

Ohio Wesleyan University

Digital Commons @ OWU

---

Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

---

4-22-1831

## Letter from William Walker to James B. Finley

William Walker

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

---

### Recommended Citation

Walker, William, "Letter from William Walker to James B. Finley" (1831). *Finley Letters*. 1016.  
<https://digitalcommons.owu.edu/finley-letters/1016>

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](mailto:earutigl@owu.edu).



Upper Sauanuck April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1831.

Dear Bro.

Some time ago Bro Lewis showed me a letter he received from you; the sight of it brought upon me some pretty sharp twinges of conscience on account of my long silence to you. I will not at this time go to forming excuses, for it has been said, that, "He who is good at making excuses is seldom good for any thing else." I will, therefore, for the present, at least, waive making them, but proceed to detail as briefly as I can all the important occurrences that have lately transpired in our neighborhood.

First. Myself and family, thro' the goodness & mercy of the good Lord, are enjoying good health: Mother (and the rest of the Family) likewise. Bro Thompson also enjoys good health, but his "help mate" does not. The Mission Family is generally well.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> instant your old friend Daniel Hodges departed this life. The first inquiry that will arise in your mind, of course, will be "and how did he die"? Why, Sir, he died in PEACE with God & man!! Three or four weeks, previous to his death, he experienced religion. Oh how can I in adequate terms describe the humility - the patience in suffering, the child-like simplicity and fervor of soul that characterized the few remaining days he sojourned amongst us! None of his neighbors came in and went out of his house, without being earnestly entreated to seek religion, and they generally left the

his grave; Warped delivered an oration to the Indian multitude and it fell to my lot to deliver one to the whites. An opportunity was then offered for the friends of the prisoners to come forward and bid him farewell - effecting sight!!! The signal was given, the executioners marched up in single file - formed a line within twenty four feet of the prisoners - made ready - and fired simultaneously - he fell and was buried.

With regard to religion at present, there is no particular excitement - the old members stand <sup>firm</sup> and appear to enjoy themselves very well - There appears to be a general prosperity throughout the Nation in every point of view - I now apprehend that the Wyandots will remove to the west of the Mississippi on account of the treatment they receive from the present Administration which I cannot now state - for want of room.

We have now three very fine children, Martha Hannah, Henry Clay & Sophia. Bro Lewis family in good health.

If I had any right to ask it, I should ask you to write me - Give our love to Sister Fanny.

It is now late in the night and I must close the mail tonight - Farewell friend in haste

Wm Walker



the house weeping. Chaffer visited him several times and tried very hard to cure him of his delusion as he called it, but <sup>he</sup> proved as stubborn as his <sup>old</sup> name - satte in the Lion's den. On Sunday morning the 3rd inst, he expressed a desire to Bro Thompson to receive the sacrament. Accordingly Bro T. procured the elements, and proceeded with the exercise, but alas poor man! he was too far gone to receive the sacred elements. It was then postponed till Monday Morning, hoping that, at least, there would be a <sup>change</sup> for the better. But our thoughts are not God's thoughts, nor are our ways God's ways; - the bright luminary of day arose with all his golden splendor but only to witness his dissolution and departure from this to that "land from whose bourn no traveller is permitted to return." Bro Thompson preached his <sup>Funerary</sup> sermon and a very good one it was - but I would have given much had you been here at the time to have officiated on the occasion.

We are deeply engaged in Law suits with John Corey, Bro Isaac's Executor and with J. Chaffer, Guardian of Isaac, Bro Isaac's son and heir. You are aware, I presume, that Rebecca is Chaffer's wife. Your son James is married. and that well. He married Catherine Brown, Francis Mudra's step daughter.

I think James will yet do well, tho he has been somewhat unpromising. Father Stick, wife are travelling hard on for the goodly land. Bros Manonene, Gould, Bigtree Samson - do not, Gray Eye, - indeed all of your old friends are doing well, except Warpole, Peacock & Squandahity, they are on the back ground and are very troublesome in Society. I had like to forget old Daddy Bonness, he is living every day on marrow and fat things and honey from the Rock.

Some time last October, shortly after my return from New York a murder was committed out at White wing's settlement in a drunken spree in the night. The murderer was a large young man commonly called the Black Chief's son, and the person murdered was John Bonnett's Brother, a young man raised by Geo Washington, you no doubt recollect him. The murderer was arrested tried and sentenced to be shot by six men. Two days allowed him to prepare to meet death. Esq Gray Eye, & Little Chief were appointed chaplains to attend him in his devotional exercises, should he be disposed to engage in them. Three Christians, and three pagans were selected to be his Executioners (viz) Francis Colter, Sampson the head & Silas Armstrong (Christians) Joseph Enos Peacock's step son & Little Jonathan's Brother (pagans). The day rolled around - his grave was dug - the procession formed at Hickory and marched to the spot. and caused him to kneel <sup>down</sup> by