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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

4-26-1825

Letter from John McLean to James B. Finley

John McLean

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Washington

26 April 1895

My dear friend,

I enclose you a paper in which, you will see that both you and I, are asked such things as to be expected from the world in which we live. Those who have the least honesty and patriotism, are always the first to suspect others.

I have written a letter to the Editor in which I have stated the facts - that the office was abolished, and that you now discharge the duties which formerly devolved on Mr. Shaw

J. M. Lee
J. E. C., 1895

as agent. And that I did not know
of this order until more than
three weeks after it was made.

Mr Calhoun rec^d the papers, when
he was on the eve of his journey
to the mountains - made the order,
signed it, but the letter was sent
to me, it seems, to frank the next
morning after his departure. I
did not observe the letter - thought I
franked all the letters from the War
Department in the absence of Mr
Calhoun. It was not until his
return, that I was informed of
the order which had been made
respecting Mr Shaw.

My family are in usual health.
Our contemplated visit to Ohio
this season is doubtful. My
family is very large - to take
them all with me, would subject

me to an expense which I could
not conveniently meet and to leave
a part behind would be very
disagreeable.

I find with all the economy I can
use, that my expenses since I have
been here, have exceeded my salary.
But I am determined to live within
my means, if, in consequence of it
I should incur the charge of meanness.
I had rather be just, than generous
without justice. Remember me affec-
tionately to Sister Dinley. Remem-
ber me and mine. God bless you

Respectfully,
Geo James B Kinley

John Allen