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James B. Finley Letters

1-15-1846

Letter from Michael Marley to James B. Finley

Michael Marley

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a more responsible name than J. W. Malley as he
had forfeited all reasonable claim to respect.
I was prepared to prove every fact stated in my
letter. The Lord bless you my Bro. write soon.
I am writing by candle light and I don't know
whether you can read, I will quit for the present,
for I cannot see to write by candle light.

To
Rev J. B. Finley,

Respectfully
&
affectionately
W. Malley

Rev. Michael
Malley

1846

Wilford D
Jan 16

Rev. James B. Finley

Zanesville.

Ohio

MS 116-60

MS
Wilford Clement Co. O. Jan 15 - 1846

Dear Bro. Finley.

Yours of Dec 16 came duly to hand, and as
usual it gave me great pleasure to learn that you were
driving ahead in your career of glory with a good
prospect of safe landing, after a perilous voyage over a
rough sea. The Lord shield you on your way, and
cause your sun to decline in a cloudless sky.

We are still moving along as usual, with an increase
of hope that we shall meet you in another and a
better world. Our prospects on the Dis. are quite
encouraging all things considered. The Spirit of revival
is spreading in different directions, in the City, and
Country, especially at Wesley Chapel, our congregation
is larger than it has been for years, and during the
last quarter we have had a net increase of sixty-five and
mostly new recruits, and most of them converted.

I regard the appointment of Bro. Trimble as peculiarly a
providential affair, glory to God who has vindicated our
cause in the sight of all the people, notwithstanding
the unchristian, ungentlemanly, and contemptible
conduct of the Trio or as one says, "The Orator, the
Seneca, and the beaver of the Corn-ketter." You say some
hard things, yet the half has not been said that might be
said about this wonderful Trinity of Spirits. But for the
honor of Religion, were I able I would cast over the whole
affair the veil of eternal forgetfulness. However the whole affair
as it is, thinks in the nostrils of the public as well as the Church.

I have had one quarterly meeting in Kentucky, had a good time. There were representatives there from the country round about to the distance of thirty miles, calling for preaching, declaring most positively that they will not go South. I have sent Bro Webb as the second man, and should they need a third they shall have him. My dear Bro Finley you can hardly form an idea of the condition of that people unless you were on the ground.

The Suit has been decided in our favour in Mayville
and the Southerners have appealed the case, so that we
have them at the laboursing ear now, and we expect to
rout them finally.

Just let me say that while at Augusta in late fall I happened to name the men who under God was instrumental in my final awakening. old Bro Patterson arose after me and said with great force, that his ashes slept at the end of the Church. After the meeting was over I went to the sacred spot, and enjoyed the mournful pleasure of beholding ^{the} slab that covers the remains of the sainted J. P. Finley. The limits have decayed, and if God spares me till Spring, I intend having it repaired.

My heart involuntarily said "Sleep on lovely clay, Sleep on" till the resurrection morn, and by Gods grace I will try to meet you in that brighter better world and renew my acquaintance, and enjoy your society.

I learn that you have a piece in this weeks paper, on the property question. Bro Elliott says that the difficulties you name were in his mind, at the time that he wrote, and that he intended to present them, but that you had done it for him. I think that question will be settled in some way, the agents will not make

another division with the South, Bro. Swenmstedt has
just returned from Missipi conference, he says
that Bishop Doane looks chop fallen very much.
He says that the preachers do not think so well
of our Cincinnati Slavery Church, as some nearer home
they think that it will work against them, as a violation
of the plan. I have been called on for a Preacher over
back of Covington in Kentucky, what think ye?
They say that there is eight or nine appointments
that refuse to go South, Our friends in Covington have
erected a house, and will have it finished in a few
weeks, They want us to supply them with preaching.
They are a minority, but a very fine set of men.
What shall we do? We have a good work going on
in Milford Circuit, at different points, also on Batavia
and New Richmond Circuits. We are looking for
more general out pouring of the Spirit. The Lord
it is my prayer. Should you quit a Bis. next
year how would you like Elroyville as a field of
labour? please write soon and give me all the
good advice you can for I need it much. I think that
I am nearly in a condition that you would call
being persecuted, and of course must fight. May
did not deny any fact that I stated, but charged
me with intending to make an impression, that
he said was a false impression. I was told by Bro.
Elliott that Spencer presented the thing to him for
publication in the Advocate with his name to it.
I told them from the first that if they wished
any further notice from me, they must give