

Lexington Ky May 7<sup>th</sup> 1872.

Dear Brother Bishop

Your of 3<sup>rd</sup> ant received  
and contents carefully considered.

Much as we desire that the difficulty  
should be settled and peace and brotherly love  
restored, we cannot accept your proposition  
in other terms than those stated in our former letter,  
with the exact terms in which it is expressed.  
It is well known to you that your proposition  
is construed differently by the parties to whom  
it is addressed. We understand <sup>it</sup> as you Mr  
Allen do, to include only the actual issues  
between the Church & the excluded parties, ~~they~~  
and <sup>also</sup> to include personal difficulties  
& grievances, <sup>under these circumstances</sup> - Our acceptance of it, <sup>therefore,</sup>  
without explanation, would <sup>only</sup> <sup>matter</sup> complicate the  
instead of healing the difficulty. - We are  
wary and willing to submit the matter to  
a committee to be selected in the manner you  
propose, but we insist that there shall be  
no ambiguity in the terms of the submission  
or misunderstanding of the  
of the consequences that are to result

Each copy by  
J. M. P. Bishop