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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

5-10-1846

Letter from Benjamin Ellis to James B. Finley

Benjamin Ellis

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Johnston
May 12/46
Rev. James B. Finley
Columbus Ohio

May 3
B. W. May 1846
Cincinnati

Alexandria May 10 1846

Dear brother Finley
As our personal intercourse has been few
And far between? this conference year? and likely to continue
So? I address you a few lines? hoping they will be acceptable
To you? but not so? satisfactory to me? as a friendly fire side
Talk would be? I feel like I had got in a dark corner of the district
This year? though we have some light and prosperity? and some head
winds I always feel best when my Colleague is popular and
Has influence with the people? when it is otherwise you
Know its rather an uphill work? but enough of that? my
Health has been poor? and is still so? I have thought about resting
A year or so? but I have no feeling in my soul like locating
Or changing my relation? further than duty to my self
And the church? might dictate? I do not want to stand in the
Way of others that can do more? and do it better than I can
But shall leave the direction of that matter to those that have
A better site to direct? I mean to feel like I think a Methodist
Preacher ought to feel? not to ask hard or easy work? but
To work on till he dies? I say these things to you? because
I think you will know more? about the land and the
Men in this district than any other man that may represent
it? I do not know whether brother young is on the district
I heard he was expected to fill the vacancy? as to our
finances? if we do not get hurt with the loss of
Money I think we will escape without much injury
Our Sunday Schools are doing well? and there is
As good a state of religious feeling on the ^{circuit} as might be
Expected under the circumstances we have had

Some 40 or 50 conversions on the circuit
Decreasing the year so far? and I feel like
Thanking God and taking courage? I learn by a
Communication from you in the advocate? you feel
At home? and have brightening prospects of ~~long~~ success
in the duties and labours of your new charge
I hope the Lord will continue to smile upon your
Efforts? one thing more and I have done for the
Present? I am happy and feel like I should
Get home after a while?

I will be pleased and happy to hear from
you as soon as convenient.

As ever yours in the bonds of love
Rev. J. B. Hinley B Ellis

P.S. I must not forget to say? that father
Garet was married last Friday.
B C.