

Philippolis, Bulgaria.

March 4, 1896.

Dear Bro. Belden.

I have just rec'd the notice of the Thirtieth An. Meet. of the I. M. U., and send the filled-out blanks to Mrs. Dr. Hayer.

I want to write you just a note. I don't write much to my friends. The work, and the business of it, keep me too busy. I think our An. Meet. will begin March 25th. We do not yet know whether at Samokov or Solonica. I think at Sam. We have to meet early to see what we are to do with this great cut-down. We cannot stand this long. If the Board cannot support the native Agency work, some of us Missionaries will have to leave the field.

we think. I hope that Bro. Clarke
will be here in time for our meeting.

It is very probable that we shall
have a vacation soon. I think the
Mission and Board are ready to give
us a furlough. I think we shall go
home this year - but I think it cannot
be before Aug. or Sept. We are about
tired enough! It is becoming 12
years since we came back to Bulg.

Bro. Clarke may come here,
and hold this for his own absence.
I am ready to stay at home one
year or two - in rest, study and work -
but hope we shall not have to leave
the Mission field permanently.

I suppose we shall be much in
the West - as my home is at
Lyinnell, Iowa, and the
boys are in college there, and the
other children may be.

Get I hope I may meet you
sometime. I ought to make it a
business to rest and play for
a time. It will not be possible
that we get home so late as to at-
tend the Meeting of the B. M. M. this
year. I hope we may attend
the An. Meet. of the Board.

We are all just well.
Have some of us had light
attacks of influenza.

With love to you all from
each of us.

Yours sincerely,

Geo. D. Merrill.

I use the new stamps on my
letters. They help us to remember
when the Bulgarian baby was
"converted". M.