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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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2-25-1849

## Letter from C.F. Brooke to James B. Finley

C.F. Brooke

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### Recommended Citation

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Rev. James J. Hurley  
Columbus

Dear

Mr. W. F. Hooker  
Feb 49

New Bedford  
Feb. 29

New Britain February 25th {Sunday Evening} 1849  
Dear Grandfather

After a long cessation in the way of correspondence I again with pleasure resume the task I have refrained from writing expecting to hear from you but as yet have been ~~badly~~ disappointed through the mesage of him who governs to his own pleasure we occupy a reasonable degree of health only Susan is quite unwell having been confined on the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> {Sunday} which resulted in the birth of two boys weighing the one 3 lbs 12 oz. the other 3 lbs 14 oz. they seem hearty and robust so far. Susan done fine for the 3 first days after which she took the chills we are using every means to check it but as yet every effort has proved unavailing Doc. Parson is tending on her and is very attentive - I felt somewhat dejected in spirits after I ascertained the result on Susan's account knowing the care that would necessarily fall on her by taking charge of two children but such seems to have been the will of Providence and I feel content knowing that all things work together for good to those that love and fear ~~them~~ <sup>him</sup>. I have not named them yet but think there is a strong probability of your getting a namesake but we will wait some 3 or 4 weeks before we name them and see how they get along and perhaps you <sup>will</sup> be up here by that time as to our religious feelings I would say that we endeavour to live constantly in the means of grace living watchfully and soberly in the sight of God and oftentimes feel refreshed in the performance of those duties we have



had two accessions since you were here brother  
Gray wife and brother Mayo wife James and  
wife still stand aloft I have my fears whether  
they will join at all but hope I may be  
disappointed I finally consented to accept  
the leadership and have entered upon my duty  
we have had some glorious class meetings  
the power of God has been felt in the remission  
of sins our class now numbers 16 in all we  
keep up prayer meetings once a week  
and the prospects seem favorable for the  
introduction of a good Methodist society  
Our division is in a pretty healthy condition  
we have had 2 accessions since you were here  
James and James Mayo we have abandoned  
the idea of surrendering our charter as to  
the meeting house I am fearful we shall  
fail in our project if we can not receive  
some donations from the adjoining circuits  
Mr Gray has failed in procuring that lot  
but I have thought if we could succeed  
in getting a sufficient amount subscribed  
that I would try to procure the lot back  
of mine and split it length wise and  
then it would make two front lots  
I feel anxious that a house should be  
built and if I was not some  
involved I would make it go any  
how I settled with Pitman his work  
came to \$87.00 leaving \$22.00 back which  
I gave him my note for payable the  
first day of January last which is  
still unpaid my carpenters work in all  
cost me \$113.00 besides my own labour  
my plasterers bill was \$49.00 my lathe

bill \$12.00 my lime \$8.00 my sand with  
halling \$5.00 I kept a correct of what  
my house has cost besides my own labour  
which amounts in all to \$493.00 I have  
all paid for with the exception of Pitman  
\$22.00 \$10.00 on the plastering and about  
\$15.00 I owe love on nails locks glass  
hinges &c making in all \$47.00 I find  
hard sieging to get along my business  
is only tolerable I want if I can raise  
about \$25.00 surplus to fix for peddling  
out my surplus work James and  
family are well he has bought out  
Robison's part of the shop and hired  
a young man from Eaton he gave  
Robison \$150.00 and pays all debts  
which is considered equivalent to \$250.00  
we shall expect you up here when you  
come home to spend a few days with us  
We heard from Bazel and Catharine  
a few days ago they were in tolerable  
health Catharine has had the measles  
I must now close this long letter  
for want of room and ask your  
forgiveness for the trespass write  
as often as convenient as I should  
be pleased to hear from you -  
I am as ever yours with sentiments  
of profound respect and esteem  
your obedient grandson

Res. J. H. Bailey  
Bro Mike thinks of holding a protracted meeting  
here in about <sup>10 weeks</sup> 4 weeks commencing on Friday that is six  
weeks from last Friday make your arrangements to attend  
this meeting if you can ~~be~~

Chas Brooke