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Letter from Squire Gray Eyes to James B. Finley

Squire Gray Eyes

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Dear Mr. P. Finley,

Although the good news of God I am yet filled among the living and have the privilege of addressing my cherished friend. The incidents of our early acquaintance have been such as to render our attachment permanent. Hence I am sure you will be glad to hear from me.

Since I last wrote to you, the Lord has been gracious to me. At this point of religious history, the people are more abundant. The years of trial, between 50 and 60, have added to the church's strength the number of its members. My soul feels encouraged. The prospect is decidedly favorable.

My own public utterances have been powerfully accompanied by prayer from on high. The word of the Lord has been blessed me as in former days. He is the same God and eternally patient. The day of his providence is approaching, and all is well unless I am determined to change my life when the watchmen of Zion are warning to do good to my people. The Lord
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