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James B. Finley Letters

1-20-1853

Letter from John M. Bradstreet to James B. Finley

John M. Bradstreet

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Recommended Citation

Bradstreet, John M., "Letter from John M. Bradstreet to James B. Finley" (1853). *Finley Letters*. 685.
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City of Bedlam Gotham & New York Jan'y 20/53

Rev J B Finley

My dear Yeaston

Permit me an humble member of your flock to have a little talk with you from whose Councils I have received naught but good receive ^{my} best desires for your present & future happiness though it be true you are "Coasting Jordan" & near your departure from this tented field in which you have moved your tent from day to day through this Wilderness you will soon be favored (more than Moses was for he was only permitted to "see" the promised land & not to enter it) but you will be permitted to enter the happy Land, and after a sweet joyful long embrace in the arms of Jesus, our dear Saviour you will be busy meeting many an old fellow traveller with whom you have sojourned here Yes, an old revered & long cherished Father Mother & a host of others near & dear who have crossed Jordan and put their everlasting bright clothing there in the presence & under the smiles of your Saviour to tell earth's trials over O Wont that be glory in the soul, then humble as I am let me say let us go on and if you get there before I do look out for me I am coming too tell my friends in that Church where my name has a place I love them I hope they will remember me as I do them at a Throne of grace & to my Bible Class & ^{the} Sunday School & my Thursday evening Class Give my warmest affection.

I was 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours from Cincinnati to Baltimore where I ~~st~~ remained
5 days spending Sabbath among the Churches & Schools of
which I may speak more fully when I shall return home
I then went to Philadelphia where I staid 8 days
spending Sabbath very much as I did in Baltimore
on the evening of 18th in about 4 hours I went from Philadelphia
to this Cosmopolite City of New York where I may stay near
3 weeks if my business demands so long I gave your letter
in person to Bishop Jane he seemed much pleased & we
had some conversation Dr. at the Bible Society is out of
the City they said you were entitled to \$2.50 in Books
I took 1 Bible for 1.75 & B. at 25 cts each will bring them
when I come, being so much away from home to me
is very unpleasant though every one treats me with
great kindness and paternal regard as a western
specimen of curiosities well I am perfectly willing to be
stared at by Men boys & Children in the Sabbath Schools while
they enjoy the sight I often take up $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of their time
in giving "Western history" & progress made. I am generally
introduced to the Children as a great hero for coming
so many hundreds of miles & braving its dangers
O when will the top shells of these verdant big ones
get hard, but enough now good night
& remain Yours Very Truly

John M. Bradstreet