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Letter from Squire Gray Eyes to James B. Finley

Squire Gray Eyes

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Dear Brother,

Through the good eye of God I am glad to learn that you are well and have the privilege of addressing my cherished friend. The incidents of our early acquaintance have been such as to render our attachment forever strong, and I am sure you will be glad to hear from me. Since I last wrote to you, the Lord has been gracious to me. The power of religion has been most plentiful in our spacious and in the years that have been added to the Church during the latter addition. My soul feels encouraged, the prospect is decidedly favorable. The promises of the Lord are firmly established, and in the hands of our beloved brethren over us in former days. He is the same God and although He might be called to gray with age, He is as firm and steadfast as ever determined to keep His word. The Lord
always being my helper though grace for all of my Christian friends in Heaven.

We are now making preparations to move to the west. It reminds me of the preparations we are all making in Heaven. The 18th of next month is the time set for that move. Our most beloved and loving sister, it would give me great pleasure to have you visit us before we leave. I think that you would be the means of doing good here, in the humble state of feeling. If you could come, the first saturation or two days in your journey the time would be available. We have to hold that time. We held one last year for the meeting in the state of Ohio. It will be a farewell meeting. Many of our white friends will be as for the last time. God let me command that the Lord will give us a fruitful blessing. Pray for me always.

Your friend and brother,

Mr. Smith

P.S. Gray Eyes
Rev. J.B. Finley  
Dear Brother

Through the goodness of God I am yet spared among the living, and have the privilege of addressing my cherished friend. The incidents of our early acquaintance has been such as to render our attachment strong and I am sure you will be glad to hear from me.

Since I last wrote to you the Lord has been gracious to us. The cause of religion has prospered more abundantly than years heretofore. Between 50 and 60 have been added to the church during the winter and spring. My soul feels encouraged. The prospect is decidedly favorable.

My own feeble exertions have been frequently seconded with powers from on high. The Lord encourages and blesses me as in former days. He is the same God and although bodily strength is declining, I feel as much as ever determined to spend my life upon the Watch Tower of Zion, in striving to do good to my people, the Lord always being my helper. Through grace I expect to meet all of my Christian friends in heaven.

We are now making preparations to remove to the west. It reminds of the preparation we are all making for heaven. The 15th of next month is the time set to start for our new homes. And were it possible, it would give me great pleasure to have you visit us before we leave. I think that you could be the means of doing good here, in the present state of feeling. If you could come, the first Saturday and Sunday in June would be the time most desirable. We have selected that time to hold our last quarterly meeting in the state of Ohio. It will be a farewell meeting. Many of our white friends will see us for the last time. And I feel very confident that the Lord will give us a parting blessing. Pray for me always.

I remain your friend and brother in Christ

Squire Grey Eyes