

4-19-1847

Letter from Nancy Spear to James B. Finley

Nancy Spear

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Recommended Citation

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Ms
2746

Lottie Dale April 17

Dear father timely
 your very acceptable letter
 was handed to me by Judge Cox. some time since
 and would have been answered immediately but in
 it you mentioned your intentions of leaving for the
 residence of your family in a few days and I did not
 know when you were to return. I most deeply did
 me regret to hear of your severe illness. These
 pains and weaknesses are hard to bear but they
 serve to remind us that we dwell in houses of clay
 and happy will it be for us if we are all as well
 prepared to listen to the admonition they convey
 and are prepared for the hour when these decaying
 bodies will sink into the dust. I have witnessed
 several affecting instances of mortality lately and
 not withstanding the insensibility of my own heart
 I cannot help realizing that this is a dying world.
 Death has been busy in our city for the last few
 weeks many whom we loved and respected have
 been numbered with the dead. but none we mourn
 so deeply as our own dear father. but O. it was but
 falling a sleep sweetly in the arms of Jesus.
 so gently and peacefully did his happy spirit pass
 from earth to his rest in heaven. Mrs Taylor's
 health is and has been very good nearly all

Waverly Press
Zanwick
Nov 1847

10
 J. B. Finley
 Columbus Ohio
 1847
 DANVILLE
 APR 17
 O.

minute. I wished her to write you this time as I am
that a letter from her could not fail to be more
acceptable. but writing is very trying to her eyes
and she fears to use any exercise that would again
injure them. as they are now nearly well
she wishes to be kindly remembered to her
good brother Josiah. and says she is looking
forward with great pleasure to the visit she expects
to receive from you this spring. do come father & family
a little relaxation from your labours. and am
delightfully pure country air. and very agreeable
conversation. will do wonders for you. O the
country ~~do~~ does look so charmingly this lovely
morning. how calm and peaceful every thing is how
should I love and adore. such a merciful creator
how beautiful is the workmanship of our father. how
"Truly thy work praise thee O Lord" But why does
not man the being formed in thine own image
render to thee perpetual homage.

You have doubtless
ere this returned to your charge and are labouring
to ~~lead~~ ^{lead} these benighted sinners to the Lamb of
God. may all your labours be blessed. and every the
spirit of grace and holiness enlighten their understanding
and grant them hearts purified from sin. Your old
friends Mrs and Miss Young are both well. Miss
Mrs Young is a good apprehensive that the cancer
in his face is breaking out directly under his
eye. Aunt is having her house (part
of it) neatly papered. and furnished. she
must still attend to these things. Mrs and Miss
Lawrence are well and are very happy to hear
from you. Mrs Prusher family are all well.

Brother Croom and Wiley and family are
well. and preach if possible better than ever
I am so happy that this is their last year
I do think Brother Croom is the most industrious
preacher I ever heard. Aunt Taylor is going
to build a new house this summer. She will
visit her friends some time during
the spring or summer. and will probably go as
far as Kentucky to see Mrs Henderson
Gurrah sends much love to you and I would
wishes to be particularly remembered to you
and our father. Truly I must bid you farewell
with a request that you write us soon
again you do not know how much
pleasure your letters always afford us

I do acknowledge that this is a dull ~~spiced~~ letter
but I hope you will excuse it when I tell you
a severe head ach attends me to day and I feel as
if I had not one idea in my head. I would not
have written you under such circumstances
but I feared if I deferred it any longer that
you would think we had forgotten you. - As a man
but remain

Ever your friend
P. Young

How did you find the family we I will
always be happy to hear from them.