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James B. Finley Letters

1-16-1846

Letter from Joseph Reece to James B. Finley

Joseph Reece

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Martinsburg Knox Co. Ohio Jan 16th 1846
Dear Brother

With some diffidence I address
you at this time, having no personal acquaintance
with you, but the present circumstances I hope will
be a sufficient apology.
You are well aware of the difficulties that have
agitated the church in some of the slave holding conf-
erences; and the awkward position, of some of the
members, and preachers, especially in Missouri, many
of the preachers having to leave in consequence of the
decision of that conf. and that too because they could
^{not} go ~~con~~concienciously with the South, and I among
the number of those who were found to adhere to the
Methodist E. Church. I am now upon the border of
your work, and at your disposal; if you have any
vacaney in the bounds of your District; or if any of the
other Presiding Elders should need me, I shall willin-
gly go in the strength of him who called me to the
work of the Ministry; as I am not known to you, I
will here send you a copy of my certificate obtained
from the Secratay of Mo. Conf.

To all whom it may concern, Rev Joseph Reece having
given notice of his intention to go with the North, this
is to certify that he is a deacon of the M. E. Church in

Rev Joseph Reece
1846

Rev James B. Finley
Jamesville
Ohio
Martinsburg
Jan 17th

good standing, and ^{that} after having traveled two years on trial, his character was approved by the Missouri conference at its ~~last~~ late session in Columbia Mo, though he being not present was not admitted into full connection. By order of the conference.

St Louis Mo. }
Dec: 29th 1845. }

W. W. Redman. Secretary
of Mo. An. Conf.

My wish is to be engaged in the work until the session of the Ohio conference, and then become a member of that conference if they should consider me fit;

I should like to attend some of your Quarterly meetings if I knew when, and where, I could go to some of them on Newark Ct, or Granville.

Hope you will write to me soon for I would like to know if you have work for me.
My address is Martinsburg W. Va. Co Ohio

Yours affectionately
Joseph P. Reece

Rev James B. Fish