

who had an interest in missions as he did. If he'd been there a few more years probably the whole sum would have been turned to thoroughly Christian purposes. But the people in the church were very devoted. In the presbytery there were some very strong modernists. One of them in town there invited him to exchange pulpits. He wrote and told him: I would be very glad to preach in your church, but I could not have you preach in mine because you were a signer of the Auburn Affirmation which denies the necessity of believing in the full deity of Christ, so I could not have you preach in my church. This man became his very bitter enemy, and very active in the presbytery against him.

The result was that when they were condemning the members of the IBPFPM and declaring their pulpits vacant, they did that with Dr. Laird. He had this beautiful church. Dr. Laird right at that time had a bad hernia and was in the hospital. Some of the members of the church gathered together and wanted to start a church to carry on the true Christian testimony. There was a woman in the church who was a very fine Christian who was a teacher of the S.S. class. She had a son who was a lawyer who paid no attention to the church and evidently took no interest in it. When they formed this new group and started this new separate church, her son came to her and pled with her not to go with this group. He said, If you will stay with the church, I'll do anything in the world you ask. He said, I'll join the church; I even teach a S.S. class; I'll do anything you want if only you will stay. I think that for her influence on her son she should stay; she stayed. I believe the preaching in the church staying quite generally evangelical for a considerable time after that though I did not have much connection with it. But the people got together, some who left the modernist church and other churches and looked around and found a old Methodist church which was in a rather run-down part of town right