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1912-04-01, Letter from Dr. Meyer to Lyman Stewart

Louis Meyer

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April 1, 1912

[Written in pencil] Ans 6/26

[Letter written on Rev. Louis Meyer, D. D. Associate Editor MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD (New York) letterhead]

[Handwritten letter]

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I enclose today: 1. a copy of our report as Committee on Finance to the members of the Editorial Committee of The Fundamentals; 2. two copies of the tentative table of contents for vol. 8. of The Fundamentals. The manuscripts are now in the hands of the printer so that, humanly speaking, there is no reason why the volume should not be in the hands of the students of the theological seminaries and Bible Schools before they scatter for their summer vacations; 3. several papers referring to Stony Brook Bible Conference. I call your attention a) to the Platform of Principles, which I carefully worked out together with Dr. John F. Carson last August. b.) to [illegible] IV in the Prospectus (blue paper). In it is contained the proposal to hold a Prophetic Conference from August 19. to 25. Dr. Carson used to attend the Niagara Bible Conference, and he has always come out in behalf of the pre-millennial coming of our Lord at the meetings of the Stony Brook Bible Conference, which I have attended as speaker since it was founded in 1909. It is Dr. Carson's plan to have the meetings of this Prophetic Conference after the pattern of the Niagara Bible Conference. I have promised him my personal help, because I consider it

[Page 2]

a great opportunity, since Northfield pays very little attention to prophecy and Winona none, while even Montrose has not entered upon the holding of a distinct prophetic conference. Thus the East is in dire need of such direct teaching. But I want to submit to you a plan in connection with this Conference. When the Committee of The Fundamentals adjourned in Northfield last August, it was resolved that the Committee should meet at the call of the Executive Secretary at a place and time of his selection. Would it not be a good thing for the Conference and for the members of the Committee to call the meeting to Stony Brook during that week? All our members stand for the full truth and we would thus give Dr. Carson an opportunity to use them on his program, while, on the other side, we ourselves would be aided. It is our intention to give truth pertaining to prophetic subjects in future volumes of The Fundamentals. It is very probable that we would get at least some articles for them, or, if we get enough material, we might publish a whole volume of the addresses.—I submit the matter to you at this early date, because, if we decide to call the Committee to Stony Brook at the time of the Prophetic Conference, I will have to get into touch with our members soon that we get a full attendance, and I have to plan carefully with

[Page 3]

Dr. Carson that we get a strong program. We had a prophetic evening in Stony Brook in 1910, Thomas Needham and I being the speakers, and some of the post-millenarian directors discussed the addresses quite frankly with us afterward. These same directors, among them Rev. D. G. Wylie of New York, want now more light and are therefore favorable to the holding of the Prophetic Conference. The expenses of holding the annual meeting of our Committee in Stony Brook will not be larger than anywhere else,

probably smaller, because the hotels are less expensive than in Northfield. I believe that the meeting of our Committee should be held during the time of the Bible Conference and in the home of one of them, to give our members an opportunity to hear and see. Some of them have worked quite hard during the past seven months, especially Professors Kyle, Moorehead, and Chas. R. Erdman, Mr. D. L. Pierson, Drs. Mabie and Munhall, and Rev. Potter, and Messrs. Crowell and Smith of our Committee on Finance. Professors Kyle and Moorehead reviewed 32 mss. each, Professor Erdman 25, Mr. Pierson 31, Dr. Mabie 26, and Munhall 23, Rev. Potter 15. Since these reviews are thorough, they involve much work and, in returning the mss. to me, each writes out the criticisms in full. All mss. are read by me before they are sent out and weak ones are at once rejected by me. Our

[Page 4]

rules prescribe that an article must be read and accepted by four members of the Committee before they can be printed, and I adhere strictly to that condition. The whole number of mss., tracts, booklets, and articles in other publications, sent to me since I took charge on May 15, 1911., has been 231. Of these I sent around among the members of the Committee 69, and only 28 passed four members successfully (that is, without much criticism). A number of the articles were, at my request, rewritten by the authors in accordance with the criticisms and, being resubmitted, were finally accepted (these resubmitted articles are not counted in the numbers mentioned above.) I write you these things that you may see why I think that at the annual meeting of the Committee pleasure and business should be combined to some extent. I trust that your health has continued to improve and that the Lord is blessing the manifold labors for the advancement of His kingdom in which you are engaged. My wife and our children are well and happy. The latter are delighted with the box of oranges which you so kindly sent and for which they expect to send their own thanks. I am not well and I am planning for a short season of rest toward the middle of June, since it seems impossible for me to interrupt my work before that time.

[Page 5]

Would you be kind enough to let Mr. Kellogg and Mr. Milton Stewart know what I have written concerning Stony Brook? It will save me writing to them concerning the Prophetic Conference, in which they will be interested. Remember me most kindly to them and also to all the friends there. With kindest regards and prayerful wishes for yourself, yours sincerely,

Louis Meyer.