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James B. Finley Letters

9-12-1848

Letter from Nancy Spear to James B. Finley

Nancy Spear

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And many of the four children to
whom he had been so good a friend
while living. his wife is deeply afflicted but
she knows not as those who have no hope
of father Ziney - how joyfully we can part with
loved friends - when we know that they
are going to that happy land. "Where sickness
sorrow pain and death are felt and feared
no more" and where we shall meet them in a
short time if we are faithful. I suppose you will
soon be going to conference. where you will meet
again all your brethren in the Ministry and
talk over the joys and sorrows that have fallen
to each of you during the last year. how pleasant
such meetings must be. but they are often
dashed by the thought that in a few days you
have to say farewell again. and go forth to
labour in your Masters vineyard. perhaps to meet
no more in this world. you will perhaps see
my favourite nephew there Ed Clayton. who has
been travelling. Camden circuit this year. My earnest
prayer is that he may be a blessing to the church
and win many souls to Christ. And now father
Ziney surely wants to know if you have forgot
ten us. or if you are attended at any thing. as we
heard that you had been in Yonkersville and did
not come out to see us. he assured that there is
no one of our friends whom we would be gladder
to see. we often talk about you and the pleasant visit
you have made us and wish they could be renewed
soon. write to me soon and tell us all you are do
ing and how you are. Remember us all to your
family when you see them all join in kind wishes
good bye and your friend Mary

I have given you a long letter at least

Harriet
Hart
Apr 18

Dear father finally Harriet Dale Apr 12
In looking over some letters to day
I find that your last one is dated. More than a year back
and twenty days - that you told her in your last letter
to her. that it had never been answered - I surely was
under the impression that I had written to you
immediately after its reception. (and still think so
though it may never have reached you - if it never
have - this must be my apology. for not writing - and
not any disposition on my part to discontinue a
correspondence. which has been so pleasant and
profitable to me. I suppose you are aware that I
have been stinoriting for some time. My circuit
was rather an extensive one - so it commenced
at Yonkersville - and extended to Louisvillle Ky
and thence up to Wheeling Va. taking in my route
Columbus. Springfield - Dayton and Eaton White
at Eaton. I had the pleasure of spending part of
a day very pleasantly with your family in comfort
- my with my good friends - Brother and sister Davis
We all regreted that you were not at home. I heard
Mr Brooks preach two excellent sermons. in the
Eaton church. and attended some warm and lively
meetings. While in Dayton. I often attended
Ziney Chaplens and heard Mrs Raper - and liked his
preaching much. What a lovely place Dayton
is I felt almost tempted to locate there but

the ties in Louisville were too strong to admit
of my "tarrying by the way" as I was then on my
way to visit a dear brother - whom I had not seen
for some years - and who had been urging me to
come ever since my Mother's death. He is a
Lawyer and has been living there for the last
ten years - and is so much pleased with Kentucky
that nothing would induce him to return to
Ohio again. And I am almost as much in love
with it as he. And may probably return this
winter. I heard E. W. Nelson, ^{pastor} freeholder he has charge
of the fourth street church - and is very popular
in the city with all denominations. My visit at
Wheeling was very pleasant. I returned with a
wedding party. Cousin David McMechen was mar-
ried to a Miss Luning. of W. and has brought
his wife on to live with us. he would have
been happy to have had you to try the knot
for him but the Lady had made the selection before
hand. And now I am at home again and
will see talking about my own affairs - and
tell you some thing about your old friends
her. Who all remember - and often speak of
you in the kindest manner - Mrs Taylor and
Sarah. have been on a visit to George
Tatum Esq. to see Mr Stearns. Esq. and
and were so much pleased that busy days

she would like to live there. She likes the
Kentuckians and their warm hearted hospi-
tality - her health was very good all the time
she was gone. but the day after her return
she was attack - with dyspepsia in its most form
and has been sick ever since. but is much
better. Mr and Mrs Brush are both sick
with the fever and ague. I saw Mr and Mrs
Young yesterday they were as well as usual.
Although Mr Young had an
attack of ague. a few days since that
shook him pretty hard. I suppose you have
heard of the death of your old friend Col
Lawrence. his illness was short but severe
seldom. have we been called to part with
a better or more usefull man or one who
will be more missed - he was emphatically
the friend of the Widow and the Orphan and
the poor never applied to him in vain but
what was most cheering to his friends was the
clear and decided proof he gave of a change
of heart. and a personal interest in the poor
sinner. with all his hopes resting on his
merits alone. his death was calm and peaceful
and his remains were followed to the grave
by the largest number of people that I have
ever seen on such an occasion in Zans