

Pasadena Cal.

Mar 28, 1892

Rev W. H. Belden. Bristol Conn.

Dear Bro. Thank you for the notice of the Missy. Convention at Clifton Springs. I cannot promise to be there tho. my heart will and my prayers go up for it. If you have stenographic or other detailed report of the discussions, please reserve one for me.

Glad to know that the programme is wrought out fully beforehand. I would make bold to suggest - even to many of the 5 and 10 minute speeches, inviting <sup>specifically</sup> ~~formally~~ trained men to engage in the discussion ensuing upon certain papers. Their remarks if premeditated ~~should~~ constitute the cream of the conference. A few possible themes occur to me which I hesitatingly forward you herewith. The last one

I believe to be urgent. Foreign Missions  
<sup>in danger of</sup> is becoming a sentimental thing instead  
of the sternest business of the church's  
life. Women's ~~boards~~ <sup>societies</sup> are excellent but  
not at the head of the missionary operations  
of any individual church. Pastor, session  
membership should be organized into an all-  
embracing society to which <sup>the</sup> woman's society and  
S. S. bands would be tributary. And every  
incoming seaman saved should be taught  
that he is ipso facto a member of the  
foreign (and home) society of that church and  
instructed as to his duties.

I have seen a Synod of venerable Christians  
devote the only half day in which For. Missions  
were considered at all to listening to what  
the women of their churches had been giving  
and doing. For. missy. work does not admit of being  
thus done by proxy. May God bless and greatly extend the work  
of women in this field but forbid that it should <sup>be</sup> ~~well~~  
~~into the~~ substituted for the church's work - Yours in the glorious cause  
J. W. Lowrie