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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

9-21-1842

Letter from Eli R. Beale & J.W. White to James B. Finley

Eli R. Beale

J.W. White

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James
M. M. M.
1842

James B

PAID 10

Dear James
Very truly
Yours
James B

22

Genia Sept 21st 1842

Dear Brother Friend

I am happy to inform you of the much improved state of my health through the Mercy of the Lord I feel myself quite free from disease - My journey was of considerable advantage to me - by the time of my return home I felt quite restored to my usual health

I think I have learned some lessons by my afflictions which will be of infinite importance to me. The object of this - is again to throw myself into your hands to be used by the Church (if needed) in promoting the salvation of souls -

I would gladly abandon the thought of thus surrendering myself could I do it without endangering my happiness, But this I am now convinced I can not do - Therefore appreciating the ^{unmerited} regard you have so kindly shown me heretofore I would say to you with submission to your judgment if you please present my recommendation to the Conference - and if received and the Lord of the harvest bless me with health I will try to do the work assigned me -

Yours J. B. Friend

W. B. Beale

P. S. I have preached once and exhorted several times without experiencing any inconvenience

E. W. B.

My Dear Elder

Danvers Sept 22 1842

I regret to learn that you have been deceived with regard to a letter written to me by Bro Loomer upon the expulsion of Mr Alexander. The matter stands thus. Some busy body imposed upon Bro Loomer by misstating to him that case. He then sat down and wrote me a letter containing as I thought too much feeling. In justice to myself I did no more in my answer than to refuse to answer his inquiries until his phraseology was changed. He then wrote me a respectful Brotherly letter stating that he had been deceived. I have only to add that neither you or your administration have been impeached by him and so far as I know you have no better friends in Conf. than Rev. J. L. Loomer. I love him as a gentleman, a Christian, and fellow laborer. As to others that have spoken of the administration in that case. I commend them to fervent prayer that God whose attribute of mercy will make ample allowance for all these weaknesses. I acted in the fear of God in strict conformity to discipline and have nothing to fear. I challenge an investigation of the administration from any meddling man who is dissatisfied.

As to my health I regret to say it is still poor, very poor. Indeed I feel that I am doomed to an early grave. Some of my friends in the North advise me to retire for a season from the regular work. But I cannot yet. I am doomed to the itinerancy. I believe it is of God and designed by him to prove a great moral machine by which the world shall be redeemed and saved. I intend it as you know at the expense of my earthly all. In it I wish to live and die. God has blessed me with an itinerant wife - who would rather water the grove upon my grave with tears than to see me the partner in business with

her father - A poor puny halfbacked thing - I am of the opinion that exercise will help me - at my rate something must be done to divert me from my books and pen - you know how much I find it necessary to study and write - if I was on an easy circuit I would not study for a year and I have no doubt my health would improve. Of this opinion are most of my friends who know me, and my situation testifies. At present one more such year as the past. Spent as it has been with violent and frequent attacks of disease will lay me in the grave. I feel that exercise only alone can save me.

Mrs White is at her fathers. Things in the station are gradually assuming a promising aspect. Indeed I am encouraged about Kenia Station. The Lord bless us. Pray for us. Hoping to meet you in health and peace at Conf. I am Dear Brother

Yours affectionately

Rev J B Fisk

J. W. White

P.S. Bro Beals recently seems perfectly recovered from the illness which was injuring his lungs.

J. W. White