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James B. Finley Letters

4-28-1847

Letter from Michael Marley to James B. Finley

Michael Marley

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Recommended Citation

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Bro. Eddy was with me two weeks ago at Gulton
quarterly meeting, and requested me to say to
you and Bro. Moody that he expected to attend
our conference, and that he hoped you would
give him a place among the brethren. He
was well, and preached well. Now Bro. Finley
I hope you will write soon. My love to Bro.
Moody and family, and to Bro. Spencer.
Should you see them.

Bro.
M. Moody
1847
April

5
Milford
April 29
Rev. J. B. Finley,
Columbus,
Ohio.

My family are well, and I am in love
to you. May for me that my year may
close in peace and prosperity. The Lord
bless you my dearly beloved Bro. M. Moody

Milford, Clermont Co. O. April 28. 1847

Dear Bro. Finley.

Your favour of March 27th was duly
received, and perused with great interest. It has been
on file awaiting an answer for some time, and now
the answer is commenced without any particular
subject. But longer delay on that account, promises
but little advantage, I have therefore resolved to write
about something, for the sake of the answer. For be
assured that to have you talk for me, but for a short
time, and that at a distance, affords me a great
pleasure. I hope that your health is restored, and
that you will still be able when conference comes
to report yourself an effective man. But the
Lord knoweth best, and will do all things right.

My own health is measurably restored, I am
somewhat afflicted in the throat, and fear that
it is a Bronca affection, with this exception, I
am as well as usual. You see the old Baltimore
conference has followed in the wake of our
Buckeye Conference, in reporting their men as
withdrawn, they seem to be orthodox, of course so
long as they follow us. I suppose that if there
have been doubts about the Plan being nullified
heretofore, all these doubts have been disapated
by the appearance of Bishop Capers Bull on
the Plan, claiming all the slave States in mass.

This letter is a strange affair, yet I do not regret its appearance, as there are some men so exceedingly kind to their brethren of the South, instance Berlin and Olm, and Bangs, that they would seem to be willing to do any thing in order to accommodate these "dear Brethren". This letter will be of service in waking up Dr. Bond, as he evidently was in danger of rusting, for some time past, but in his last he seems to be as bright as a Spanish Baller. You see that Elder Reed is coming out fine. He talks very plain about Southern measures, but especially about Southern men. He talks some of sending him to gen. con. in the border work. Our Bishops by their last determinations, have done us no good, by saying they held to a fixed line, and that interior societies, would not be recognized, and that when they had once taken preachers from the Church South, their case was settled forever. These are grave decisions and yet we are extending our work into the interior of Kentucky, our next gr. M. is in Lewis Co. at Canaan meeting house, where we have a Society of near one hundred. What say you, must we give up our ground and recede, or hold on, the opinion of the Bishops to the contrary, notwithstanding? This Society is not a border Society according to the Bishops. Polk thinks it would be dishonorable to recede though he be wrong. Surely I ought to stick on a point of honor, when I know our right.

In Kentucky, in many places they have never acted until the present year, and are now deciding to remain in the M. E. Church, and we are preaching for them in all cases, where we can reach them, and intend so to do, until our time is out, unless we be removed.

I will not say any thing about the Dis. in general, it is about as it was when we gave you an account of it in the Address at the close of our second round. The Church is doing pretty well, we are not gaining many accessions at present.

You don't seem to entertain a very high opinion of the said, J. M. Polk. and his administration. Well he will certainly make "old Rough and Ready", the next President, with all the Slavery, it seems. These angle-saxons of the United States are a great folks, they send their Corn in one direction, to "feed the hungry", and their Cannon, and men, in another direction to kill men women, and children. They are the greatest Race of men on Earth, because they can kill ^{more} ~~more~~ than any other Race in proportion to their number. Because they are the most scientific Butchers of men, in the known world, of the present age.

Oh that all men were honest, and patriotic, and Christian, then would human blood cease to be offered on the Altar of Ambition, and despotism, and the world be holy and happy.