

Jay April 14 1830

Dear Isaac

I am again enabled to express my gratitude this morning to the good shepherd who watches over all his creatures for good and when in the morning I awake and view the rosy cheeks of our children it fills me with grateful feelings and I pour out my soul in prayer and thanksgiving and believing at the same time you join your desires at the throne of Grace in behalf of yourself and Family Batharine has had a severe time with the ague in her face but is better this morning. we have fine weather: I wrote you last week that I was from home I was at Forbs Newels and Mr Bartlets John and Lady was going on Saturday to May Sanfords they insisted on my going with them which I readily accepted and had good visit the May was at home but wasts to go to the south on Monday his health is good I went from home on Wednesday and did not return until Sabbath: our men are busy getting in crops and it bids fair to be fine growing weather Joshua is at work on his farm and Boynton and Dumont are disputing about theirs: they will have poor crops

April 15<sup>th</sup> Father ~~is~~ says they have got in four Bushel Spring Rye and  
and this week they will sow two Bushel Spring wheat the  
ground for Pear is so wet that they cannot sow them yet he is  
beginning to make garden and they have rated him in command  
and he is so busy that he could not write Josh is sowing Pear  
and the boys are ploughing the orchard I can tell what they are  
all doing but I am doing very little my self I rise early and  
do nothing all day as Nap said to Father I have but little  
strength yet if I could be a partner in your Journey I should  
get well, you will think me thin in flesh but I am not you  
will say there she is spleeny I think so my self and get  
up in the morning and think I will go to work but soon  
find my strength gone I think if I had some good wine  
bitters it would be a benefit to me but I don't know  
as there is any to be had short of Clintonville. I have  
heard since writing the above an accident that happened  
down the River a man was killed instantly in raising a  
house he was from Vermont my heart bleeds for his poor  
wife and children I have not heard the particulars  
about it

our Baptist Brethren are making a trial to build a meeting  
House and they have got about eight hundred Dollars signed  
I hear they are to build with Stone: William was here  
Tuesday they were well and likewise John's Family I have not seen  
John or his wife since he left home I have visited none but  
the sick sun till last week: I have not seen M<sup>rs</sup> Slater since  
I received your letter the river is too high to cross with a waggon  
he is as well as usual: I am in hopes you will be at home  
with us before a great while Janet says Father has been  
gone so long that she has forgotten what colour his hair  
is but his Eyes are blue just like hers and I believe  
you have now been gone as long as you ever was gone at a  
time it is months since you left home and you was gone  
that length of time when you was wounded at fort George  
your description of the Navy yard is interesting and must  
bring to mind trials in your mind ~~but~~ which we cannot  
know any thing of yet it is like Electricity to me it make  
me think of the difference that situations can make on  
the mind I now feel anxious to get a letter but that

Fearfull trembling which used to take possession of my whole  
frame while breaking the seal of a letter is gone and yet  
I know the same Keeper is over all and in all situations  
we are in need of his protection but I consider you in  
~~less~~ danger now than when you was in the heat of battle  
is what shall I render to God for all his benefits towards me  
and how unthankfull I am for the mercys I receive  
I have an Idea that I shall be that thankfull creature  
that can rejoice both night and day if we live to meet  
again may the good Lord smile Propitiously upon us  
and bring us all together in health is the wish of

your constant Martha Finch

Hon

Isaac Finch

Letter from Martha Finch (age 44) to her husband Isaac from Jay NY April  
14, 1830 while he was serving in congress (!829-31) Washington DC  
Sealed with red sealing wax

April 14 1830

Dear Isaac

I am again enabled to express my gratitude this morning to the good shepherd who watches over all his creatures for good and when in the morning I awake and see the rosy cheeks of our children it fills me with greatfull feelings and I pour out my soul in Prayer and thanksgiving and believing at the same time you join your desires at the throne of Grace in behalf of yourself and Family Katherine (18 yrs old) has had a severe time with the acne? In her face but is better this morning. we have fine weather. I wrote you last week that I was from home I was at Forks? Newels? And Mr Bartletts John and \_\_\_\_\_ was going on Saturday to Maj Sanfords they insisted on my going with them which I readily excepted and had a good visit the Maj was at home but was to go to the south on Monday his health is good I was from home on Wednesday and did not return until Sabbath. our men are busy getting in crops and it bids fair to be fine growing weather Joshua is at work on his farm and Boynton? and \_\_\_\_\_ are disputing? About theirs they will have poor crops

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April 15 Father (Simeon Barber) says they have got in four bushel of spring rye and and this week two bushel spring wheat the ground for Peas is so wet that they cannot sow them yet he is beginning to make garden and they have \_\_\_\_\_ him in command? and he is so busy that he could not write Josh? Is sowing Peas and the boys are ploughing the orchard I can tell what they are all doing but I am doing very little myself I rise early and do nothing all day or Nap said to Father I have but little strength yet if I could be a partner to you in your Journey I should get well. You will think me thin in flesh but I am not You will say this? She is \_\_\_\_\_? I think so myself and get up in the morning and think I will go to work but soon find my strength gone I think if I had some good wine Bitters? It would be a benefit to me but I don't know as there is any to be had short of Clintonville. I have heard since writing the above and accident that happened down the River a man was killed instantly in raising a House he was from Vermont my heart bleeds for his poor wife and children I have not heard the particulars

(over)

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Our Baptist Brethren are making a trial to build a meeting House and they have got about Eight hundred Dollars signed I hear they are to build with Stone William was here Tuesday they were well and likewise Johns Family I have not seen John or his wife since you left home I have visited none? But the sick untill last week. I have not seen Mr. Slater since I received your letter the river is to high to cross with a waggon he is as well as usual. I am in hopes that you will be at home with us before a great while Janet (*almost 4 yrs old*) says Father has been gone so long that she has forgotten what coullar his hair is but his eyes are blue just like hers and Adalines (*8 yrs old*). You have now been gone as long as you ever was gone at a time It 5 months since you left home and you war gone that length of time when you was wounded at fort George Your description of the Navy yard is interesting and must bring to mind trials in your past which we cannot know anything of yet it is like \_\_\_\_\_ to me it makes me think of the difference that situations can make on the mind I now feel anxious to get a letter but that

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Fearfull trembling which used to take possession of my whole frame while breaking the seal of a letter is gone and yet I know the same Keeper is over all and in all situations we are in need of his protection but I consider you in less danger now than when you was in the heat of battle Ah? What should I render to God for all his benefit towards me and how unthankfull I am for the many I receive I have an idea that I shall be that thankfull creature that can rejoice both night and day if we live to meet again may the good Lord smile Propiciously upon us and bring us all together in health is the wish of

Your constant Martha Finch

Hon  
Isaac Finch

*The "envelope" for this letter is "recycled", addressed on the outside to*

Hon Isaac Finch  
Washington  
DC

*But it had originally been used to send a letter (as evidenced from the inside of the envelope) from*

Isaac Finch  
Free

(to)  
Mr Simeon Barber  
Jay N York

*Simeon Barber was his father in law, Martha's father*