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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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12-16-1830

## Letter from John McLean to James B. Finley

John McLean

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Paid 10

Chavara  
1/2 Dec

Rev. James B. Finley

Cincinnati

Judge McLean

1003

Lebanon

16 Dec 1830

My dear Sir,

I very much regret that an opportunity did not permit me to converse with Judge Burke, respecting his determination as to joining our Society. But, I hope the Society will bear with him and in due time I hope all difficulty will be removed. At best, we are imperfect beings, and subject to be influenced by circumstances which ought not to govern us. Our heavenly father knows our infirmities, and deals with us in great mercy. Shall we not then imitate him in this respect, so far as such frail beings can imitate their creator. So long as there shall remain any prospect of bringing our friend, into the bosom of the Church, from which he has been unfortunately separated, and to whose prosperity, in former days, he contributed so much, the object should not be relinquished. He has blown the silver trumpet long and loud, and cheered the hearts of many a traveller to Zion. How delightful would it be to hear him resume his former notes, from the bosom of the Church. On last Sabbath, I could but reflect on his



former condition and present prospects.  
The Society at Cincinnati, I believe, were  
never in so prosperous a condition as at  
present. A reparation from it, is painful to  
me.

You have every thing that could be desired  
to encourage you in the good work. By con-  
tinued kindness to our radical friends or ene-  
mies, you have disappointed them, and encour-  
aged the friends of the Redeemer. It is indeed a  
Christian triumph, to feel no inclination to re-  
turn railing for railing - but to bless and pray  
for those who treat us unkindly or unjustly.  
I shall be mistaken if there be not a revival  
in Cincinnati. Every indication seems to  
promise it. And I have no doubt, that here-  
after, you will look back on your time  
spent in Cincinnati, as the most delightful  
and useful in your life. Your labours are  
great, but the harvest will be abundant. The  
end of the race, will more than compensate  
for all your trials.

The Christian minister never fails when  
his weapon is true. The most obdurate hearts  
are overcome, and the vilest of our race  
yield a willing obedience to its mandates.

I expect to leave this tomorrow, for Colerambey.

Very truly yours

Rev. James B. Finley

John H. Allen