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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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7-5-1823

## Letter from Isaac Smith to James B. Finley

Isaac Smith

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693  
My dear Brother      Albany N.Y. Creek Nation. 5 July 1823

Although unknown to each other, I feel  
a great desire to come forward with you, & with  
great pleasure, I hear what God is doing for the  
children of the forest. Your submission  
you have no doubt heard of this mission, established  
by Rev. C. Among these people before we were forbid  
preaching in the Nation, our prospect of success  
hope for God was truly pleasing. Since the  
17. June 1822. We have not been allowed to hold meetings.  
The last Council was the last of May. We were in  
great hope we should be allowed to preach, in  
this we are disappointed. The Chiefs are however  
determined to oppose preaching. Although the  
schools should be a bond in which we had  
the liberty to preach. They are willing to have their  
children taught to read &c. but they don't want  
them to be instructed to work. We have had several  
- rods of sixty belonging to the the  
but now all presentative time, it must  
We have upwards of forty. Some of them  
are residing in the Nation, <sup>and</sup> some are waiting  
they promise soon to leave. The greater part of  
them lodge with us 4 nights in the week, on Sat-  
- day afternoon the men leave them go home. We find  
it not easy to get them to a steady study. It appears  
- as to not with them whether they will come  
or no. they appear in the like the "wild apes"  
to go at large from their infancy. When  
present they are very young. My wife taught  
the girls to tell last month. she now is by attempt  
to teaching them to sew. which I - they are  
very affectionate to her. she says. she was  
never a thank more to God, than she is

paid 25-

James B. Smalley.

Superintendent

Jacobson Mepson

Alfred Smalley

C. H. C.

Fort Mitchell  
5 July 1823

Fort Mitchell  
July 5 1823.

Grace Smith  
Missionary Creek  
Indian



She is to have the best of regular family prayers  
to which in common they all attend. We have  
at times some some of their deeply affected, ap-  
-peal <sup>good</sup> in due time for their souls. They begged a board  
to God for money, and sometimes lay prostrate  
on the floor. We do not know of any that we can say  
are converted to God, tho we have hope that some will  
obtain the blessing, not being a board to preach, we  
have not a Member to form a society amongst the  
Children. In not joining them where deeply affected  
and desirous of our assistance, I am not clear, tho we  
did not meet our duty for fear of giving offence to the  
Chiefs - who were led captive by the Devil at his  
will. Unfortunately for us. Our agents, placed by  
the Government, refuse to aid us in procuring  
permission to preach, and whilst this is to be doing -  
right with. There is no hope for us doing what  
we wish to do for this people. This Reason is about  
the distance from the white settlements in the position of  
the Nation. We have our difficulties in regu-  
lating our family. We feed them three times a day  
having the table set for them in the hall, & house  
where the Children all seated. To some have been  
always to attend them. I have a great desire to  
be an established part of the Nation, to see how  
Matters were arranged. Having none of the Chiefs  
that we can apply to for assistance, our diffi-  
culties are sometimes great. We thank by the good  
hand of our God upon us we have kept a long.  
I shall be thankful for a line from you  
and any instruction you can give may  
for us. Love Dear New Year

If you write to me direct to Fort Mitchell Ga.

Yours in Christ.  
Saml Smith