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James B. Finley Letters

8-11-1824

Letter from John Johnston to James B. Finley

John Johnston

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18 1/2
August 11th
The Recd.
James B. Finley
Upper Sandusky
Ohio

4281
August 11 1824
Johnson

406

Dear Sir,

Piqua Aug. 11. 1824

I conclude you have long since returned to Sandusky, as I heard you had been with your family near Lebanon. I supposed your numerous cares after so long an absence had been the cause of my not hearing from you. your Building, Farming, Preaching and School will keep you busy this summer when at Upper Sandusky. I had no time to look at your premises, or your arrangements, but I was apprehensive the bottom soil would not make good brick.

How come you on in your building will you get it up this fall. does your school prosper. does the Lord bless your labours as in times past. is the Indians more united, and does the cause of Christ prosper with them. give my love to them and tell them that my prayer is offered up for their present and everlasting welfare. that God may bless us all and make us useful to each other. if I can do any thing for them. for the mission or the school. my poor labours will be most cheerfully afforded. I must beg you to write

often and command my services.

I hope the difficulty with Mr. Shaw has disappeared. There appeared to be a friendly intercourse between him and the Chiefs when I was there. The Walker and Armstrong thought the Chiefs were better satisfied with him than could be expected in so short a time after the trial. I wish to see him and yourself and all others there on the most friendly footing forgiveness and passing over the faults of our Brethren is a prominent part of Christian duty. Wisdom and sound policy backs it here. I think you can make Mr. Shaw answer your purpose there. make trial once more, if he does his best you ought to be satisfied, and I am greatly mistaken or himself and wife will exert themselves to give satisfaction in future. remember we are all poor fallible creatures, liable to do wrong continually and as the pious and great and good Bishop Watson says, our lives is made up of sinning and repenting of our sins.

When I see my fellow mortal brought into public shame and disgrace. I have reason to thank God that my secret faults are not laid open and naked too, when my case by comparison might appear worse than him who is thus publicly condemned. O cleanse thou me from my secret faults, that they may not get the ascendancy over me! ought to be the prayer

of every one

Bishop Chase is daily expected over from Europe where he has been very successful among the pious and wealthy he had collected \$50,000 - for the purpose of establishing a Seminary in Ohio for the West for educating and qualifying ministers. one Irish Lady gave him £300. about \$1400. The Church will therefore be able soon to assume a respectable and permanent standing in this Country. for the first time we had the Holy Communion administered in the Church here on the 1st Sunday of this month, about 20 persons present. Mr. Johnston from Cincinnati officiated if your Brother John could feel it his duty to take orders in the Church, a way could be opened for his coming in, and for ensuing usefulness. for the Church only wants ministers. 3 young men at Princeton who want there to come out Presbyterian Ministers have lately decided to take orders in the Church and they were encouraged to do so by the professors on account of the great demand there was for Church Ministers. Remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Hooper. to the members of the Mission family and particularly to Mrs. Finley, if with you to all the Schollars. wishing that God may bless you in all your labours. I remain yours in the Gospel bonds John Johnston

Rev. Jas. B. Finley.

sickness begins to appear in this quarter.