

Calund Dec 21st/46

Brother Southwick.

I am greatly obliged to you for your note, you say, you wish to "provoke" me, & I should think so richly by the length of your letter - could you ^{not} spare a whole sheet? or did you suppose you would never get your pay? I suppose you have done "recreating", there one you the crushing responsibility of a Missionary - well, it is good to have the yoke in our youth I suppose - If you will allow me in a little egotism, on this occasion, I think I have been bearing a pretty heavy load - but sometimes it seems quite too heavy to carry - How many sermons do you suppose I have written since Army? only 21 - & preached, I do it, how how many times really - usually 3 lectures one week & 2 the next alternately - once I had to write nearly the body of a funeral sermon between 8 o'clk & 2 AM - It was on the death of Mrs Perry, one excellent single mother - about 300 were present. I suppose you have heard how we have been persecuted from one ^{house} & fled to another - not so large but more comfortable in winter - Our congregation had been increasing slowly & the musicalish decreasing - we have had very good singing generally & they none - this worse than no doubt. Besides the house was about to be repaired at the expense of the town - an appropriation of \$75 was obtained with some