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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

12-18-1843

Letter from Samuel Pettit to James B. Finley

Samuel Pettit

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Dear Mother Finley
We were rejoiced to hear
from ^{you} and would tender our thanks for
your kind letter, how often have we thought
and talked of you since conference and
wondered how you were getting along
in your new field of Labor and
whether you were enabled to move Sister
Finley; we are truly sorry to hear of
her continued affliction and feel for you
in your trying situation, be assured you
have our sympathies and our prayers
We have reason to bless and adore the
name of God for his mercies to us as
a family we have been preserved through
the sickly season in health and with
the comforts of life we are blessed far
above what we deserve and I may add
a good Preacher a man of God we believe
and peace in the Church. The Seabites
are a very small people here and they
knew it they were very much in
hopes that the conference would send
Brother Cunnell to this District and
some unpopular man to the Station
they dedicated their church the Sabbath
before ^{our} quarterly meeting P. A. Ogden preached
the sermon and I heard that the church
was not near filled altho it is quite
small, at our quarterly meeting the
house was filled above and below to
overflowing but in this I would not
repine but rather that the Lord

is still with the old church and we
are praying and looking for an outpouring
of the Holy Spirit. I must now advert
to the melancholy subject of Parkers death
I saw him this day two weeks at our love
Feast I had not heard of his being here and
did not recognize him until he spoke
his experience he was a boy when I
last saw him he had now grown into
manhood was much altered in his appearance
he was indeed a fine looking young man
and the picture of health. I anticipated
a visit from him and much
pleasure in conversing with him about
Iowa and his friends there; but
Death was in advance of me I saw
him not again until he was a
lifeless corpse I did not hear he
was sick until a few hours before
he died O how my heart feels for
his poor Mother I am afraid she
will not survive the stroke
do write a consoling letter to her
Brother Finley; his end was peace
~~not one doubt remains but his happy~~
spirit rests in the paradise of God
I must now close the girls send
their love and thank you for your
kind remembrance of them. They
will ever regard ^{you} with tender affection
I hope that you and Sister Finley
will be spared to visit us again
pleas present my kind love to her
in Christian love E. Pettit