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Letter from James B. Finley to C. Clark

James B. Finley

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Feb 26 53

Mr & Clark Dear Sir

I was glad to find this morning your excellent paper on my table - and in looking over it I found this question propounded Whose, (were the "Gorys") on Thursday of the County Temperance Convention. I answer Sick at my room with a palpitation of heart from over working; and could not be there without great imprudence; I wish it to be perfectly understood that I do not regard to my name in Ohio as being a whole soul temperance man up to the hilt but nub and all; before any other man in Ohio that I have any knowledge of I commenced a public war with this curse of our race; and in 1811 & 1812 in the counties of Fairfield Muskingum & Licking ~~counties~~ I pledged more than 15 hundred to the ~~the~~ total pledge; and for more than 42 years I have stood before the people of Ohio as the uncompromising enemy of this God-detest of all curses; tell the people of this Commonwealth that I live to hate; and will live to help ~~to~~ destroy this enemy of God & Man; I am thro' afflicted, and may soon die but I say to my Brethren do not give up the ship
 J. Stanley