From Lisbon Applegate to William Heryford, Jr.

[page 1] Keytesville[,] Mo[.] January 15th, 1865

Wm[.] Heryford Jr[.] Carrollton[,] Ill.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of two letters from you in the month of December in regard to your hogs, and have delayed answering thus far on account of Dr[.] Dewey the purchaser going off with his hogs to St[.] Louis before he settled for them.

He returned last night and rendered an account for Eight hundred & twenty five dollars the purchase money, which has been applied to your indebtedness, chiefly to Mr[.] Hyde. I was unable to go out to your place to deliver the hogs, and get Mr[.] Jno [John] R. White to represent your interests in this matter.

There seems to be quite a difference between the number of fat hogs you claimed to have had, and those actually gotten by Dewey.

Dewey got 45 fat hogs at the price you fixed[,] 6 1/2 cts[.] and a considerable number of stock hogs (the exact number not now on hand) and said he could find no more. I have however heard since that there is probably more hogs he has not gotten.

If this be true (and I will ascertain it in a day or two) I will write to you in regard to it and give you all the particulars in regard to the Dewey

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transaction. Your friend Mr[.] Quinn came just one day too late, Dr[.] Dewey having taken the hogs the day before he got here.

The price you fixed[,] 6 1/2 cts[.] was at that time the highest price that had been given, but if they could have been held a few weeks longer they would have brought at least 9 cts.

If there was as many fat hogs as you suppose they must have gotten out of the field or been stolen by some one. I will do all I can to trace it up, if possible. Your cows have not been sold yet, the buyers here are endeavoring to get stock at almost nothing, taking advantage of the disturbances in this country. I think however the Stevenson boys will buy them in a few days[.]

I would be glad however for you to write to me what you think they are worth so as to be some guide to me in selling[,] it being possible that I may not be able to see them myself. There is no local news of interest further than everybody almost seems disposed to leave the country on account of the disturbances present & prospective.

Present my regards to your Uncle Cap, Mr[.] Temple &c. and to your respective families. I will write again soon.

Yours truly, L.M. Applegate