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James B. Finley Letters

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3-11-1847

## Letter from Michael Marley to James B. Finley

Michael Marley

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Milford 8 March 1847

Rev. James B. Amory  
Columbus,

Ohio.

Amory  
March 18 47

12/4

Milford, Clermont Co. March 11. 1847

Most Noble Chieftain

I will no longer deny myself the pleasure of receiving a letter from you, by my own sloth in writing to you, but will scribble away a while, and then claim that you are in my debt, whether I write any thing worth your consideration or not. I have closed my second round of quarterly meetings on this District, for this year, and you will see in the N.C. Advocate of next week a brief account of our work, so that I shall not repeat it here. This as you know is my last year, and I feel a strong desire to see the District in a flourishing condition at the close of my Presidency. The Lord save me from such an administration as that of J. H. Polk. I am still under the weather in respect to health, and the Lord only knows whether I shall ever be as well as I have been. I sometimes fear that though I have had an iron constitution, it is inapocably racked. Where will you send me next year? I feel that rest would be desirable, that is rest from travelling. But the Lords will be done.

Had you left the conference in Piqua before its action in respect to Masonry? I forget whether you were there or not, however you have doubtless learned what that action was. The committee reported that it was unnecessary to take any action on that subject, in view of the action of 1828 that stood on the Journals. After the adoption of this report by the conference, I moved that, that part of the Journals of 28 referred to in the report be read which motion carried, and the Journals read.



well sir, for having the assurance to make this motion. I have learned since conference, that I am to be marked in future, by some of my good brethren. How is this? Some years ago you had the honor to be the object that was marked but now you slip along as smoothly as the oil itself, while I, the most peaceable man in all the land, have become the worst object? Oh how things change. I intended no disrespect, or harm to the fraternity by my little motion, but believed then, and still believe that as the report referred to that part of the Journals, that to do the business correctly, that portion of the Journals should be read. What think you? I had some notion of going to the general conference, should the Lord spare my life, but you see that there is no chance for me. But still I may go on my own hook? gosh. This last paragraph is in strict confidence for your own use, as you will doubtless understand me in text.

The repair of the grave of our lamented brother has been accomplished. Thank God that I have lived long enough to enjoy that pleasure. May heaven grant, that you and I may with him enjoy that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens. our work in Kentucky is still enlarging, and yet they cry come. Our preachers cannot respond to all the calls that are made on them. We need a single man of some experience for that work at this time. Do you know of any? The Lord send the day of diligence to this forsaken, and scattered people. I cannot vote for any more as a delegate to the next general conference who will not go for sending preachers where ever we have members in good standing

Do you think there is any doubt about the abolition of that line of Division? I think there can be no doubt on that subject.

What think you of the division of the City so as to put part of it into two districts? next year there will be eight regular charges which will make nearly a district, and prevent a man from having more than two country appointments. I think that four weeks is long enough for any Elder to be in the City in view of his own comfort.

What think you of Tom Cewins great speech? I feel proud that Ohio can boast a man in the United States Senate, that has a Conscience, and that fears his God. He is the only man in Congress that has had moral courage to look at this iniquitous war, in its moral aspect, and to speak the truth in open day, under the shadow of the Presidential Chair. The people are with him, and God is on his side, and Polk, and all his minions will not be able to hurt a hair on his head.

My love to Brothers Spencer, and Moody and Mr. Galaway &c. Now Chief I hope you will be in a good frame when you receive this, and write immediately, or sooner if you could. The Lord bless you, and your family, and your Charge. Pray for us  
So  
Respectfully

Respectfully  
Affectionately  
Rev. James Bradley Linley  
Chaplain of the State of Ohio  
M. Maylay