

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 27, 1908.

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

Dear Mother;-

I was very glad to get your letter of Jan. 16th. The present situation is one of deep perplexity. For over two years it has seemed that I have been held in bands of steel. I have felt that my wife was losing ground every year health-wise and that in this climate I cannot do one-half the work which I can in a more favorable climate and I have tried to do all I could but it has been impossible for me to move. I have tried every means and plan to dispose of the food-factory and it still remains on my hands. It seemed at one time that this could be sold at the time of the present Conference. I believe it could have been if proper interest had been taken in it by those who could have helped but the time has passed and the food-factory still remains like a mill-stone about my neck.

I am glad for the instruction which came from you that the machinery should not be removed and leave only the shell of the building. There have been a number of chances when I could have sold part of the machinery but I steadily refused to do so for I felt that my only hope was to sell it all together.

And yet the situation is more serious than anyone seems to realize. There is a payment due on the place since a year ago last May and the people holding the paper are becoming quite aggressive in their demands for a settlement. I have come to the conclusion that I shall not make any more sacrifices to get more money to pay on the food-plant. I have some \$3,000 invested in it and there is about \$2,000 to be paid. If the people get where they cannot wait and must have the property of the money I shall let them have the property. We are praying to the Lord daily that he will open the way in this matter for it seems an awful pity to have this property lost to the denomination but if there is some other way for me and it is better that I shall lose the property and all I have invested in it then of course there

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is nothing I can do but to submit. I am keeping my financial credit good elsewhere but to raise the large sum of money to clear this property would be suicidal. If some one was found who could lend \$5000 i could probably go through until some change was made, but I do not know who would do this.

Now, Mother, I have been quite frank in explaining the whole situation to you and I know you are interested in it. I am trying to be cheerful through it all and leave the results with the Lord and I hope I may mantain this attitude.

To-day I have been to our colored church and have met the members and some of our white brethren for the purpose of planning to put the church in shape for a series of meetings. I shall do what I can to help make this work a success, and there are others who will co-operate.

There are other things that I want to write to you about but I shall leave them for some time in the future. I am feeling quite well now although I am not strong this winter. Emma is not yet fully recovered from her attack of the grip. I am very sure this climate is not good for her. Do you know how the climate is at Mountain View? Do you know if those who work in the Publishing house there are troubled with the grip as we are in the East and South? I believe a change of climate would do us both good. I am sure the changing climate here is about the worst it can be for both Emma and myself. I must close for this time:

Your son,

P.S. In a letter recently received from Brother Smouse the asks me to tell you that al join in sending their love to you. He says, "We would like so much to see her. We often think of the time they lived in Washington, Ia." J.E.W.