

Morganfield Union Co
Ky. Dec. 25, 1865

Dear Father

I received two letters from you recently written on November 20, - the two letters being the same in contents. Nearly two years have elapsed since I had received any word from you, before. And I was pleased indeed to hear from you & to know that you are still enjoying tolerable health, and that no deaths had occurred in the family. I had quit writing from a belief that you had probably ceased to have any interest in me, and this belief was founded on the fact that I got no letters from you. I am glad to believe now that I was —

not correct in my opinion, and
that you still desire to know con-
cerning my wellbeing. I comply
with your request to write immediate-
ly. I may give you my own history
and circumstances in a few words
in relation to the last twelve
months. I am still a member
of the Presbytery of Louisville,
and am still engaged in teach-
ing - preaching 3 Sabbaths
in every month. I have a
Male Academy - have 30
pupils nearly all of them
above the age of 14. The
school is one which pays me
about 900. or 1000 Dollars per
year, or rather for ten months
which is a scholastic year
in all this country. I preach
to two churches, which are
small in numbers, and not

able to pay a competent
~~salary~~. They pay me, however,
a small salary for preaching.
I am pleasantly situated, and
in a very healthy location,
I have not had a days ill-
ness in a year, and never
was in better health, than I
am now. The ministerial work
is harder & more discouraging
than it was before the war.
There is a demoralization in
society that is quite visible
everywhere. Intemperance has
increased very much in the
last two years & is still
on an increase. Crime of
every kind abounds in all
the country. That is the
complaint in all the papers, and
in all the reports to Presbyteries
& Synods in the whole length

and breadth of the land,

In some portions of the country, and more particularly in the States south of this - States formerly in Rebellion, the Lord has poured out his Spirit upon the Church, and people, and very large accessions have been made to the various Evangelical Churches, in those parts. The attendance on preaching in this region, and North of us, is not as good by any means, as it was before the war. In many of the large cities, and towns, only a fraction of the population attend upon the preaching of the Gospel.

Roman Catholicism seems to be gaining ground among us. Infidelity & Indifference in relation to Religion seem to be the growing characteristics