



Boulder, Colo.,  
Edgefield, Tenn. Aug. 12, 1907.

Mrs. E. G. White,  
Sanitarium, Cal.

Dear Mother:-

Last Friday night, or rather at 1 o'clock Sabbath morning, I was awakened by a terrific explosion. I went to my window at once and saw a column of fire and flame hundreds of feet high entirely different from that sent up by any fire. I believe it was the grandest sight I ever beheld. Later I learned that the freight depot had taken fire some time before and had finally come to a car loaded with giant powder. The car was not labeled according to the laws of Colorado and so no one knew of its contents. It exploded with terrific force, and although hundreds of people were near the scene of explosion, only three were fatally injured. I have heard many talk about it and they say that all that saved them was the fact that the explosion seemed to rise and go over the heads of the people. If it had not been for this it is probable that a hundred or more would have been killed. *This seems to be a miracle of the mercy of God.* The effects in the immediate neighborhood were terrific. Houses were torn to pieces, windows shattered and blown in of other large houses near by, and the plate glass in the business portion of the city was nearly all broken within a radius of half a mile. *It will take 3 car loads of glass to replace it.*

Just about the time this car exploded it was found that there was another car containing 16,000# or eight times as

Mrs. E-G-W#2

much as was involved in the explosion but they succeeded in attaching an engine to it and drawing it away from the scene of danger. Every one says that if the fire had reached this car the bulk of the city of Boulder would have been destroyed. I am inclined to think so myself. Also that hundreds and perhaps thousands of people would have been killed.

One particular feature has led especially in my writing this letter to you. I spoke in the church at Boulder <sup>Sabbath</sup> in the forenoon. I mentioned this calamity and called attention to others as the effects of the times in which we are living. At the close one of our people came to me and said that at a certain camp-meeting in Colorado, or in the Boulder church, you had told the people that Denver and Boulder would be visited by awful calamities. This man felt sure that this calamity here was right along lines of your talk. Now whether the statement you made was on general principles or because something special was coming to these cities of course I do not know, but certainly Boulder has had a touch of calamity all right.

Sabbath I was too busy to look over the scene of disaster, as I spoke twice that day and had already spoken the night before, but yesterday I went over the ground quite carefully. The condition was frightful. I saw the hole that had been made by the explosion and it is said to be twenty feet across and eight feet deep. No trace has been found of the car wheels and some say they were blown way up on to the mountains, but I do not think anybody knows.

I was driven out of the South by the awfully hot weather which was absolutely unfitting me for any kind of work. They call it pretty warm here but to me it is very comfortable.

Mrs. E-G-W-#3

They are very kind to me in every way. They gave me a fine, large, airy room, they have given me an examination, and every day give me treatments. It is doing me a great deal of good and I am now doing some good work. *I am the guest of the Sanitarium, and given free board and splendid treatment.*

I was sorry to learn that you are not as well as usual and that your eyes are troubling you. I hope you have recovered ere this and are now enjoying your good health.

In much love,  
Your son,  
J. E. White.

I mail copy of Denver paper giving an account of the disaster.