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James B. Finley Letters

4-16-1830

Letter from J.M. Earley to James B. Finley

J.M. Earley

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Rev J B Finley
Cincinnati
Ohio



Mail

Post
only

Rev J B Finley Woodville Mississippi

April 16th 1830

Dear Brother with pleasure I sit down to address a few lines to you I should have written earlier now but have been so much engaged as to make every moment valuable. My friends in this state are all well except Bro Winans who has been very ill all winter I visited him yesterday & I fear we shall lose him & should this be the case Methodism will sustain a much greater loss than it could sustain in the death of any other person he most affectionately sends his love to you & to your colleagues notwithstanding his body is much enfeebled his mind is as elastic as ever & his whole soul is in the Ministry he thinks of taking a journey to the North if his health recover sufficiently. The Indian question as it is termed is making much noise in this country at present & the powers that be are determined to extend the laws of the state over them. The Chaktaks have determined to move over the Mississippi & leave the land of their fathers to their oppressors. If such things are in accordance with the laws of nations I

am far from believing them in accordance with the law of God. There is much excitement in the city of Orleans at this time the city has been fired repeatedly by incendiaries as it is thought & the citizens are in a state of constant alarm the city is also very unhealthy.

Since I have returned I have had many solicitations to join the traveling connection I am at a loss to know what to do for truly the harvest is great & the labourers are few & if ever Ministers were needed they are needed here for many towns & populous neighbourhoods are destitute of preaching simply for the want of preachers what to do I know not would that my mind were settled on this all important point however I think the probability is in favour of my traveling how soon I know not however not this year.

I wrote a line to Miss C. through you which will have come to hand long ago as I sent it by a private conveyance I am anxious on that subject & hope my anxiety may soon be relieved you will write to me soon & let me know what is like to be the result whether it be favourable or unfavourable. My mind is unchanged in reference to it.

I have not yet made a permanent settlement neither do I know where I shall settle permanently my friend in Vicksburg wish me very much to continue among them but I think I shall not. Woodville is a much more pleasant place & I think I should much prefer it I have some thought of visiting Franklin in Louisiana which town is situated near the sea & is famed with a perpetual breeze from the Ocean. But it is doubtful whether I shall settle there. I find some difficulty in making choice of a permanent location for where one advantage presents itself another is wanting so that I find it hard to combine the advantages of business & Society but perhaps I ask for too much. In short I am not fully satisfied with this country for a man must measurably deny himself the satisfaction of gratifying all his nobler feelings for the sake of gratifying his avarice & this you know to a being that has a social soul is not very agreeable. But I must close by sending my respects to all my friends & requesting you to write me immediately. Direct your letters to Vicksburg I remain yours &c
J. M. Early