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James B. Finley Letters

4-20-1847

Letter from John S. Kalb to James B. Finley

John S. Kalb

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Recommended Citation

Kalb, John S., "Letter from John S. Kalb to James B. Finley" (1847). *Finley Letters*. 1053.
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Van Wert Ohio April 20 1847

Rev James B Finley

Dear Brother I have been thinking of late whether many or any of the convicts of the Ohio Penitentiary have ever been the subjects of sabbath school instruction. Knowing your relation to them as moral instructor I thought that you could give me information on this subject which you will please do if it is expedient for you to do so. If it should not be expedient of proper I do not wish you to give yourself any trouble about it. Facts with regard to their habits of temperance or intemperance have been reported as arguments in favor of the temperance cause and why should not facts in relation to their being instructed in sabbath schools be reported as arguments in favor of the utility and importance of sabbath schools. It is my opinion that facts of this kind can be obtained that would be useful. What has become of those who have been instructed in sabbath schools in former years. Have any of them gone to the state's prison. If any have is the number as great when compared with the whole number of those who have been instructed in ~~in~~ sabbath schools as the number of those ~~who have~~ in prison who have not been instructed in such schools when compared with the whole number of those who have not been instructed in such schools. We know that many of those who

James B. Finley

Van Wert

April 1847

Ohio

Columbus

Rev. James B. Finley



were regular sabbath school scholars in former years
are now members of the christian church some of them
are useful ministers of the gospel and this leads me to
conclude that the sabbath school is an important means
of saving the youth of our country from those vices
for which so many are imprisoned and of bringing
them into the church of God

If you have leisure please write to me and give
me any information you may think proper
Meanwhile I remain yours in gospel bonds

John H. Kall
of the North Ohio con.