

Biola University

Digital Commons @ Biola

Selected Correspondence Related to the
Fundamentals

Biola's story

5-31-1911

1911-05-31, Letter from Lyman Stewart to Louis Meyer

Lyman Stewart

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.biola.edu/the-fundamentals-correspondence>



Part of the [Missions and World Christianity Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Stewart, Lyman, "1911-05-31, Letter from Lyman Stewart to Louis Meyer" (1911). *Selected Correspondence Related to the Fundamentals*. 28.

<https://digitalcommons.biola.edu/the-fundamentals-correspondence/28>

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the Biola's story at Digital Commons @ Biola. It has been accepted for inclusion in Selected Correspondence Related to the Fundamentals by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Biola. For more information, please contact eileen.walraven@biola.edu.

May 31, 1911

Rev. Louis Meyer,
c/o Mrs. Sophie Meyer,
14 Magdeburgerste,
Berlin W.35, Germany.

Dear Brother Meyer:

Yours of the 24th duly received. On the 22nd I received yours of the 16th, asking me to wire you in reference to my brother's address. Owing to our having a Board meeting that kept me during the fore part of the day, I was not able to open your letter until half past two. I then immediately telegraphed you, giving my brother's address, but you had gone before it reached Chicago. I am very sorry, for I now believe that my brother would have been greatly pleased to see you. I am just in receipt of a letter from Dr. Dixon, in which he expresses great satisfaction that you are to be identified with the work of "The Fundamentals." He thinks that you are just the man, and that it will require all the time that you are able to devote to it. I was pleased to get such an expression from Dr. Dixon and to know that he is so well satisfied. I was very sorry to learn that the Federation of Missionary Boards of the United States and Canada, in planning for the publication of a monthly magazine, rejected Mr. Pierson's offer of the *Missionary Review of the World* because of the condition that it must continue to honor the Word of God as before. This indicates a very sad state of affairs so far as the churches are concerned, and I fear that it means the serious crippling, if not the destruction, of the *Missionary Review*, which, in turn, will necessitate the substitution of some other organiza-

[Page 2]

tion as your sponsor. Now, you have been connected with the work of the Chicago Hebrew Mission for a number of years, and in view of the possibility of the work of the *Missionary Review* being suspended, and "The Fundamentals" being of a somewhat temporary character, it might be well for you to give some prominence to your connection with the Chicago Hebrew Mission, and keep in pretty close official connection with it, for the sake of your work for your people, reporting to it as heretofore. My suggestion to you that we wanted you to be a free lance was not intended to be general, but only so far as your relations to my brother and myself were concerned; that is, we felt that, as you had put yourself in the Lord's hands to work for your people, you were to plan that work as you were led by Him, and that you were not to report to us because of our being donors to your salary. I have felt in the past that the reports of your work which you were sending us involved you in a good deal of labor, which I think was an unnecessary tax on your strength, and I did not want to have your work impaired because of the extra labor involved in reporting to us direct. In reorganizing the work of the Testimony Publishing Co. it will be necessary to have a strong working committee, so organized that in case of anyone dropping out, or your dropping out yourself, the work will not be seriously hindered. Of course it will be true economy to pay for an extra stenographer if there is work for one, as I think you and Mr. Stephens should be relieved of the burden of writing letters. I note what you say about the additional members of the committee, and regret that Dr. Pierson feels that he is too weak to act, and that the same is true of Dr. Moorehead. I think it might be wise to ask Dr. Moorehead, as you suggest, to propose a member of his denomination who holds as good views as he himself. You say Dr. Dixon is the only

[Page 3]

Baptist on the committee. Is not Dr. Elmore Harris a member of the committee and also a Baptist? Inasmuch as Chicago University, a Baptist institution, is doing so much to undermine the faith of Baptists, it might be well to have the Baptists more strongly represented on this committee, and I would approve of your having a third man named, and believe Dr. Mabie would command a great deal of respect. In other words, it would tend to tone up a great many Baptists who may have become unsettled if they saw the names of such men as Drs. Dixon, Mabie and Harris as representatives on the committee of the Testimony Publishing Co. Dr. Munhall is a strong man, and a man of sound judgment, and I think it well to have that great denomination well represented on the committee. In reference to the office of the company would suggest that its location is a practical question, and I am sure that what you and Mr. Stephens decide to do will be for the best interests of the work. Dr. Dixon misunderstood my request in reference to the book by Dr. Lamb. This is a little book, published probably a dozen years ago, entitled "Every Creature." Mr. Horton and I read it last summer when we were on our vacation, and we decided that it would be a great work to have this put in the hands of all the readers of "The Fundamentals", but that it would be better to publish it by itself and mail it out in connection with the little book of Mauro's entitled, "The Living Word," together in a single envelope, some time between the volumes of "The Fundamentals," but we had not thought of publishing the books as any part of these volumes. We believe that such a book as Lamb's will lead to the planning of aggressive evangelistic work on the part of multitudes of pastors. This explanation which Dr. Dixon made to you in reference to Mr. Lamb's book makes clear the attitude he took at the time, which I never fully under-

[Page 4]

stood until now. However, the method of getting such works into the hands of the ministers is a practical question for the committee. My judgment would be, however, as indicated above, to simply send these little books out under the imprint of the Testimony Publishing Co., but not as part of "The Fundamentals." There are other books that it might be desirable to send later. I note your suggestion about the organization of the committee in a business-like manner, and the appointment of a committee on finance, etc; also your question as to whether the treasurer ought not to give bonds. This latter, in a commercial organization, would be the proper course, but these men, being gathered together to do a special Christian work, which, in its character, is temporary, it would seem to me to be a reflection on the Christian character of the brother who holds the position of treasurer to ask him to put up a bond. I therefore would specially request that there be no such suggestion made. The work for the finance committee I think would simply be of a very local character. The securities for the providing of the funds for the Testimony Company are in the hands of the Trustee, Mr. Giles Kellogg, and he disposes of these securities and provides the funds as required by the committee. I note also that the request of Dr. Torrey for the publishing of his list of books is proving somewhat embarrassing. While I favored giving publication to this list, as I believed it would be very helpful to many men to have such a list, it will be for the committee to decide how the notice of the readers is to be called to publications which can be recommended. We of course must avoid any possible ground for the charge of commercialism in connection with the work of "The Fundamentals," and I trust that the committee will not be influenced by my suggestions if

[Page 5]

they are going to interfere in any way with the general policy along this line. I have not heard from my brother since writing you before, but have reason to believe he is continuing to improve. Mrs. Stewart, I am sorry to say, is still poorly, having had several of those heart attacks since you left. I have definitely abandoned my proposed trip to the east for the present. My daughter, Mrs. Martin, will come to her mother about the middle of the month. I have had very beautiful letters from your daughters, which we all read and appreciated very much. Praying that you may obtain needed rest during your voyage, and that your sojourn in Europe will be both pleasant and profitable, I am, Yours very sincerely,

[Unsigned]

[Letter written by Lyman Stewart]