

May 7, 1895.

My dear Mr. Belden;

Greeting. We are all well down here at our beautiful Academy and wish you could look in upon us and see how lovely everything is looking around. Bridgeton is beautiful in May and is hard to beat at anytime for climate.

I think of you whenever at Presbyterry your name comes up and often wish you hadn't left just as I came, for I know I should have enjoyed your bright mind among thr others that gather every quarter to straighten out the affairs of church.

We had a pro re-nata meeting last week at Camden to try to ad just the trouble in the First church there. Mr. Louchs, you know, left a couple of years ago and it was hoped that the new incumbent Mr. Spooner, would harmonise the various elements that were left after that unpleasant affair. But he has failed to do so, and must leave in his turn I think. It is too bad.

But I have a selfish motive in writing to you at this time. We have in mind the coming meeting of the Missionary Union and we w'd like so much to be there with all the saints from so many lands. But the times continue hard, the outgoes are so large and the incomes so small that we don't see just how to afford it. Still Mrs. Lyon ou wants to attend it while her dear father is there and as he is now eighty-one we feel as if we should make a very special effort to be there this year.

What would it cost us? Is there anyway in which we could get some missionary discount? Would the fact that we are training missionaries in our school entitle us to any special consideration? Of our graduates last year, at least three are expecting to become missionaries and we educated all three at very large reductions be cause of our interest in the cause. I do not mention this however, to have credit for it, but I am so anxious to be with you at the meeting that I think of any excuse I have to get there. Please do what you can in the matter and if nothing, no matter.

We have a corner for you here anytime you can be with us. You would enjoy a visit to this old stamping ground, I am sure. The Academy holds its own in spite of the hard times for schools and the outlook ahead is bright. What we want most is boys.

How is your own health now? Are you able to do any stated work at all? And how is your wife and the bairns? Please remember our abiding interest in them all.

With cordial greeting,

Very sincerely yours,

PHOEBUS W. LYON.