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D. L. PIERSON.

Rochester, N. Y.

May 17 1894.

Dear Belden;

I am just home from New York and find yours has been here most of the time I was absent. I went up to Mack and spent the night, and talked with Davis till after midnight. He covered most of these points referred to in your letter but the result was not very radical. He recognized the difficulty of putting the prayer-element in the program, much deficient from former, only we could we thought strive a little more fully to keep devotional elements permeating all the sessions in a way that did not seem perfunctory.

As to publishing the proceedings

in volume, I assured him we would rejoice if he thought he could do it by any respectable means without cost or loss rather to us, by getting "ads." &c &c. But I could not promise him any help, for I do not know anybody who can give any time and energy and the initial expense even to the trial. I am not sure but he may tackle it himself. He seems to fancy he knows men who would subscribe and advertise &c &c I am sure I do not see why he should not try if he is willing to, at his own charges and risks - either this year or next -

I suppose we ought however to know whether we are to

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work on Bro. Rodwell's lines
with the local press of Clifton
and the re-print in loose
pamphlet form as in the
past two years - Even that
was hard work as Dunlap
and Phinney can testify -
Phinney, perhaps, & Cushing
I know would stay for two
or three days to work on
that after the meeting - if
that is desired by Dr. Foster
& you other Cliftonians -

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I do not think it necessary
to engage anybody for the
preaching on Sunday morning
unless it ^{were} some one
of renown whose name
would make it a considerable
word do I now see that it
is necessary to say in the
prints at all for who will
preach on Sunday. We
never did it till last
year, when we had a

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preacher of International
renown as a preacher -

I do not happen to know
anything of Tagg, since he
joined us at I. M. U. 1000th
except by correspondence &
articles sent me - and that
would show nothing of him
as a preacher -

But my thought is that
by Thursday night we could
pick out from those present

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Somebody who could on that
notification preach good
enough for common folks
leaving eminence out.

You know I have always
felt that we need not [if
necessity commanding] have
a stupid preach -

Is R. Pennick a colored
man? I really do not know.

That does Dave's mean
by saying Thoburn is
not an impressive

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Speaker, when the combined
Committee - Bishops &
Boards say they cannot
defeat him. Because by
his weird and wondrous
powers of popular
address he has
"hypnotized the Church".
I am glad to hope that I
have persuaded Theobald
to come for a day or two
during some part of the

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Meeting, and what I
hope from him is the
peculiar Spiritual
influence which in
some way emanates
from him - I asked
him to try to be there on
Sunday, but he thinks
he is fast for that date
as of course he is by
a dozen books for
every working hour.

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But it makes little
difference to me & none
to Thoburn if he does not
preach on Sunday even
if he is there - And if
it is necessary in your
judgment to settle
the matter at once by
securing Fagg - do not
hesitate because I have
spoken to Thoburn, as I
did not know of anybody.

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being in sight, besides him -
Only let me know what
you do, so as to avoid
collision -

I fear Mudge will not be
on hand - His new church
is Paradise Lost, if it is para-
diseical at all - and he will
find it difficult to get away -
He writes a pitiful description
of the "war of elements" into the
midst of which he was pitched
without warning by the complica-
tions of an undesired Bishop -

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"Your letter-head". I assume
went with the other
electras to Mrs. Thayer

All was ordered, well
and if not in Cl. Spa let
me know and I will go
for the "devil" - of a printer.
The Obituary program would
be difficult to mature early
in the session, as it would
involve brief biog: papers or
speeches by some body famous

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with them - I really dread to
risk a session of that sort
at any time, but it seems to
me at first thought that
a half hour or so of some
devotional hour in the
morning might be the
safest. Of course not to
be named in program in
advance

It looks to me as if Davis
should come early Tuesday
12th at latest and we can
powwow - I will try to

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get down to see you at some
early date. But just I
must get these two
missionary conventions
off my hands. That
is when I return from
Lockport next Wednesday
or Thursday - if not dead
before that -

Dr. Peck was in his office
at work in usual health
just one week before his
death -

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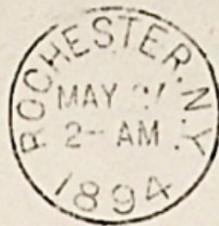
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I do not know if I have
scratched at all the
points you and Davis
suggested or not, but
Review copy must
be sent and none of it
is ready and everything
else is clamoring for
"copy" -
Your - n
Gracey

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