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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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1-31-1839

## Letter from James W. Finley to James B. Finley

James W. Finley

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### Recommended Citation

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for two weeks from five to twelve degrees below zero  
 and the snow is about 9 inches deep, I feel a hope of  
 reaching <sup>you</sup> at ~~your~~ <sup>your</sup> convenience, I wish you all to pray for me  
 I often get very gloomy; and often dream about home  
 sweet home and say Oh when shall I get home; I get back  
 to you for council; knowing you feel more interest for me  
 than others may your labours be blessed this year also and  
 may we meet finally where rolling piners, and tedious  
 swamps shall not separate us James W. Finley

Captain Harvege January 31<sup>st</sup> 1830.  
 Uncle James This will inform you that your letter of Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> has  
 been gratefully received, and found me in the enjoyment  
 of my usual health, no very material change has been effected in  
 health by a change of climate, and I am encouraged to hope for  
 more permanent health than I had anticipated. With respect to reli-  
 gion and its prosperity, we cannot boast; but prospects certainly are more  
 cheering than they have hitherto been. We closed a three days meeting  
 at ten mile creek last Sabbath evening; we had a profitable season  
 and although none were converted, yet in previous week days  
 and unperceived by many tears, and we all came out with glad  
 hearts to a rest for heaven; we have no doubt but shall shortly witness  
 the fruit of this meeting, by an increase in our own spiritual strength  
 and the conversion of some careless sinners. We are not falling away  
 time in this part of the work, but are trying to get the  
 engine in motion, and if the Lord will direct our operations  
 we shall have success. There are three local preachers and  
 three exhorters on this circuit, one of them is a brother to Dr. Briggs  
 of New York, and is quite acceptable, as a minister of new testa-  
 ment. We also have some of backsliders who have been members  
 of the Church <sup>in other places</sup> and emigrated to the Territory, and newly joined  
 society; this has induced me to preach altogether on the subject  
 of Apostasy; four weeks ago I preached in Adrian, from "the  
 Lord turned and looked on Peter" embracing the most remark-  
 able circumstances of his fall, and the means of his recovery  
 a man by the name of Salter determined to return to the  
 Lord, he had formerly been an exhorter in Chataqua lin-  
 coln New York conference, and was converted at a Camp  
 meeting in Broome town when you presided on the Ohio  
 District, at which you increased the list of all the  
 Judges, Squires, Constables, and military officers in the  
 County. Last Sabbath week in the evening after having  
 stoned to preach from Jeremiah 6<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup>. Pursuant to the Lord

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Jan 4<sup>th</sup> Baytown - Dec 1830

Rev James B. Finley

Wm. C. Finley

Cincinnati Ohio

Wm. C. Finley

Chillicothe 1830

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Do. write to me immediately.



stand you in the way and ~~re-<sup>1882</sup>~~ <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> enquiring what was  
implied in the old and good way here spoken of and  
~~given~~ our duty with respect and 3d: the encouragement  
given us to walk in it, in chap uniting a backslider  
son and said he had once walked in this way but  
had forsaken it, but was now determined to join the  
Church as a probationer, and walk in the old track  
of obedience and self denial, members none are under  
awakenings, may God help them to decide the doubtful  
case, and lead them again to that blood that makes the  
wounded whole: If you <sup>have</sup> any of the competent ministry,  
who have no employment, send them this way for I am  
supplying three of their Congregations, in the bounds  
of my circuit, A Presbyterian Deacon came to meeting  
at Cliffield last week, and requested me to preach for  
them, said he the Methodist have the advantage of the  
Presbyterians for your people was more emigrate than  
the <sup>have</sup> ~~you~~ <sup>preacher</sup> after them, and when we move  
it is long time before our ministers can hear its  
call, and ~~if~~ <sup>that</sup> (ah here is the rub) we can't pay them: they  
make out ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> a sermon every three months, this takes away  
all the funds they can raise, and we get nothing, they are  
willing we should pull out the potatoes, but they must  
have them, I told the old gentleman it was our business  
to hunt up the reprobates and would try and supply them  
The preachers in the District have enjoyed good health  
since Conference, with the exception of Bro Gurley  
who has just gone to St Joseph Mission. Bro Goddard has  
attended my first L.M. he was in good health and  
preached acceptably. Many are anxious that you  
should come to the Territory, it appears to me that  
you might be more useful here than in any  
part of the Conference

There is a great call for books here and I have concluded to send for a some; it is impossible to get them from N. Y. before May, for navigation has closed and after that period I would not have an opportunity of selling them; I have finally concluded to have them brought from Cincinnati, and if you think it best for I do not intend going on to the measure without your advice; you may send me two Bibles N. Y. 4. 20 cents and two of N. Y. 3. one dozen Pocket Hymn books bound in calf skin, six large, such as you got from Bro Leeds my Pocket bibles, of these you may select the cheapest and most salable, one of Hitches checks, 3 copies of Lawrences call to a holy life 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Experience of Hester Ann Rogers and a half a dozen Descriptions. these books are mostly engaged, and I can realize the cost for them before I come to Cambridge, and if you see proper you may make a selection beside the above named amounting in all \$3.00 and direct them to Urbana to the care of Judge Reynolds, William Walker will have them brought from there to Upper Sandusky and forward them from there to Perryburgh, N. Y. and have them if possible at Urbana by the last day of February as I shall be there at that time, God willing on my way from home to my circuit and can bring them on with me. Give my best love to Aunt Abner often I think about the good Aunt tell her if I could have accompanied the wife I were on the in passage to the south, I should have taken a breakfast of warm Coffee and Buckwheat Cake before this time run me also to Grandfather, if he is with you. if not let me know where he is, to Cousin and the Preachers. I have not received a word from home since I came to the Territory. We have cold weather here the thermometer has stood