

Paine

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Conducted by J. A. Paine.

Tarrytown, N. Y., May 9th 1883.

Dear Sir:

From your letter of the 3^d inst:

I should judge you were under the impression I wanted you to contribute some paper soon.

What I want- the rather to know is -
Can I form an association of men, twenty
to twenty-five in number, of conservative
principles and views yet of true progress,
men for whom the old theology is good
enough, who will by one contribution
a year sustain the supply for the most
part and insure the highest and greatest
possible influence to such an enterprise.

If I can I will thank God, take courage,
and do my best to carry it through;
but if the right men decline, I might as
well give up the effort. In your case

the first contribution could wait - tell you
could prepare it; even if not for some time
to come; but I want to know whether you
will be one of this number, doing what-
you can when you can as Providence may
permit you to engage in it; because I
wish to make some announcement as to
who have consented to act as special con-
tributors, with the July no.

The liberalizing enterprises are very
active and increasing rapidly in number -
In fact I suspect - the Institute itself is tending
that way. And if the good men who stand
firm will not or cannot join in some such
organ to keep the Faith, I shall give way
altogether, for without the help of those who
remain true I cannot carry on any such
undertaking. You are the first eminent man
in science I have asked. Dana, Gray, and Huxley
are Christian Evolutionists; and beyond them among
scientific men there are few who are not ~~not~~ Christian
evolutionists. - It is true, as you doubtless in fact,
I am greatly discouraged. I do not know what
the Lord means. Ever sincerely
President Dawson
Montreal, Canada. J. A. Baird.