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James B. Finley Letters

5-2-1818

Letter from Robert W. Finley & Rebecca Finley to James B. Finley

Robert W. Finley

Rebecca Finley

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The Rev James Finley
Freebornville

1818

May 2^d 1818 Chillicothe. State of Ohio

My children, Three weeks yesterday since I left home
your mother was poorly, on my last Night. I was sent for
before I ~~got~~ had finished my round on the Circuit. the
neighbor had collected several times to see her expire. Before
I arrived at home, she had ~~now~~ recovered. I was able to be up
a little, she continued to recover fast while I remained
with them. I have had no account since, & my mind at
present is loaded with uneasiness. Robert has sold his land
at six hundred dollars. I have sold the part on which
I live for seven hundred & fifty dollars. the land where
Samuel lived. All that 300 acres are left to her by an
Old patent. & no prospect of any need to them. who is
yet in goal. I have a thought of starting the first of Au-
gust to Wabash to Mount Carmel, as Thirde & M^r Corwell
has offered me land at the first cost of entry. I am afraid
of some lots, which I doubt in a few years will be of value
to some body. Joseph has had a strong inclination to tra-
vel a year with Bishop M^r Kendal, but I think it im-
possible for him to go, for that purpose. My object in a
visit to the Wabash, is to procure land for Joseph & Lewis. I
do not think it probable that Robert may enter there, but no
one can tell. I think his Reason is somewhat impaired
altho when I was at home, his feet had been so hard as to put
him off his feet for 11 weeks. If I continue to ride, I shall fire this
fall to move immediately to the Circuit - that I can often
have the pleasure of being at home. I would have been im-
mensely glad of your company to visit the Wabash, but if I
should not go to after Conference, it would be long from a
Circuit, that would not suit so well, from your last account
I think it probable that John has moved, & I do not
suppose a place could be obtained in this State that
would have suited as well as Chillicothe. If he is not
moved he had ^{best} think of it. And I do not ^{suppose} would have
received a larger bounty ~~than~~ to have gone to the
West, than any where in the State. Immigrants
from England, Ireland, New York, Philadelphia,
Baltimore, & Charles town &c are all purchasing
there. I would be extremely glad to know which way
John has staid his course - we will shortly be dis-
persed, that nothing but the last trump will
collect us together

your Brother William's family well. Is trying
to sell his land. What he intends doing I know not. ~~When~~
Samuel's & Thomas' People well. When I was at home
If John & family has not ^{Remember} moved us indiscriminately
to them. I let ^{them} remember Chellicothe. & Carmel on the
~~the~~ Wabash as opening a pleasing prospect - The
family joins in love to you all without exception -
I will ^{to write} fail not as soon as possible. Direct to new market for
letters & lodge ^{at home} affectionately. Be assured we remain your
affectionate Parents &c. Robt. W. & Rebecca Tinsley

If you should carry into execution this fall your in-
tentional visit, you will be with us about the time I will
return from Wabash. That if we should be spared to see that
period we can talk over our affairs over. I hope you will immedi-
ately write, ^{and} we have your counsel on the subject - I will
blessed the necessity of establishing the corner between
Poorden & me this fall. That if you cannot come, some other
method must be taken -

I have enjoyed a good degree of health this sea-
son, preached as much as usual. & I hope not altogether
in vain. We have good times on the Circuit, the Lord hath
blessed remarkably at Quarter meetings. There has been
a good work among this I run from seven to fourteen
years of age, I have formed 12 classes, formed them
into separate classes, given them leaders, & there is no room
to doubt but a good number of them is savingly conver-
ted. I would rather meet them, my classes on the Circuit

My dear childrens Let us make sure work for eternity
may we never find Rest for our feet, till we stand on
the mount of God in glory. Not much good has been
done in Chellicothe. The Preachers all at variance,
at perfect points, Doctor Tiffin excluded from Co-
nection last Quarter meeting - & the Quarrel not
subsided, but kindling into a ^{flame} rapid & I expect
like Ama. it ^{will} burst in a shower of deflections.

Your Brother Joseph, grows to be delivered from
the wicked Neighbor hood where he has to reside, is
very zealous, & lives with God by the day. Robert is
very Pious, & yet appears to feel for ^{his} soul, but his dis-
order frequently impairs him, that is hard ~~struggling~~
to bear with him, yet grows in knowledge - Francis

Remains the same, & as apt to learn anything as ever.
I think, I have walked closer with God this year. Gloried
more for eternity than part of my life. It may appear
strange perhaps in my old age to think of moving. The
reason, I do not expect to be able to ride much longer, &
the advantages ^{of} for myself & family is all I seek for
here. I only live to enjoy more of the comforts of religion
& feel its vital power to govern all my actions, & to grow
up for heaven -