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James B. Finley Letters

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6-8-1837

## Letter from William Walker to James B. Finley

William Walker

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W. Sandusky  
Aug 9th. -

Free  
Galt, Pa.

Rev. Amos A. Hinley

Lidgville  
Warren County  
Ohio.

W. M. Luther  
W. Sandusky

1034

W. Sandusky Aug 8th 1837.  
Dear Sir - Your letter came to this place during  
my absence to Columbus, on public business relating  
to our nation, and connected with some private business  
and since my return, have been so overrun with public  
and private business as to prevent me from writing  
as much at length and in detail as I wished. I  
even now, I am writing while the Council is in session,  
stealing time by moments in short intervals.  
While at Columbus, I addressed a strong communi-  
cation to Gov. Vance, laying before him in as vivid  
colors as I was capable of, the conduct of these  
detestable rascals, called Commissioners.  
I am satisfied he has ere this addressed the face of  
War, and that in terms to make a favorable  
impression, if appeals in favor of humanity can  
make any impression on his heart; tho' I confess  
I have but little confidence in any of the members  
of the Cabinet, for they are all wound in the  
same solution. We the Council have recently  
addressed a strong appeal to the face of War,  
opposing the conduct of the Commissioners from  
the commencement of their operations up to the  
date of our communication, and earnestly  
petition for their recall.  
The Commissioners have ceased to hold open and  
public councils; the treaty they have made was in  
the first place signed by twelve persons making  
the number including women and children about  
thirty five. At another meeting a few more signed  
when drunk; After which the treaty has been at  
Mr. M. Cutcher's Bar, and as a straggling Wy-  
andott happened along he was called into the house  
and if he was found of drink, signing the treaty



was then made the price of a glass of grog! and conduct equally as corrupt and detestable, till they have now, it is said, rising of a hundred men women and children. They appear to be bloody bent on breaking up the nation.

We are now waiting with deep anxiety to hear what effect the Governor's, Judge McLean's and our communication will have upon the "powers that be". What our fate may be, although trying times ahead will determine, but I confess I entertain strong fears;— but we shall contend inch by inch, and rather than yield, "perish in the last ditch"!

Our Quarterly Meeting has just closed; nothing remarkable occurred. The Presiding Elder was at my house, and the subject of our Mission being placed under the Superintendence and Guardianship of the Ohio Conf. was incidentally introduced; he and the preachers that were with him kicked back most wickedly—they declared they could take as good care of this Mission as the Ohio Conf. and they would submit to no such dictation. I saw it was quite galling to their pride. I asked them if they had any men in their ranks, that they really supposed were fit for Missionaries? "yes," they said "a great plenty." I remarked, I was <sup>not</sup> going to dispute that point with them, but from the little acquaintance I had with the Preachers in this Conference, I was of opinion it was not overstocked with that kind of timber.

I am unable at this time to specify any time, at present, for our contemplated visit to Canada, as we are in such a state of confusion and uproar, that it appears impossible for me to leave home. While I was at

Columbus, (two weeks) the Council came <sup>to</sup> nothing, and they are loth to let me go any place, especially in our present troubles, and in addition to this, our Amenity will shortly be paid and we have been informed officially that one half of the Amenity will be tendered to us in goods\* but will be more trouble than necessity will compel us to suspend for the present, our project. But if a change for better and more propitious times should take place, I will write again and inform you.

We are all well except my mother. She is laboring under a most malignant congestion of Bilious fever, and we entertain serious fears—

Remember us to all the family.  
Your friend

Wm Walker

\* All for the want of specie, but we will compromise the matter by offering to take good Ohio Bank paper.