

Davis-

Ans?

Sanitarium

Rev. W. H. Beloit

Clifton Springs

N. Y.



RECEIVED
SPRINGFIELD
MASS
AUG 11 1892

NEW YORK
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1892

Horizontal lines on the left side of the envelope flap.

PARSONAGE OF THE OLDEST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA,
HEMPSTEAD, L. I., N. Y.

Aug. 31st. 1897.

My Dear Belden; --

Pardon me for delaying so long to send you the promised book. After I. M. U. I was so driven in work that everything but that in hand was forgotten or neglected. After the work was done, I left immediately, with Mrs. Davis, on a vacation and have just returned. I forgot to send the book before leaving.

Yet I trust my delay will not be entirely unfortunate, as you doubtless are not fully ready to begin writing for the press. Allow me to suggest that you do not hurry to work. Delay now may mean the more success later. I began too soon after my mental strength returned, on moving here; and for more than a year my literary work amounted to almost nothing. I could write but not well enough for acceptance.

I hope, however, that your strength is rapidly returning, and that soon, if not already at work, you will be ready for most effective service.

I send the book of Eleanor Kirk, Periodicals that Pay, by this mail. I hope it will give you many hints and great help. When you have gained from it the help needed, kindly return to me, as I shall soon need it; but do not hurry about it.

Mrs. Davis' health compelled my absence. She was much improved by change, yet we fear the change will not be sufficient, so long as she remains on L. Island. While my own health has been made stronger than ever here, hers has been sadly weakened.

Since ~~the~~ I. M. U., I have thought much of its future and usefulness; and think I see a peculiar future for it, and one worthy our best efforts. If you see the S.

S. Times, read my article for 23d. July regarding one work of I. M. U. I think if we put our heads, by use of pen, together we may elaborate plans for making the I. M. U. even more effective and far reaching than in the past. One suggestion is, that we devote a portion of time to free parliaments on various mission topics, works, etc. Also, that we give a short time at each annual meeting for peculiarities and similarities to Christianity in heathen faiths. In other words, make such season one of study of the various religions.

Much as I deprecated the establishment of the I. M. U. at Clifton Springs, I see it can in certain lines be made far more effective there than in any other place. In time, I hope we may be able to use it for interesting the whole church, by conventions elsewhere; but in addition to the annual meeting.

I think we who write for the press should make known not only the general but special facts gained at that annual meeting. We may thus multiply the I. M. U. greatly. That may be part of the work of the missionary exhibits, such as we. In fact, I begin to see the I. M. U. in the shape of an arsenal for the home worker in missions; to get his annual supply of ammunition. Though I have been firing away through press and pulpit and platform for the past two months, I have quite a stock of unused ammunition yet that I gathered there. And the old cartridges refilled are just as good in a new place as when first loaded.

With warm regards to you and yours,
and hoping that your health is, or soon
will be, permanently restored,

I remain heartily yours,

J. A. Davis.