

5-15-1819

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

Robert W. Finley

Rebecca Finley

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Ohio
Franklin
Rev James D. Simley



MS

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 May 15 - 1819 P Town State of Ohio -
 Dear Sir (Children) We are all on the Streams
 of Time, under full sail for the Port of eternity &
 sail as many knots in an hour at night as in the
 day. & will soon reach the Port. & hope it will be
 the good Port of heaven. As to the health of the fam-
 ily, it is as usual, no visible alteration either for
 the better or worse. My Colleague has desisted
 to travel, & the whole weight of so populous a
 Circuit devolved on my shoulders. & my limbs
 totter beneath the ponderous weight. This
 year has been more oppressive than any that
 has rolled past since I have been at Stearns.
 The work of the Lord is still progressing, & lost
 wandering sinners gathering home to God. I
 shall a respectable increase this year, perhaps
 not less than a hundred. The greatest number of
 them profess conversions - We have had ^{at good} ~~work~~
 among children from 7 to the number ^{of} ~~thous-~~
 and of whom the Prophets wrote.
 My next Court meeting on the Circuit
 will commence on the 30 of July next, in the
 neighborhood where said Deacons & great number
 of children live. They are fired with an expectation of
 once more seeing you. I have wrote to John & William
 to attend to Samuel & Hannah. I want the family
 to meet at that place, as the Presiding Elder
 cannot be with me. I depend much on you

We all join in our united love to Hannah & Elizer. I am much pleas'd with the prospect of seeing them in so short a period. That the Lord may bless you in Babylon and in time for a time & eternity. is the fervent prayer of all your
true friends &c. &c.

Robert & Rebecca Finley

My Remembrance to Brother Anderson. The family would be as glad to see him as any of their relations. & likewise to Brother Brooks

to assist me in the management of meeting, for you may be assur'd I am very fond. I request you to let the Preachers of your District know of the appointment, & that I desire their attendance as it will be directly on their Pious to Conference. & if possible bring Bishop Roberts with you. I want you to write immediately after you receive this what prospect I shall for help from that Quarter. It will be held on New ground, where a meeting of some kind ^{never} was held. I flatter myself of a great good time.

Your Mother is an fire for the good word, & ranked among the common sorters. Robert is a clear leader of a number of youth & fills that station with dignity. I have thought that if he recover his health, he would ^{make} a very respectable preacher. Joseph & Thomas are going to school this summer, & are in full flight ^{for} the celestial chime. As for myself I can say this year has the happiest & the most profitable year of my life. I have labored hard, but not in vain. I have preached several times till I fainter, & thought I was going home in the harness. I have the prospect of meeting the whole family in life & immortality. may the Lord smile the fulness of Salvation on all of us that we may meet where Jesus is & parting will be no more