

Parsonage,
First Presbyterian Church,
Nyack, N. Y.

Oct. 12th. 1896.

My dear Mrs. Belden;--

Yours of 2nd. inst. was duly welcomed. I was glad to know that you are pleased with the obituaries. Therefore, I believe they were fair and just to your sainted husband; and that I wished to be.

I gave your request, to both Observer and Evangelist, for galley proofs, and enclose editor Offord's reply. It, as you see, was delayed, and not read until Saturday on my return from Christian Endeavor Convention of N. Jersey. I send it to you that you may act as seems best. I wrote him to charge for proofs to my account if any, and there should be, for article on I. M. U. last summer. If you care to send him for papers, you may refer to that request, and have charged to account for same.

I received paper^{3m. n.} sent by you, and thank you for it. When new is ready I will be glad to get a supply especially of large sheets.

Wish it were possible to be present at meeting of officers of I. M. U. whenever it takes place. But at present that is out of the question.

Replying to your inquiry regarding Mrs. Davis' sister, let me say that she is improving again temporarily, for her disease -- consumption -- must in time terminate fatally. She may live for years however; and we hope she will, since she has had similar attacks, but less severe, for many years before. This came near a fatal ending, and we fear the next may be the last.

I am sorry to say that Mrs. Davis had an unusually severe attack of bronchial trouble recently and doctors feared for the results. She is around again and seemingly as well as usual, but was greatly alarmed by the attack. It was feared that pneumonia and heart failure would result. We realize that we are too near the water, and wish we were farther away.

Let me thank you for your kind and appreciating words regarding myself. I need not tell you that you have in Mrs. Davis and myself friends who will not forget you, nor hesitate to do whatever we can for your interest. We are bound together by a tie that is knotted before the Throne.

How we shall miss your husband at Clifton Springs. I ask myself, with growing anxiety, who will make out the program for next year? Who will systematize the work? But God

will manage affairs better than we can. I doubt if any of its members were as deeply interested and anxious for the I. M. U. as your husband. His life seemed bound up in and for it. His association with has made it almost sacred.

I wrote your cousin, Mr. Magie, and have just received a most kind and courteous reply, regarding my offer to supply for a Sunday, and the compensation of Riverside church be turned over to you. The purport was doubtless similar to that sent you. I shall be glad to do that little for your sainted one and anything, everything else, in my power, but the church may not wish me.

A letter from J. H. Scribner, in reply to my commendation, said that they had your name, but no vacancies at present. I fear our Board is doing little business and unable to employ many.

Let me assure you that you and yours shall not be forgotten at the Mercy Seat and I trust that your boys and girls, for all alike have my interest, will prove worthy successors of a worthy ancestry. While I hope to see them honor the name they bear, I question if they are not on the best road to such honor and usefulness by the struggle that must be theirs as they press forward for fitness in life's work. Trial brings out character. I believe that many of our best men and women became what they are through trial and struggle. I spent some time to day with a leading business man and financier of Pittsburg Penn., and learned that he became a rich man through poverty, and the loss of his father's property when he was a lad of twelve.

But I started for a short letter and have made it long.

With warm regards from Mrs. Davis and self, heartily and as ever yours, in the best of bonds,

J. A. Davis.

Dr. J. A. Davis

Recd. Oct. 14, '96



Mrs. W. H. Belden
Clifton Springs
N. Y.

NEW YORK, N.Y.
JUL 13
4-30 P.M.
1896

