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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

12-29-1846

Letter from David Reed to James B. Finley

David Reed

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Providence N. H. Dec. 29th 1846

Uncle James

My dear and Dear Sir. This will inform you that notwithstanding we are in the land of Mobocracy, we are yet free among the Deers, and without the smell of hair upon our garments.

You have doubtless seen that this District has received an additional supply of peacekeepers from the Kentucky Conference. So that the field we occupy is any thing but desirable. But Sir, we are in for it now, and we would not wish it other wise. The Dis. stands firm so far as it was firm last year, and if I am competent to judge, I believe that there is a decided reaction in favour of the Old M. E. Church. It is true that in many places a decided prejudice has been engendered against the Peacekeepers of the Ohio Conference, by representing them as abolitionists, but the people are beginning to see the trick and take the alarm, and I have no doubt but that our most calamitous times are past.

I have just finished my first round upon the Dis. And as it is a new business to me, you will know that I entered upon the work with fear, and trembling, but I have experienced in an eminent degree, the sufficiency of the power of God to sustain me in the work.

Hand & Hair Jan 1847

16th R Sunday
1 - Praying

Received
of James B. Finley
Columbus Ohio

You will, I know, feel a desire to hear how we have
been received upon the Dis. of this I cannot
speak definitely but so far as I am capable
of judging it is all right. We have had good
Quarterly meetings an almost every C.T. One 2nd Qtr.
for this Station commenced upon Christmas
Day, and is yet in progress, it was also a
Dedication Meeting, for you know that the
Members who were given for the ~~Old~~ Church
were locked out of the Church and even compelled
to build a new one, a very neat frame, which
they have just finished and Dedicated to the
Worship of Almighty ^{God}. Bro. Heath was with us
on Sabbath and rendered us efficient service in
lifting the Collection, and Subscription to meet
the remaining Debt upon the Church; you may
judge of the feeling which exists here now, when
I tell you that, remaining Debt upon the Cause
when finished was \$95.00 but as the Brethren
intended some additional work to be performed
around the building, it was thought best to put
the amount to be raised at \$125⁰⁰ Dollars. But
when the collection, and Subscription were
counted, it was found that they ^{had} ~~are~~ rendered
and ninety ~~and~~ Dollars!! And in addition
to, Mr. have joined the Church, and a number of
of them converted, and the work is yet going
on so you see that our prospects are
any thing but gloomy.

Hannah is in the enjoyment of as good health
as usual, if she were here she would
write in sending her compliments to you,
please accept them through me.
I desire you to write immediately and direct
your Letter to Charleston, Fannin Co.
Ga.

I remain yours in the best
of loves.

David Reed

Rev. James B. Finley