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Letter from Martin Ruter to James B. Finley

Martin Ruter

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Rev. James B. Finley
Cincinnati, Ohio.

1829

Wm. W. Munter

Augusta, Jan. 8, 1829.

Dear Brother,

When last in Cincinnati, I had not time to call on you, & therefore send this.

Young Keever is in excellent health, & pursuing his studies with success. He desires to continue one more session after this, that is, until next August; but fears his father will be unwilling for him to stay longer than till vacation in February. I believe he wishes to continue the studies he is now in, & to obtain a thorough knowledge of book keeping. I told him I would mention it to you, thinking you might have sufficient influence with his father to obtain his consent. Probably, if you should write a letter to him respecting it, it would be sufficient. We have no better student, in respect to behaviour & diligence in study, than young Keever - he is respected & esteemed by the students generally.

We prosper as usual in the College, and are doing tolerably in the Church. We have three white classes, all led by students, whom they nominated themselves. Young Harrison leads the Young Men's class, Br. Litch one of the

other, & a student by the name of Robinson ^{leads} the other.

A local preacher by the name of Woodward, of this circuit, living in Washington near Maysville, recently withdrew, & joined with Sanford, who is travelling over our moral wilderness, trying to convert precious souls to — radicalism. I have told others, & I think I have told you, that this reform plan is generated among the local preachers; and I think we shall yet have abundant evidence of the fact. — But religion is better than all reform beside — better than riches — better than fame — better even than friends, or all that friends can give. O may we enjoy its fullness, its height, depth; & enjoy it in heaven. Amen.

There dwells repose that knows no bound,
And joy's eternal tide,

Ah! haste that heaven of bliss to find,

'Tis folly all beside.

My love to the preachers —

Ever yours in Christ.

Rev. James B. Finley.

M. Puter.

