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James B. Finley Letters

4-27-1823

Letter from Alfred Brunson to James B. Finley

Alfred Brunson

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Detroit April 27th 1823

Dear Mother, I wrote to you some time ago, but have received no answer; We need your presence very much. Our camp meeting will commence on the 23^d of May next, at which time & place we have business that must be attended to, (ie) the following charges are preferred against Bro Kent; 1st Promising marriage to Caroline Starks & afterwards denying it. 2^d Courting Caroline Starks without intent of marriage. & 3^d Keeping improper company with Caroline Starks.

I know not how the matter will appear on seeing all parties together; but to present appearance, he stands highly censurable. We are gaining some ground here, we have increased from 21 to 45 in this city - the work of our meeting house has commenced & we are in hopes that we shall be able to meet in it next fall.

We expect Bro Case will attend our camp meeting. But if he should fail by ~~any~~ means, we should be destitute of help unless you come. And I should be glad if Bro Young & Bro Elliott would come; ^{too} there is much to be done in this Territory, & now is probably the best time we shall ever have to attend to it, or lay the foundation of our Religious edifice in this growing country.

I have much to tell you but am in rather low spirits just now & in poor trim for writing, however when I see you I can tell you long story about our hard times. Give the love of my self & wife to Bro Young & Elliott & to Sister Finley & Elliott.

There are opening prospects for Missionary Labours in this Territory, Government pays 2000 Doll. for annuities to teach the Chipewia Indians to cultivate the land; I have conversed with governor Cogh, & he says that if the Methodist will establish a mission among them, that this 2000 Doll. shall be appropriated to the agricultural part of the mission, I told him that you had the superintendance of our Mission, & that I expected you at camp meeting; & he will ~~expect~~ to converse with you at

that time on the subject - The language of all the Indians in this Territory may be obtained here in Manuscript

I am yours &c

Wm. B. Johnson

Rev. J. B. Finley

*N.B. Our business is not to try Gov. Kent, but to take in his presence, the evidence necessary to take to Congress

A. Johnson
May 1823



Mr. Dorothea Key
Mission house
Ohio

12th



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