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James B. Finley Letters

2-26-1848

Letter from Augustus Eddy to James B. Finley

Augustus Eddy

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The remarks about Dr. bond are
Confidential
A. L.

10



Rev. J. B. Finley

Columbus

Ohio

Rec'd
Chillicothe
Feb. 1848

Chillicothe Feb. 26. 1848
Dear Bro. Finley,
Your very welcome letter
was rec'd by due course of mail, and I
should have answered it directly, but as
you were going home, to be gone for
some time I tho't I would wait, and
give you ~~the~~ ^{the} news fresh as possible.
In Bro. Sawyer's charge, they have had a
pretty good work; and I think they are
in a healthy state. In the old line
we have had some very powerful meetings
of late, and within a week past, several
clear, and most glorious conversions.
We intend holding a series of meetings
in connection with our 3^d City meeting,
(which is to be held the 11th & 12 March)
and I think the Church is in a pretty
good state for a general work.
All our congregations have more than
doubled, and there is a blessed spirit
prevailing our meetings, and some
of them resemble scenes that transpired
in other years. I have feared; & indeed
I still believe that in one respect we
have erred, that is, the Preachers & people
have ceased to look to the ordinary
means, such as our regular preaching &c.)
as means of conversion, and general renewal.

I have been trying to come back myself, & bring the people with me to "the old paths", and I think God so far not without success. I love old ways & old friends best. Your letter called up sweet, and mournful ~~visits~~ memories of the past. My early efforts are in public - in the "vineyard of the Lord", or all associated with you, and how many who were "burning & shining lights" there, have been "gone to the grave", but we have been spared "another and another year", but our turn too will ~~still~~ soon come - yes, we shall go to them; "Where friends shall meet again who have loved." I have visited the lonely spot where the mortal remains of strange lie mouldering, on the banks of the beautiful White River - the mournful spot where my Beloved Bro. Cooper (of the pure heart) rests under a clump of beech & oak trees, on Brandywine, and the plain neat tomb of the good & holy Roberts (thank God I had the privilege of assisting in building his tomb) we knew & loved them well & soon shall meet them in heaven. With regard to dividing our Conference, I have only to say that I think it should be less than it is now, but if I were a delegate from Ohio I should feel myself instructed, not to divide at all, so as to make any division in the boundary within this state.

I should not feel embarrassed however, in arranging the German work differently, or in making any ~~arrangement~~ ^{for the better} disposition of the work in Virginia, - for the resolution which the Conf. refused to consider, (it was laid on the table I believe) was to divide by a particular line; the Secs &c. Truly some of our brethren seem anxious to write themselves into notice - An anxious eye seems to be cast on "Naboth's vineyard," (the Miami valley) and poor old Charley seems hardly to know which side to fall. By the way, what think you of trying to pull Dr. Bond over the Mountain to Edit N. C. Adv.? Some are kicking at him in N. Y. and I think he would do well for us. News has reached us by Telegraph that J. Q. Adams is dead! a great man has fallen another pure patriot is no more. Proposals for peace are before the Senate of the U. S. but I fear that it will not be ratified - it has not a Loco-foco Paternity, and I see by to day's papers, that our delectable Bill Allen is squaring himself for the spattering Genl. Scott!! God in his great mercy grant that this miserable profligate war may soon close. I want to see you much especially before Genl. Canby. Martha joins me in Christian love.

As ever your old friend,
Rev. J. B. Fenley D.D. A. Eddy

Can't you come to our Quarterly Meeting? do try