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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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2-21-1847

## Letter from Nancy Spear to James B. Finley

Nancy Spear

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but really I am quite forgetting myself I pardon me  
and now will you forgive my negligence and  
pardon me soon very soon with a long letter  
give me any good advice that I need and tell  
me of possibly of my faults you may see in me  
and it will always be thankfully received

Rev. Jas. B. Finley  
Columbus Ohio

Henry Spear  
Lancaster  
Jan 21 1847



tell us in your next when you will visit Gales  
write soon and believe me your friend  
I seldom make apologies but must ask you to  
excuse this letter for I have been writing with a  
stiff neck and in great pain

Dear father  
Sabbath day Feb 21  
Truly

It has not been from  
forgetfulness or want of inclination that I  
have thus long deferred answering your truly  
acceptable letter. but every day has brought with  
it various and new occupations. and though  
you have not been forgotten. yet I confess I  
have not been as punctual as I ought. Will  
you forgive me. - I cannot tell you how happy  
your letter made us. It reached Ballis Dale after  
dark a few days after it was written. And almost  
I lay out with standing the interdiction not  
to read by candle light nor immediately for  
her glances and claimed it as her right to have  
the first reading. I of course relinquished my  
claim. though I fear with rather a bad  
grace. And now permit me to express to you  
the many acknowledgments I am under to you for  
the promptness and hearty attention you give my  
hastily written letter. It was a mark of consid-  
eration that will not soon be forgotten. your  
account of your charge and labours was most  
interesting indeed. you must have an arduous  
field in lead one that requires no small amount  
of grace and patience. yet your heart must be  
encouraged to persevere when you see your  
labours so early blessed. The best you have was  
very beautiful and appropriate truly God is  
love. how often how his children realize



the truth of this words. When trouble has  
assailed. in prosperity and adversity. his love  
is always manifest. but we feel it ~~more~~ with  
peculiar force. When the cords that bind us to  
earth are severed and the loved objects around  
which our earliest and fondest affections cling  
are taken from us by the cruel hand of death  
and we find ourselves orphans alone in the world  
and we are cast down with sorrow. It is then that  
his blessed promises come to cheer and comfort  
us and we find that he is indeed a God of love  
and we can exclaim "surely goodness and mercy  
have followed us all our days. Aunt Jague is in  
fine health and spirits. her eyes are quite well  
she is sitting here in the old arm chair as usual  
wishing me to give a great deal of love to Mrs. Jones  
for her. and tell you that nothing would afford her  
more pleasure than to receive a visit from you  
Sarah is on the other side of the fire. like a  
~~old~~ good dame of the olden times. knitting a  
stocking for her cousin David. who is in the field  
& suffers as usual. and I am sitting by the window  
engaged in a ~~delightful~~ delightful conversation with  
Father Linch through the much medium man  
left us so much for our family. I saw Aunt  
Young the other day she is quite well at present  
Mr. Young has had the rectice. but is well now  
Mrs. Brusher family are all well we see them  
often since they have come to the country. There  
have been a great many deaths in Faneville this  
winter though there has been no particular epidemic  
prevailing. Two funerals in our church last  
week Mrs. Thayer died in great peace in Sunday

old Mrs. Calhoun Mother of Mrs. Garrison  
Culbertson was the other. she also fell asleep  
in the Lord. she was eighty seven years old rich  
seven of which she has been a faithful disciple  
of Christ. she was a woman of more than ordinary  
piety and intellect. and extensive knowledge  
which were all devoted to her masters service  
that the younger members of our church may  
catch their mantle and imitate the bright  
example they have left us. Our dear old person  
Culbertson is now lying on his death bed. he  
though. he fell down a long flight of steps  
last week and has not spoken since. I will lose  
a second father in him. Brothers Crum and  
Mileys families are all well. And now Father  
pinch. I must begin to draw this scroll to  
close. Cousin David wishes to be kindly re-  
membered to you. and is much obliged to you for  
your kind offer to tie that terrible little knot  
for him. and will surely give you a call when he  
has made his relection. but he is over young  
to marry yet. beside he is a little bit particular.  
A lady must have all the requisites for a good partner  
-ers wife. with all the attractions both  
personal and mental. that ever were combined  
in one fair specimen of humanity. none you  
any such out you may. but from cousin  
-sister. I should not be surprised if cousin  
Dobie would give you a knot to tie before long.  
And as for my own dear self. really I am sorry that  
I cannot give you the pleasure of trying one for me. but  
I am such a bad and procrastinator. and I am  
so selfish too that I can find none that I love as  
well as my own dear self.