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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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3-29-1834

## Letter from William B. Christie to James B. Finley

William B. Christie

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### Recommended Citation

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Bro Finley

Bro Klein March 29<sup>th</sup>

At the time your favor came to hand I deferred an answer until I should close the round upon the Dis - and see what the result would be that I might report - That done though full health, fatigue, and other things I have deferred until this time - My family being far from me, and I can neither see nor converse with them - My hithers gone to meeting - Father Read to bed - and the wind from the Lake howling without and the rain pattering the window - Thus alone seated by the cheerful fire I would talk with you a little while - yes I would be glad to get my head down upon your knee and talk with my tongue - not with this old stump of a pen - But seeing this can not be - I will try and squeeze words enough out at the ends of my fingers to blacken this sheet - and

1<sup>st</sup> As to that in which every man of God feels a deep interest - The prospects of Zion - Within the last few months the Lord of Hosts, in several places, has visited us with his spirit. Sinners have been awakened - and souls converted

Between 7 and 800 have been added to the Church on trial, the last 20 - Several of our meetings have been times of mercy, and the glory of Christ - At Rock on Roscoe 23 joined - The next <sup>with</sup> on Millenburgh, at Danville 115 - The meeting continued from Friday until the next Monday week - At Worcester 59 - Meeting lasted ten days - A sacramental meeting on Dorset Circuit lasted fifteen days, one hundred were added - Forty two at a two days meeting at Waynesburg - which lasted ten days - There have been the best though several others have been meetings of interest - On the Southern Part of the Dis. including even out of ten or there is a generally extended religious influence - We are looking up and praying for better times, hoping that the work has only just commenced - Preachers and people are both ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> King up with new zeal and earnestness to salvation's great subject - Pray for us that the Spirit from on high may be poured upon us



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We have also had our cups of grief and cup of affliction, our preachers, has, since conference gone the way of all men, two others have broken down by the way - and retired - This as you may well know causes ~~our~~ little afflictions - and trouble - The places have all been supplied as well as I could - and our ranks again are full - By the last number of the C. A. and I - I see the gentlemen of the Book Committee have consented to enlarge the Boston Paper - There never should have been any cause for this second measure - The Paper should have been of proper size at first - But better late than never - and a little right on second thoughts than always wrong - The blunder they made will make the subscription tickle several hours - and names left - than if the proper steps had been taken in the first place - This however will give way in a few months - But pray tell me what economy or sense is there in sending out my old friend John to act as Editor for three months? - Is it to show him out of the way in N.Y. - or is it with the hope of keeping the way open - for him to ask Dr. Bangs? - or is it that there is some double dealing in the West - Does a certain D.D. who was lately looking for a chair in the Pennsylvania College - wait that birth - or do the gentlemen of the Book Com. doubt whether any man in the West can write newspaper paragraphs - and therefore want further information on that point? - We who are so far north do not exactly understand these things - I can submit to an imported Editor - But the virtue will be necessity - I wish you would give me some insight in these matters - Bro. Sheldon has raised between four and five thousand dollars for the Norwich Seminary - The Institution is said to be flourishing - and promises much usefulness to this Section of the Church - Bro. Bigelow has bought a small farm in the neighborhood of Mansfield - and will remove his family to it in two or three weeks, he is still