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10-25-1910

### 1910-10-25, Letter from Lyman Stewart to R.A. Torrey supporting the distribution

Lyman Stewart

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October 25, 1910

Rev. R. A. Torrey, D. D.  
Montrose, Pa.

Dear Doctor Torrey:

Your very interesting letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., duly received, and I am glad to know that such valuable literature as you mention can be provided so cheaply. I am also rejoiced that the Lord has put it in your heart to undertake the work of its distribution. This has occurred to me: A large number of preachers are very poor. Many of them have practically no libraries; others who have some means do not know what books to buy and are as liable to buy the wrong ones as the right ones, and hence a short chapter in the "Fundamentals" devoted to this subject, telling what books to buy, etc., would be a great blessing, to some of them at least. For instance, - lists might be made to meet the financial ability of the poorest among them, naming say, the three most important books outside of the Bible, assuming that their Bible helps will be limited to these. Larger lists could be made for those of greater financial ability, say lists of six, twelve, twenty-five and up to fifty, and then follow these lists with a description of your Montrose library, and thus have your valuable literature brought to the attention of the large number of seekers after truth who are reading the "Fundamentals". I think this would be along the line of the general purpose for which the "Fundamentals" are published.

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If the several members of the Committee, or others, were asked to make such lists, and then the Committee at one of its sessions, agree on a uniform list to be endorsed by the Testimony Publishing Company, it would be of great value to Bible students generally. A further list might be made of the books that it would be desirable to avoid, or at least, a list of authors whose writings, from the orthodox standpoint, are unsafe and therefore their works to be avoided. I believe that one great secret of the influence of the late Dr. James H. Brooks was his calling attention to the unsound utterances of prominent ministers and writers. We are pleased to note that your Montrose summer conference was so successful. We are glad to be able to report, and you will doubtless be glad to know, that our little Bible Institute has opened more auspiciously than ever before, the enrollment having been more than doubled. Yours very sincerely,

[Unsigned]

[Letter written by Lyman Stewart]