

Philippopolis,

May 26, 1888.

Dear Mr. Belden,

With all my heart  
I congratulate you and Mrs.  
Belden that you have been  
doubly honored as delegates  
to the World's Mission Conference.  
Now I feel as if the mission  
in European Turkey is to  
have a real live representa-  
tive there, and shall hope  
that we shall receive from  
yourself or your wife, some  
personal description of those  
portions of the proceedings  
most interested you. Will  
it not be delightful for us?  
Next to being there ourselves  
with you it will be to hear  
of it all from your graphic  
pen. You will be sure to

see Dr. J. Nelson Smith, whom  
we are much disappointed  
not to see here; and you will  
see my dear first pastor, whose  
hand was laid in baptism  
upon my head, — Dr. A. C.  
Thompson, of the Prudential  
Committee of the Ann. Board.  
Oh yes, and you will see  
Miss Child of the Woman's  
Board. How I wish you could  
and would just make up  
a little party, and come  
over here to see us! Wouldn't  
it be delightful, and the  
party would be so much  
to be congratulated upon  
having you for its guests.

Your request for facts  
came just in time, as an  
Meeting has just been held  
here, and the facts are all in,

giving us abundant occasion  
for astonishment at what  
God hath wrought, and of  
thanksgiving to Him for  
doing it. I know that Mrs.  
Marsh has been writing to  
you, but perhaps she has  
not given you some facts  
& concerning the Bible work,  
in which you may be in-  
terested, so I will venture to  
give you some extracts from  
the report of the Bible work  
which was presented at the  
An. Meeting.

Pazardijk, June 2. This letter  
should have been sent you more  
promptly, but much has intervened  
since my last writing, to prevent  
my continuing the letter. I came  
hither yesterday with what was  
supposed to be a bridal-party, the

wedding having been appointed for  
to-day, but yesterday afternoon the  
bride-elect's doubts as to her love for  
her bridegroom culminated in the  
conviction that it would be sin  
for her to marry him simply  
with the respect and esteem  
which is what she feels for him.  
So our Evanka Akabova remains  
in her father's house, and our  
friend, Mr. G. D. Kairias, returns  
alone to his home and work  
in Monastir, ~~alone~~ and Albania.  
He has an encouraging work there,  
as the agent of the British & For. Bible  
Society; has three or more colporteurs  
under his direction, and the prepa-  
ration of some of the first books in the  
language of his nation. He is very  
anxious that either the Am. Board  
or some other society shall open a  
specific work in Albania, but as

yet no one has been found to undertake this work. Dr. Alexander Thome, Agent of the B. & F. B. Society, will perhaps present this subject in some form, at the London Conference.

What a treat you will have! What a storehouse of missionary knowledge you will accumulate! What meetings with representatives of this Department of God's work, from all over the earth!

Please ask Mrs. Belden to see Miss A. B. Child from Boston, for me, and to remember me most affectionately to her. How I wish you could come here & see us again! Of course from your plans I see that this is impossible, but you would find your friends here very glad to see you. I do remember to pray for you & for this great gathering of God's children, that His blessing may abide

upon all the proceedings & resolutions of that body.

I thank you for your note of remembrance, and am always glad to receive a few words from you.

With loving regards to yourself & Mrs. Belden, and through your kindness also to Secretary Smith of the American Board, I am

Faithfully your friend,  
Ellen M. Stone.