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James B. Finley Letters

8-18-1828

Letter from Thomas A. Morris to James B. Finley

Thomas A. Morris

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Louisville K. Aug 18th 1898

My dear Bro.

As the time of your Conf. draws near it is time I was lifting my pledge to you for a time or two on the subject of my transfer. I would ^{like} to have an appointment in the State of Ohio and the doctrine of making no choice for myself has long been cherished by me as one essential to a travelling Preacher's success among the Methodists. At the same time my representatives ought to have full knowledge of my case to give them in their nominations for me. Then I wish to say 1. My business in the Green River Country is not closed & will probably cost me a trip in the course of 12^{or 15} months thither. And besides I expect to leave our daughter with Sister Davis in Shelley, N.C. to finish her education, all of which in view of time to be lost & money spent would be in favor of my laboring some where in the west end of the Conf. 2nd. A city life I fear would be dangerous for my wife. She has been long threatened with a pulmonary: And the confinement of a city disagree with her. And on the contrary the long tours of a district are too severe for her strength. The exercise she gets on a Circuit appears to suit her best. I am myself better pleased ^{with} it than either of the others. However. I do not wish to be understood as refusing any appointment in the State of Ohio west of the Big Scioto River. At the upper end I was worn out 4 years ago. I hold to the doctrine

1898

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Rev James B. Smalley
Librarian Ohio

200
35 69
64 31

New
Rev
J. H. Morris
and W. H. S.
1898



1017

of going "into all the world" But I mention my temporal affairs
merely to enable you to make a suitable arrangement of the
matter. I presume Bps. Roberts & Seale will both be at your
Conf. if so there can be no legal obstruction to the transfer.
Should Bp. Seale not be there, if you will give me an opprt.
I give me notice thence I shall myself to face it (providential
afflictions duly accepted) and calculate to be ready to start
immediately on the adjournment of the Ky. Conf. at Shellyville
and what time I may be obliged to close afterward, if any
shall be managed to the last possible moment of the work
given me — My health is good & spirits fine. And I am
resolved by grace always to be a plain thorough-going Methodist
at which with me is far more desirable than to be a
President or a King — A Washington or an Alexander.

Times here are troublous truly — This will be a fruitful
season in our Conf. we hope to nail 4000 members.

The Presbyterians are raising some fog in their state but
they have not much "depth of Earth" I will soon written

They just are in view of a great that took a position on
a Cart which I looking behind said see what a dust I have
raised. — Perhaps you can send me a few lines from Chillicothe
& Madison as respects to be there before their Conf. close.

Respectfully yours

Rev James B. Finley

Mo. S. Morris