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James B. Finley Letters

4-9-1846

Letter from Michael Marley to James B. Finley

Michael Marley

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no 117-300

Milford, Clermont Co. O. April 9th 1846

Rev. and dear Bro. Finley.

Your very kind, and encouraging, letter of Feb 4th came to hand in due time, and would have been responded to long ago, but for two circumstances. 1st I have been pressed nearly all the time since, and 2nd I have not had very interesting materials out of which to compose a letter. But lest you should charge me with negligence I write at the present, with out having any particular subject for the occasion, and to assure you that nothing of the kind could have been more opportune, or acceptable, at the time than your kind letter, for which you have my most hearty thanks. You doubtless have seen our notice of the District, and of course will not expect much on that subject. yet I may be permitted to say that the good work still goes on. We have a new Church in Covington Ky. and I have held a Sacramental meeting there, though we have not regularly supplied them as yet, they are doing well, the Society is increasing. We have taken a large Society in the circuit opposite Fulton, of 80 members, have attached them for the present to the Fulton Charge. There are several other Societies that are coming, and I have no doubt but this work will still go on. Our quarterly meeting in Mayville produced an awful pernick in the ranks of the deserters. God never gave me more assistance in trying to preach in all my life. We had a general shout and break up on Sunday at 11 o'clock, and at night. I filled both the appointments, with more than success, for me. They refused to let us have the house on Saturday for the commencement of our meeting, and as their g. m. come on, on the next Saturday, I advised our brethren to send them a note offering them the house on Saturday which they did, but they would not accept. This all worked for our good. Since our quarterly meeting there, the Colored Society has come over in mass,

Recd
 W. M. Finley
 April 1846
 answered

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Milford
Apr 9

Rev. James B. Finley.
 Cincinnati,
 Ohio.

and declare themselves members of the M.E. Church. about 80 in number, and I am satisfied that in ten years, from this time, if the Slaves are preached to at all successfully, it must be by the M.E. Church. These Sable Sons of Ham, have sagacity enough to know that Pro-Slavery Prelates, are not their best friends.

I saw Joshua - not the son of Sam, in the City not long since, and talked with him in the Book-room about an hour. we talked about loves, and Steam-Boats and rail-roads - he but did not touch the main point. He tried to beer up, and succeeded to some extent, but evidently the old Strictures, that he felt last fall had returned to some extent. I hope he will breath free again when he gets to Petersburg. The Lord save the old Captivity. Adine Cheers, for the old Baltimore Conference, an account of their proceedings has thrown our Southern Miss in the City all into a quendamy. and the notorious Sec, into despair about the property, he says in the last Richmond Advocate that he "despairs of the South ever realizing the first red cent." let this be as it may in future, I hope they may entertain that opinion generally, before their general conference, then they will act without restraint, and will show their true Character, by altering the Discipline, so as to make it pro-slavery. You have doubtless heard of the proceeding at Petersburg, against the Western Advocate, this will all recoil upon their own heads, those Petersburg fellows are shrewd men.

But among all the strange things that have taken place in this strange world, for some time past, is, that my beloved Chief should be taken down from his elevated position, and be doomed to the State Prison. There to pour out his manly eloquence upon those abandoned sinners, that have been guilty of all the crimes that poor human nature is capable of. Oh tell it not in Gath, publish it not in ashtabund

like the French Chieftain, Hepaleon, after carrying the war, in triumph through all the land, himself is a captive. Well how do you like your new field of labor? and how long will you stay there, the Lord willing? I suppose you will have ample room for operation in Columbus along with Granville, in the regular work. I thank you most sincerely, for your generous offer to "die with me"; should death be my fate, our good bro. Elliott has placed himself in the same case and surely if any thing can mitigate death it is good company. And may we if need be like the Hebrews stand the fire. we are all well at this time, through mercy. Write soon. My love to bro. Moody and family. The Lord Bless you my good Brother, and spare you long, and may you live without pain, have an easy death, and eternal life at Gods right hand.

So

Rev D.B. Finley

Affectionately

Mr. Morley.