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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

12-27-1847

Letter from Jane Taylor to James B. Finley

Jane Taylor

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Dear Father Finley Aunt requested me to say to you that
she heard from Aunt Guss last week, her health is
better, Aunt has a very severe pain in her stomach and
was compelled to stop writing please except of
my best respects and believe me your friend

Sallie

Rev. J. B. Finley
Columbus Ohio

Mrs
Jane Taylor
Domestic
1847 Dec

Decr 27 1847

Reverend & Dear Brother Finley

Your favour of the 15th returned
by Judge Cox - was duly recd - a week since this evening - & should
of been answered but for reasons - I will shortly throw the will of the
Allwise to advise you - in the first place you are aware on account
of my sight I am almost entirely out of practice - & thus being the 1st
I have attempted for months - you must take the will for the deed
you no doubt are aware - that I have been making some little
improvements - or rather conveniences which I stood so much in need of
The old house was torn down in August & in putting up the brick the
east end of the Kitchen had to be taken down & until last week
we have been under the necessity of using it & from having a great deal
of wet & cold weather has been more than usually exposed

I have not been well for the last 6 weeks & about 4 weeks
since took medicine but it did not have the desired effect but
I still kept about until last Thursday week - the day before we had
commenced butchering - & I am at a great loss for female help - I
have an old Irish woman but she knows nothing in the world but to
milk & churn can't even drop the butter - perhaps you are aware that
Nancy left about 2 weeks since to visit her sister in Dayton whom
she intends spending a few weeks - & then go on to Leesville
Ky to spend the winter with her Brother David - I requested
her to see you if she could as she passed through your City - but
she said they would only have time to sup - so I had no
one then but Sarah & David either to work or superintend
on Friday night the 17th they were very much engaged indeed
with the sausage land souce &c & I was extremely ill - they
did not get in except occasionally to see how I was until after 11

I cannot describe to you what I suffered on Saturday the river was too high
to crop in any way but a skiff & every thing of that kind was in use
to take the sufferers from their watery homes. So I got no
help untill Sunday when I got Dr Young from west Janesville
when he came in his appearance was by no means flattering
made an apology told me he hardly knew what he was doing
he had been up all night nearly waist deep in the water & had
drank as much whisky as he could swallow to keep from
freezing. he bled me in both arms gave me medicine rapidly
from Thursday morning untill Sunday afternoon altho I had
taken nearly a bottle of oil with so many other things I could
find no relief on Sunday afternoon had to resort to injections
which gave relief for a time. I has had to use them occasionally
since. The Dr I must say has been extremely attentive & has
done every thing I believe that him or any other physician
could do. he has attended me almost every day & some days twice untill
Sunday the 26 I have not seen him ^{since this being the 2^d day since I commenced}
this letter. having been in a great deal of pain on Sunday 1 o'clock
till nearly that time in the night & occasionally since David
requested him last evening to call up to day. The Dr thought at
first my complaint was an affection of the liver with a great
accumulation of bile. & I have no doubt was in part correct. ^{tion}
he now terms it a spasmodic affection of the stomach & constipation
of the bowels. I have had less headache & epinaucia at the stomach
than I ever had in any sickness before. tho both by times & some
times threw up which would be so sour & bitter that would scald
if I could only be relieved of this excruciating pain in the upper
region of my stomach which goes clear thro' to between my shoulders
I think then my stomach would be restored to its right tone. but I
suppose it will take some time. I have taken a great deal of morphia
which I esteem as one of the greatest blessings ever made known to the
human family. I must now give Sarah & David a great deal
of credit for their attention & care of me. under the many inconveniences
they have had to labour under. ^{old} our parlour is the only room we
have where I lay. I let my situation be what it may have no other
place to ask any one to who may come in. except the new kitchen
have to go

threw the old hall my intended bed room & dining room all unfinished
before they arrive at the kitchen all the way as cold as out of doors & under
the doors not all hung. Just picture to yourself me wanting 20 things
perhaps in an hour with not a creature to tend on me but Sarah
David being compelled to attend to the out door concerns & Sarah had all
the cooking & cleaning to do besides. -- me thinks I can hear Brother
Finley say. Sister I must be blessed with a store of patience.

but no sir my impatience has been sorely tried. I get at
times I could look up when intirely alone & say with the good Apostle
tho cast down I am not forsaken. I very well know that I am hastening
on as fast as the wings of time can carry me to that bourne from
which no traveler returns. & I have had both time & opportunity to prepare
but I must acknowledge much of my time has been misspelt
altho this world has but few charms for me. you kindly
tell me that I am ^{not} forgotten in your prayers. permit me to beg
a double intrest that I may be enabled to persevere through
all the trials I may have to beset me. I cast myself at the
feet of my Dr Redeemer & he has kindly instructed us that
those who put their trust in him he will in no wise cast out

the Dr has just called & given me another portion of oil &
the pain in my stomach at this time is truly severe. Sarah & David
wishes to be kindly remembered. your sister most affectionately
M^r. Finley

Jane Taylor
O^B I had forgotten to mention that the carpenters had quit work &
I suppose I shall remain in a very unpleasant situation untill the
warm weather commences. Should I live to be comfortably fixed
it will give me much pleasure to see you & to have you spend
all your spare time with me. I feel rejoiced you are getting
along so well in the good work you have undertaken please
write