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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

3-5-1811

Letter from William P. Finley to James B. Finley

William P. Finley

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Mr James B Gintley 12 1/2
1000 Broadway

As he sits at the post office in
with
Mount Vernon
Missouri and Dubuque

Ohio

Dear Sir

New Market O.
5th March 1811.

Dear Brother & Sister we received your affectionate letter
the 17th ^{ultimo} ~~instant~~ which informs us of your state of health which
is but indifferent. and also of your pure intention for immo-
rtal happiness & for the enjoyment of eternal glory which ^{is} ~~are~~
the reward of the faithful servants of the Lord I am extrem-
ely sorry to hear of your declining health which perhaps is
occasioned by your labouring more than your constitution
will admit of. and which may cause something to inter-
rupt that may cause us never to meet again in time to sing
Hallelujahs of praise to ^{the} Redeemer of the world But
why should we fear any thing or yet be distressed in our ^{own} hands
reparation here since we have a building of god not made
eternal in the heavens and seeing that it is through suffer-
ings we shall be made perfect and qualified for immortal
glory let us stand fast and manfully fight our passage
through Believing in that god who reigned down the
quails aroused the camps of the Israelites to satisfy
hunger and at whose death all creation seemed to be
in consternation and at ^{whose} resurrection appeared unto
his chosen and shoke fear to their souls whilst they
were afraid of they wished Jesus who slain him whom
the believed was the saviour of the world It lifts me
with inexpressible joy to hear that you are still bound
for heaven and happiness ^{that} as god has seen fit in his
Providence to preserve us here that it will be but a
little while till we shall meet to burst forth
to sing the song of moans & the same forever and ever
I have an some trying times since you left us But
Blessed be god the more trouble of mind the more I
believe in ^{the} will of my blessed saviour and what
added much to my comfort I could always see my way
to heaven straight through Christ which loved
me I was taken sick about two weeks after you
went away which was occasioned as we suppose from
catching cold

and which still is continuous but no so bad as formerly she
has been nearer the shades of Death than ever you seen me
or any other person she was taken with a fever and very
violent pains which pains at last settled in her left
shoulder and from there settled under her left ear
which began to swell and was as large as your two fists
it was for about ten weeks that it remained like a stone
her hardness and at length it has healed and broke twice
and runs as if it would get well with care and
blessed be God I hope she may yet give to ornament the
Lamb of God as appears in her prayer she has had many
trials with the coming of souls But her eye was unto the
Lord whose ears are open to the cries of his children
and his arm of power has preserved her while the
present will to the last of her sufferings if she
is faithful unto Death we are yet living in the old
house and notwithstanding we have had hard
times this winter yet thanks God that we have
had some sweet and precious seasons when in disch
arging our family duties our little house has been
so filled with the power of God that I think a
sinner would have been made to tremble like a reed
shaker we still entertain hope of getting to Heaven
where free from pain we will sing the praises of
Jesus with our immortal tongues And what adds

much to our happiness here is when we look forward
into eternity
La goodly number of our brothers and sisters meeting
us in glory to part no more where we shall be
happy indeed. And Brother James and Hannah Jesuits
to meet you there where we shall leave from our
labours and our works shall follow us Well on
happy day when I shall see my Jesus as he is

we expect to move from here this Spring Down to
Vampells neighbourhood where I expect to teach
school this summer and perhaps next winter
until I have an opportunity of making a small
household of land to please me where I shall
settle for life I will strive to call sinners
to repentance at Brother Medggers last Sabbath
I tried to speak from Isaiah 3 13 & 14 say ye to the
righteous & the Lord approved our meeting And
we had a most powerful time our prospect of religion
is but very indifferent yet I look for better times
in the warm season our preachers are very precious
we have had but one circuit sermon the reason
we are neglected I know not but my prayer is
Lord send us a potent rod of thunder which
will neither heat nor cold men nor devils
but being filled with the power of God so that
we may cry aloud and show not Nothing
uncommon has happened since you left us more
than what is incident to human nature the
people are generally well our friends are well the
last account I had Samuel and family with fathers
are well & I add no more but remains your
loving brother until Death March 1st 1811

James B. Finley

Wm P. Finley

give my best respects to Brother ^{Wm} Quinn
and tell him howdy and also that I should be
glad to see him but so it is I look forward when
we shall all meet to part no more