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Finley Letters

James B. Finley Letters

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3-20-1850

## Letter from John McDonald to James B. Finley

John McDonald

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Latta's P.  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>

Rev James Brady Finley  
Caton, Preble county  
Ohio

Rev J. McDonald  
Ogden ridge  
May 1850

Popular Ridge, near Latta, Prop Co - 1 March 20<sup>th</sup> 1850  
My highly esteemed old friend

your book on prison discipline reached on the 28<sup>th</sup> of last month and for which you have my most sincere thanks. I am gratified to know that my old acquaintances have not forgotten me in my declining years. Old Betsy reads your book with more pleasure and interest, than she would if it <sup>had</sup> been written by any ~~another~~. My children and grand children have spoken for the reading of <sup>your</sup> old Jimmie's book in totation. I <sup>am</sup> inclined to believe that <sup>that</sup> part of ~~which~~ your book, which treats on the neglect of parents in keeping proper discipline in their families, will produce a harvest of good in community. Your conduct in the prison to improve the morals of the unfortunate prisoners will justly entitle you ~~to you~~ to the character of the Model Chaplain.

I have <sup>been</sup> afflicted with rheumatism the ~~last~~ <sup>last</sup> six months in my right shoulder and arm to such a degree, that <sup>it</sup> is <sup>with</sup> <sup>my</sup> pain I <sup>was</sup> <sup>able</sup> to write these few lines of thanks for sending me your interesting book.

I have nothing new or strange to communicate. The church here is increasing in number, and what is better I think in morals. I was in Philliothe a week ago, and heard the Rev Mr. Weekly preach two sermons and they were good ones. They have revivals in progress there and numbers have joined the church.

your namesake I B Finley Morgan is a smart saucy little fellow goes to school and learns well. My children and grand children all enjoy their usual health. There is great anxiety and bustle felt here about coming convention to remodel our constitution. I am fearful the times are unpropitious for any good to grow <sup>out</sup> of the scheme.

Betsy wishes to old Hannah and all your family. My arm pain me, or I would fill my sheet, with better shetter matter on politics and theology. I wish you and yours health peace and happiness, and life as long as life may be desirable.

I hope you <sup>will</sup> have leisure to pay us a visit the coming spring, you can scarcely imagine how anxious your old friends are to hear you preach again. I am in truth your sincere friend.

John McDonald

Rev James Brady Finley.