

Farmington Maine

May 7<sup>th</sup> 1883.

Honored Sir;

Having for many years followed your course as a Christian scholar, we read, with deep interest, the published statement that you are now at liberty and "in the states".

And as we are making up the order of exercises for the annual meeting of our Maine Conference of Congregational Churches, it has occurred to us that our brethren would all count it a rich treat if we could have an address from you in the course of the work. The matter, as it lies in our minds, looks in the direction of an utterance from one most thoroughly

qualified to speak to the point, on the  
Relations of Christian Work and Faith  
to Scientific Progress. I do not mean  
definitively to name the topic, but  
to indicate the region. This  
might come as an address directly to  
the Conference, or as a paid lecture  
given in the fine hall where we hold  
our meeting of the Conference, on the  
evening after adjournment, while all  
the delegates would still be in  
town. Our committee desire to  
have you kindly consider this matter,  
and give us an early statement as  
to the possibility of something of this  
sort and the way you would  
like to shape it, if practicable.

June 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> are the  
days, and we're the evening of the  
21<sup>st</sup> especially in mind for this  
purpose. The writer is pastor-elect  
of this church, Mr. Fitz pastor of the  
church in Wilton, and Mr. Thwing  
a deacon of this church. Among

The attendants at the Conference will be not only representatives from our sixteen County Conferences, representing two hundred and forty four churches, but from Bowdoin College, Bangor Theological Seminary, Hallowell Classical School; together with many other earnest, cultured people; and our town is itself a charming spot, the home of very wide-awake persons.

Hoping for favorable consideration of the matter we are

<sup>sir</sup>  
Respectfully, your brethren,

Charles L. Pope

[signed] Arthur G. Fitz

[signed] Joseph P. Thwing

Committee of Maine Conference.

Wm  
Chung  
1833