

3-12-1812

Letter from Robert W. Finley & Rebecca Finley to James B. Finley

Robert W. Finley

Rebecca Finley

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March 12 - 1812 Highland County

Our dear & most affectionate children, State of Ohio -
Received your letter Feb 12 - 1812, which gave us the pleas-
ing information, of your welfare, & more pleasing
your progress on ~~your~~ the way to heaven & glory
your Mother has had a long & very ^{severe} scene of Affliction,
for 10 weeks or more, a female complaint, a falling
of the womb, & suffered more severe pains, than she has
ever done since I first ^{know} her. She has somewhat recovered,
but is still poorly, in misery at times, & not able to go
about, any; confined to her bed, or chair. But, I hope it
will all be for the Best, that her afflictions will have
a salutary effect. & bring her to ride more in steadiness &
walk closer with God, you ~~will~~ may rank her among
your friends. That is, having to ~~be~~ for death, to
scale the wall of heaven, & meet you in glory -
now Brother Robert is ~~very~~ afflicted with the
fits & can't out travel alone, or he would be glad to
be with you, William Stearns is married to John Evans
daughter, has had a son still of sickness, & not yet re-
covered. Your Brother Samuel & family is well, has
had a mother daughter, which he calls Sarah, William
& family is well, has sold his place, & talks of preparing
to travel, your sister Sarah was converted a month or
two ago, the family well the last account. John &
his family well only ~~John~~ has been lying for death
but ^{the last} account was ~~receding~~, I intended to put up
to a Sadler, next month to learn the trade. It is a time
of mortality, Numbers dying, several peopleing fast
& many go without a hour to rest. I was in Cin-
cinnati about 10 days ^{ago} that day I went in there was
sicke buried, in Lexington they bury from 10. to 20
in a day. It is hard times here, grain is scarce & very dear
I have every thing to buy, it is the hardest year I ever seen
since I kept a house, I know not how it will come

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James Finley

Parsonsville Post office

State of Ohio Putnam County

Recd March 17

James Finley

Parsonsville Post office

Putnam County

out, I fear at the little end of the horn. I have ~~enjoyed~~
a middling State of health ~~priced~~ about 10 ~~blows~~
every ~~week~~ weeks, at present pretty good times, not
so many coming in, & as profusions converted
your Brother London was poorly when I saw him,
as appeared dejected - Brother John Collins well & fa-
mily. If live my Camp meeting will commence at
Lovers 12 miles from Williamsburgh on Friday the 26
of August next, ~~with all your~~ your attendance will
be expected with all the Weather ~~at~~ ^{you} can bring, tell Bro-
ther M^r Hendon that the Circuit says he is under pro-
mise to visit there the first conference would sit at
Cincinnati, ~~and your~~ family visit your father &
mother expect their cottage to be your first stopping
place. On my last visit I never expected to have
seen the face of one belonging to me. I had been ill 2
days, preached 12 times, never broke my fast, in the even-
ing was suddenly taken with a ~~cramp~~ about my heart
& bowels, shortly ^{after} I was taken a doctor riding post
inquired, he came in at ~~five~~ with me, viewed me
making ^{the} man & woman ~~aside~~ told, before I ~~was~~
would be corpse, I never heard & replied it was ~~what~~
I expected, they then asked if I died, what they
should do, I told them to put in a body in a ~~day~~
you shall it home, I told my friends to bury it,
& that my soul was gone straight to glory, and
add I this is my last will, if it was short, it would
be easily executed, I was immediately
thrown into a profuse sweat, recovered, I went
on to my appointment next day. Our Or-
children expect shortly to be Orphans in the world
without a father or mother, but if you should have
reason to believe they are gone to Heaven, it will be
a cordial that will always render their remem-
brance a consolation, Lord gather us all as a

family into heaven. I expect this year should I
serve it, to finish my ~~Winter~~ ~~Therapy~~. I left
some Books with Brother Hawkins at Stubens-
ville & some with Brother Burns on my way
home, if you bring me the money, if not the
books, as I expect this year to turn me to the
left and ~~come~~ you. Brother John & William
has thoughts of purchasing on the East fork of
the Mianan, a valuable tract of land, to be
had at 2 dollars ^{& a half} per acre. If I could sell, I ~~would~~
would purchase there, on Jan 25 Hannah
was converted Francis is learning to read
fast. All your friends John in compliment
to you & yours &c We remain your affecti-
onate parents

Robt. & Rebecca Finley

W. D. Miss Hill dead, we hope is in heaven.
She told me not long before her death, she was ex-
pected under you & converted under me, & that
afterward she never doubted, Miss Grant is
dead, & Jeremiah much reformed, he has forsaken
his evil ways, & set up the worship of God in his
family. I expect to write to him tomorrow,
I want you to write to him, direct your letter
to New market I will pay the postage & send it
on, your Brother Samuel is got pretty sober
& be sure you write ^{him} immediately - No more
God almighty & bless you all
Robt. & Rebecca Finley