

Oct 12 <sup>th</sup>/<sub>u</sub> 1888

Rev W. H. Belden

Bridgeton, N. J.

My Dear Brother

On my return yesterday afternoon from the Anniversary meeting of the Presbyterian Home, Dr Miller placed in my hands your paper on "Simultaneous Meetings". Last evening I read it with great care.

It is impossible for me, under the rules of the Board, to accept it as a publication of the Board. That can be done only by the Board itself. I will willingly lay it before the Editorial Committee, which will

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Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-School Work

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meet on Tuesday next, and, on the report of that Committee, the question of publication will come before the Board on the following Tuesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst.

Frankens requires me to say that, in my judgment, the Board will not accept your paper for publication. My opinion is based, not upon any question as to the validity of the positions you assume, but upon the following consideration.

Your paper is of the nature of a report to Synod - a report

which has not yet received the approbation of that body. Now a year ago the Board declined to publish a report on a similar subject that had been adopted by the Synod of Pennsylvania, & that had been transmitted to us by order of the Synod with the request that we should publish it. The declination was based on the manifest ground that to accede to the request would be to inaugurate a course that would make us but a publishing

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agent for the reports of Synods.  
If we should accede to one  
such request, it would be well  
nigh impossible to decline others,  
& we should be flooded with  
such papers.

With the highest regard  
for you personally, my dear  
brother, & with high appreci-  
ation of the principles advocated  
in your paper, I remain,  
Fraternally Yours,  
E. Craven.