

2-13-1843

## Letter from Thomas L. Hamer to James B. Finley

Thomas L. Hamer

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Georgetown O  
Feb 15

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Rev. J. B. Finley  
Germanstown  
~~Ohio~~ Ohio

From  
J. M. Humes

215  
Georgetown O. July 13<sup>th</sup> 1843  
Dr. Sir; Your very kind letter of  
the 31<sup>st</sup> ult. came by last mail.  
For the excellent advice it con-  
tains - as well as for the assu-  
-rance that I am still remem-  
-bered in your prayers - accept  
my most cordial thanks.  
You are aware I suppose -  
that for several years past - nei-  
-ther Mr. H. nor myself have  
been members of the Church.  
We withdrew - quietly - on account  
of troubles & difficulties - in the  
particular Branch to which we  
were attached - & not on account  
of any objections to the faith or dis-  
-cipline of the Methodist Church -  
or because we had grown faint -  
or weary in well doing. - We are  
as much Methodists now - as we ever  
were - & hope to live & die so. -

The reasons for withdrawal are too numerous - too local - & too much of an individual character to trouble you with their recital. They were satisfactory to us at the time - we have found no cause since to change our opinion.

It cannot be expected, that I enjoy that lively hope - the calm absorbing peace, or the deep felt happiness & strong, ever-present, abiding faith & confidence, which accompanied me in the days of my first love. The turmoils of life, the cares of the world & the busy bustling scenes through which I am constrained to pass, daily, imperiously forbid it. I do not discharge my religious duties as I ought; I do not devote enough of my time to God - nor do I read his word or contemplate upon his goodness as much as becomes me. I know all this; & to these failures on my part - do I attribute the change in my enjoyments. He is the same - ever ready & never willing to bestow

fulfillment of joy upon all who ask it. Notwithstanding all this - I can say - "I have a hope that reaches beyond the grave"; poor, unworthy & undeserving as I am - I know that my Redeemer liveth & feel that I have an interest in the Atonement He has made for sinners. I am resolved too, God being my helper - never to turn back, or to lose sight of that star which guides the weary pilgrim to a Haven of rest beyond this vale of tears. That I may meet you there, with all the blood washed saints - my elder worthy Brother - is my sincere & daily prayer. God grant that it may be our happy lot - for Jesus sake.

I shall always be glad to hear from you - when you can find time to write. Mrs. H. joins me in kind wishes for your health & happiness.

Rev. J. B. Finley } Very truly your friend  
Genmantown N.Y. }  
J. S. Garner