

Do not let the New England people
turn your faces towards
Bethlehem very
soon - In -

Bethlehem Pa Jan 12 1896

326 Market St

My dear Mr & Mrs Belden -

I think the contents of
your letter surprised us quite
as much as ours did you -
We are delighted to know that
you are so familiar with
Bethlehem and its people
and I presume of their many
 quaint customs - We were
glad, very glad that you
wrote so hopefully of coming
to see us - we hope it may be
soon - you very soon! It
would be such a treat to have
you under our roof and
enjoy a season of friendship

convince together - I trust the
time is very near at hand when
you can do so - There is one
other weighty reason why
we long for your coming -
The Church here is not very
much enthused on the
subject of Missions and
I feel confident that if
you both could present
in your earnest inspiring
way it would certainly
cause a "shaking among
the dry bones" - I do not wish
to overthrow the idea - There are
no missionary lights among
us - but as at church it does
not seem awake to the great
need of working and
doing and sending out help
on in this work -

There has never been a Home
Miss - Society until now - one
has just been formed - and I
was elected president of it
I find a very strong reason
why there is a lack of interest
on the part of so many - the
lack of missionary literature
and so few have been
here to represent the cause -
I wish you would send me
a list of your reading matter
that I could recommend to
the Society - we take the
Church at Home and Abroad
also the Home Mission Monthly
besides the papers - and leaflets
that are sent to me - If you have
a leaflet or two - please enclose
in your next letter - and when
you do come to see us bring

