time
for Studying; and last Sunday Morning
(I have reason to praise God) in exhorting
my fellow men to "flee from the wrath to
come", he so abundantly filled my soul with
his love that I shook from the sole of my foot
to the crown of my head, and could not restr-
ain giving glory to God; Bless his name I
feel it while writing; Oh! Father pray
for me and be assured in the bosom of a dear
God I am your friend in all haste
your affectionate son
J. B. Finley

be at our quarterly meeting at Wilmington
in April of which I am a member, and
being desirous to pay my last half of
the subscription I make to Augusta
College you will therefore write
immediately, notifying me who the proper
agent is if you are not. Direct young
to Knoxville. P.O. Clinton County.

Riv J. B. Finley

J. B. Finley

P.S. I was intended to write to you at this time
by being in the Advocate your intention to go to
Canada and was a friend you would not