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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

9-30-1851

Letter from Thomas A. Morris to James B. Finley

Thomas A. Morris

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Cincinnati Sept 30, 1857.

Rev. J. B. Finley,

Dear Brother:

I received your note the day you left Conf. wishing to know what was done in your case. At one time previous to that we tried to form a small Dist in your section of the work but in proceeding with the plan of Districts it was found to arrange matters so that the P. Elders insisted on falling back to the Number Six in Cincinnati Conf. for which there were just charges enough (exclusive of the Ky Dist.) After you left I made another effort but nothing it was thought could be done. At the last report I inquired whether we could not give you Dayton Dist. as it is; but there were difficulties 1. It was doubted whether your health could possibly sustain you under such heavy labor; 2. Dr. Elliott had been there but one year, he was understood to be acceptable & his return desired & expected. So that it could not in the judgement of the Council be done. But you must not infer from this conclusion that the brethren were indifferent to your care. Dr. Elliott offered to take a Circuit for your accommodation, if necessary, Bro. Young also felt much for his old friend & former Colleague and all appeared well disposed toward you, but judged your request could not



Rev. J. B. Finley
Canton Ohio

1857
Franklin

See granted Consistently with the good of the
whole work. As for myself I assure you that
next to the good of the whole work & my official
obligation to care for it, my wish is to see that
old brethren have fair play; and if I could
have accommodated you it would have
afforded me pleasure to do so; but I trust
you will believe me when I say, it was not
practicable, except by embarrassing the work
in the judgment of my advisers, who best
understood its condition & wants. I doubt not
it is a sore trial to be compelled by family affec-
tion, as you ~~are~~ to restrict oneself to a corner
of the Conf. and give up the general work in
which you have been so long engaged, but
the good Lord who suffers this trial to come
upon you will, I trust, overrule all for his
glory & your final welfare.

With my best wishes for yourself & family
I am, as ever, in the gospel of Reconciliation

Yours respectfully
and fraternally

J. A. Morris

P.S. When your name was called W. Grover
asked for you a Supernumerary Relation
which the Conf. readily & cheerfully granted.

J. A. M.

J. B. H.