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James B. Finley Letters

1-8-1848

Letter from W.H. Raper to James B. Finley

W.H. Raper

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Recommended Citation

Raper, W.H., "Letter from W.H. Raper to James B. Finley" (1848). *Finley Letters*. 559.
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Rev. J. B. Hinley,
Dr. Bro.

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Dayton. Jan 27th /48

Knowing the deep interest you have heretofore taken in the welfare of our common Country, & knowing no one in Columbus who is competent, that I could intrust with a matter of the kind, I must ask your assistance to ascertain as far as can be and with as much accuracy as possible, how many friends Judge McLean has in the present Legislature of Ohio.

My object in making this enquiry is— A statement was made to a member of Congress from Georgia, by a member from this State, that went to say that Judge McLean had but one friend in the Ohio Legislature.

Now I believe that statement to be untrue; & knowing your long friendship for the Judge, & his for you, I thought you would take an interest in proving out the truth or falsehood of the above statement. for it was made with a view to discourage the New Jersey—N York, Pennsylvania & Indiana delegates to a National Convention from presenting him as a Candidate for the Presidency. If Ohio would support McLean, he would receive the Whig nomination, & in three chances out of four would be elected, so say our calculators. & that the who has the destiny of Nations in this hands, would give us a President that feared to sin. Your own prudence will direct the method & persons you will employ in the making the necessary enquiry. I will let you know more hereafter. Your timely attention to the matter in hand will subserve our common interest & shall receive the thanks of your

friend & brother.

W. H. Raper.

P.S. please write as soon as you can make the discovery, as dispatch is all important.

Recd
W. H. Raper
Jan 1848

Ohio

Columbus

Rev. Jas. B. Hinley

