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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

3-10-1848

Letter from David Reed to James B. Finley

David Reed

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Hemlock Falls Va. March 10th 1848

Uncle James

Your welcome letter came to hand by our carrier of Mail, & it affords us much pleasure, as it always does to hear of you, and especially of your health & prosperity. His desires are in the enjoyment of all Dutch blessing & especially in the enjoyment of brightening prospects in Church matters. The past quarter has been one of very considerable prosperity in this Dis. upwards of two hundred joined us as probationers. The Kentucky flourish of triumph in this district will speak but little as I am greatly mistaken. They are doing & nothing by way of building up, indeed they have no abilities of this kind. All that they have done, and all that they can do, is to tear down. Their entire aim is at the M. E. Church. But to this effort she bids defiance, every stroke is becoming more & more felt. And the public confidence so much shaken by the Org of Abolitionists is assuming its wonted stability. And soon she will lift her head, like the Mountain Pines along the Southern Slopes bidding defiance to the storms of Earth & Hell.

Recd from
March 1848
Ch 23



Wm. J. Finley
Columbus
Ohio

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Some of the Boys west of Scioto River seem to have gotten into a terrible fit about the Division of the Conference. But we think that they will fail in their selfish designs and that they will get but little credit for their insubordination. Some of the Boys in this Div. became some what alarmed but we have been telling them to be easy that there was no danger & we even glad to see the controversy ended by the Div. as it was for we were all getting into the notion of meeting some hard thing. Now sir, it does seem to us that some men have but little science & no sympathy at all. I think that it would be well to send them to maintain to learn something. We certainly have excitement & difficulty enough enough without crowding this difficulty upon us. I have heard a hard & laborious winter in this Mountains but we have a first rate lot of Boys in this Div. this year. & I doubt not but we shall come out in flying numbers. But we are very anxious to know how you are going to make your settlement with the South. Now Sir, we have \$10,000 worth of property in Passages and Churches in this Div. vested from the Members of the M.E. Church & Ministers of

the Ohio Conference. Now will you not require the South to give up every Church & Passages before you make any arrangement to give them one cent? Many others in the Slave Territory will get be taken. They are only waiting in other places to get a part of the Book Concern, & then they will break into the Pittsburg & Baltimore Conference, & do as they have done in this. You must keep your eyes open, or you will be gulped, and will find no place of repentance though you seek it carefully with tears. I believe not to make some arrangement to, ^{meet} ~~serve~~ promises will be prejudicial to us in the South. But to make an unconditional arrangement will greatly injure us. We will be snatched in litigation, & you need have no thought of justice at Southern Tribunals. We are boarding this year with the Daughters & Son-in-law of Jack Jones, who lived near Dr. Meadows in Kentucky when you studied medicine with the Dr. The Old man is yet living he says that he "flogged you once when you were a Boy for flaming frogs into their yard" We were expect to be gratified with letters from you soon. Went to Har- arnha C.H. Co. Yours
David Bruce
And J.B. Finley.