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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

7-23-1831

Letter from John McLean to James B. Finley

John McLean

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Rev. James B. Hinley

Cincinnati

Charles G. ...

Shant 100

Wm. ...

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Judge McLean

1005

Lebanon

23 July 1831

My dear Sir,

I have just received a letter from Washington City, informing me that Mrs McLean is very ill, and I shall leave here in the morning, in the mail stage, for Washington. As I shall have no opportunity of hearing from her, after I start, the whole route will be distressing, by and description.

This will prevent my attendance at Augusta at the commencement. It was my intention to deliver an address on that occasion, but the unpleasant news from Washington will render my attendance at Augusta impossible.

Doctor Early is here, and I had a long conversation with him to day. He proposes to have acted from the most honorable motives, and that his feelings remain unchanged. I informed him that his conduct had been so reprehensible, that he must produce to me all the evidence, of which his case was susceptible, before I could place any reliance in his statements.

He avers that he writes to you repeatedly and

and also to Harriet. It is difficult to believe,
that his letters to Harriet have all miscarried. I
am, however, willing to hear what he can say in
his defence, before I give a final answer. His
health is bad, and he informs me that he spent
a part of last winter in the West Indies. Indeed
I doubt, from his appearance, whether he can
live long.

I told him, it was necessary to me you, and to
make a full statement to you. Harriet is particu-
larly anxious, that her name should not be
~~used~~, in connection with the transaction, if it
be possible to avoid it.

I must confess that I have very little confidence,
but still I will hear his proofs, before I finally
condemn. Harriet, from her great confidence
in his piety, had formed for him a strong
attachment, than I supposed she would be
likely to feel for any one. But, still she has
great firmness of character, and will be governed
by my advice.

Pray for me and mine

May God bless you

Wm James D Hinley

John de la Cruz