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James B. Finley Letters

1-6-1846

Letter from Samuel Brown to James B. Finley

Samuel Brown

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Charleston Virginia January 6th 1846

Dear Father Jimley I Received your letter on Saturday last with a thankfull heart and read it with interest the manner in which it commenced by pronouncing a blessing on me affected my heart and started tears from my eyes seeing that it was the prayer of an old friend and tried one. one that had done so much for me Father Jimley dont think it flattery for I have all ways looked at you as my best friend and believe had it not been for the interest that you took for me I should not have been where I am. for which I all ways have felt gratefull and now so in reference to the appeal you make to me that there is not one drop of abolitionism & bought you neither soul nor body I do it well and have said so hear when you have called a abolitionism by the Southern members for we have them hear and some worthy ones I have so bought you desire to do all & bought us and the Church I will endeavor to give it we reached Charleston two weeks from the day that we left conference in the night the next day I ~~attended~~ learned that the Church in Charleston was to be sold the next week for a debt of sixteen hundred Dollars I got one of the Stewards to go and get the said payoff he did for one month we went to work and have had it payoff

Samuel Brown
Jan. 6 / 1846

from time to time untill we have raised between 12 and 13 hundred Dollars we had not been buying long for the Church untill I was told that there was a debt the Circuit had to pay for the preachers house rent & part of South Brother Bonds years and all Brother Goughs & mounting to & bought one hundred and twenty Dollars and it must be raised or three Brothers suffer we are & bought trying to raise it I took Boarding at Brother Thomas one of the Leaders untill the quarterly meeting to see what the Stewards ^{would} do but learnt before I got ones word that the Stewards had determined last year not to bind them. selves any more either for house rent or Board but told me that they would do all they could to raise it for me to pay with I have received in all 28 Dollars we have a pretty strong current of Southern influence to contend with I think nearly one fourth of the membership is Southern in feeling tho some of them prudent men and say nothing about it some others worthy and earnest them selves a gainst us and the Ohio conference but the worst of all is we find the Church red or nearly so by examination of the class books and the leaders find that although three fourths of the members had not been to class for three years and is but little better yet it has looked the most like midnight of any

father Junley please to write to me soon
and give me your ~~and~~ advice ~~and~~
and tell me if you have moved and
how mother Junley is give her my love
I have not said half that I want
to say in the language of the
Discipline I am as much as ever and more
convinced of the great evil of slavery

Rev James B Junley
Janesville
Muskingum Co
Ohio



J

There is some evils necessarily connected with
it and great money that is not but
good out of it you can see slaves
near as white as those masters I have
No doubt but men sell their own
children and

Recd
Samuel Brown
1845

time in all my life till with in two or three weeks
we have had some good meetings and taking care
in the church and there appears to be some good
feeling, what will be the final result of this
part of the work is hard to tell at present from
ever I think there will some leave us if the
Southern general conference goes to give them
May is a going to be a trying time with us
now but I think the great majority will
stay until our general conference I think the
great majority wish to stay in the m & church
but they want a conference of those who
for there is strong prejudice here against
Ohio we can not meet but them that feel it
a great many slave holders look at us as
thought they thought we were a going to start
these vigorous I think a Western Virginia
conference is the only thing that will
save them that will satisfy them they
don't want to leave the church father Junley
we are trying to watch and pray and give
the Lord and have some pressing seasons
we are left with Brother West is well
and sends his love to you I am much pleased
with Brother West he is pleasant and a good
man and a good preacher and I love you
meanly good things of him I had Room
Brother Stewart you me I need saying but
he is the same good man like him much
he has been sick for the last two weeks but has
got better this morning he left for Pitts Kanawha
he sends his love to you Mrs Brown sends her love to
you I still remain your friend and brother
in the Lord Samuel Brown to Rev J B Junley