

Ohio Wesleyan University

Digital Commons @ OWU

Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

4-18-1837

Letter from Thomas A. Morris to James B. Finley

Thomas A. Morris

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters>

Recommended Citation

Morris, Thomas A., "Letter from Thomas A. Morris to James B. Finley" (1837). *Finley Letters*. 1014.
<https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters/1014>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the James B. Finley Letters at Digital Commons @ OWU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finley Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ OWU. For more information, please contact earutigl@owu.edu.

Sebanon O. April 18, 1837.

My dear brother,

I left home in hope of meeting with you at 9. m. in this place. for this I have no special business with, yet I should be glad to see you and talk over some of our things; but as I come in the stage and must return the same way, it is not convenient to turn aside among my friends; and must therefore forgo the pleasure of seeing you at present.

I rec^d your favor of 14th Inst. at this place, the reading of which alternately excited, sympathy, risability, admiration and prayer. Had it been without a name, I should have known that its author was J. B. H.

I trust that your present tent has been pitched under the guidance of Providence, and that you may be the honored instrument of a revival of pure religion among the people of Springboro. The Lord hasten it in his time.

I am not at all surprised ~~at some~~ that the enemy has selected some grounds of attack referred to in your frank communication. There is a point in the history of nearly every good man who has labored long and hard in the gospel vineyard, when he is liable to peculiar trials, namely, when his strength begins to fail him, while his zeal still continues.

Protest Morris
April 1837

Rev. James B. Finley
Springboro, Warren Co.
Ohio

Received
April 21

And it is possible that your peculiar makes renders you
more liable on this ground than some others. You
are formed for active life, yet more for daring enter-
prize. God gave you strength of body and mind for
such a life; for a long time you have been in a
pushing world, pushing with the foremost ranks
of those engaged in ^{the} most enterprizing of conquering
the world. But the uncommon labors and ex-
cesses of a life already somewhat protracted, have
shattered your once powerful Constitution, so that you
can not arise on as formerly. Your zeal is the same,
and when not absolutely prostrated by sickness, your
feelings ~~yet~~ are now as they were when you
were young and healthy; they are ardent in the cause;
you think you can make another push, gather
your sword and shout for the battle; but before
the object which fires your soul and nerves your
arm is accomplished, your strength is exhausted,
and your return from the Campaign sick. But my
brother is not this affliction ~~an~~ indication that the
final discharge and reward of the old Christian
soldier is at hand? And when the devil suggests
that because your bodily strength fails, your
brethren intend to lay aside and forget you, tell

him he is a liar and the father of lies. I sincerely hope
God will spare your life and afford you strength
to make a book, which may speak for you when
you shall have gone to the land of your fathers. Such
is the rage for reading Indian stories that if your
contemplated history was now on sale at the Book
Room in Cin. where the preacher could have it
sent with other books, I believe ten thousand copies
of it might be sold in twelve months. Permit
me to recommend to you a work called Astoria
or anecdotes of early expeditions by and the Rocky
Mountains, being a history of the Fur trading
companies - by Washington Irving, which I have
recently read. It is very interesting and may aid you
some in your work.

If Providence permit I shall commence a tour thro'
the interior of La. as soon as I can buy a horse and make
preparation, say next week or the week after, when
I shall of course have much to plenty. My wife's health
has been improved by her South Western trip. Please
remember me to Sister Finley, and to your father a
man for whom I have entertained a high esteem and
affection from my first acquaintance with him to this
time. Pray for me.
Rev. James B. Finley. Yours sincerely Thos. A. Morris