

White, W.C.

Sanitarium, Cal., Jan. 4, 1914.

Elder J. E. White,

Marshall, Mich.

Dear Brother,---

Last Thursday I received your letter of December 26, and the morning mail brought yours of December 29, and now I will answer them both.

It is good news to learn that the signs of the Times office in Warburton, Victoria, are getting a good start in the sale of New Testament Primer. We sincerely hope that the book will become a great favorite, and that many thousands of copies will be disposed of. We shall be glad to receive the royalties as they accrue until the three hundred dollars is covered.

We shall be very glad to have you interest them in "Past, Present, and Future." I believe that book would be very popular in Australia, and that they could sell many thousands. What would be your plan regarding the matter of furnishing them a set of plates?

We rejoice with you that the long, tedious work of revising and correcting this book is nearly finished, and I am hoping that you may close up your deal with Elder Colcord in a friendly way, and that he will not put forth the claim hereafter that he has made the book. I really wish that we might encourage Brother Colcord to bring out some books himself. He has good ability as a writer, and if he had one or two books of his own, it would be a help to him, and he would get broader views as to what it means to be an author from the foundation up.

I like your idea of inserting a few full-page Dore cuts.

We rejoice to hear that Emma's general health is better. We hope that the rheumatism will not be so severe when the winter is past and summer comes. Mother wishes you to send the bill to her for the Morris chair. She has been wanting to make Emma some present that she would appreciate, but has not been able to fix her mind upon the right thing. It will give her great pleasure to pay for this chair. Last week she insisted on giving the boys something for New Year, and I think they will select a pair of heavy rubber boots. The heavy flood we had last week has brought rubber boots to the front very prominently.

In your letter of December 29, you answer several questions regarding which I have been very anxious to hear from you. It is a great relief to me to know that you are preparing to work with Spaulding. I think he can come any time in January or February, that will please you best. When he comes, we want you to give your best thought to the work he is doing, and help him to strengthen the material by adding that which will be of general interest and by cutting out that which is nonessential. This you cannot do if you have two or three other lines of work going at the same time. Please write to him, telling him when you will be best prepared for his visit, and I will write to him that when you are ready I wish him to drop other work and take up work with you. When I was at his place last November, he thought he would be ready to work with you in January.

I am glad that the help you are getting from Brother Clinton Rhodes lifts so many burdens off your mind, and I am hoping that with his help you will soon find time to sort out the C.O.S. photoengravings and ship them to us.

Brother A.H.Mason is just getting hold of the work here. He is just getting his family settled, and has been giving considerable attention to the work of wiring our houses for electric lights, and some of his time is consumed by the unexpected burdens thrown upon us last week by the flood.

Napa County has had its biggest flood since 1877. The ~~minimum~~^{water} in the creek running through Mother's place broke over its banks, washed away fences, cut across the field and spoiled nearly an acre of ground, flooded our furnace room, and Mason's cellar, and did various and sundry things to make us perplexity and expense. More than eleven inches of rain fell in 48 hours, and over seven inches in 24 hours. For two days the trains on the southern Pacific line did not move, and during one day the electric line was inactive.

Now the floods have subsided and the sun is shining, and we are digging a ditch to drain our furnace room, and shall soon be repairing fences and roads.

I am very much interested in your plans for the book "Story of the Hebrew Captives," and I hope you will make it a very popular book for young people, and a book that will sell for one dollar in plain binding and one dollar fifty cents in better binding. I will suggest that the page be not too large, that you use small Pica type, and that the book be put together on the same plan as your other juvenile books. Then it will go because it will be a profitable book for the publishing houses, and that is a principal factor now-a-days.

The little book which Mother had in mind in Australia, in which we are to print the book of Daniel complete and the book

of Revelation complete with a few explanatory notes, should be a book that can sell for ten or fifteen cents. I believe it will be a serious mistake for you to try to work out this plan and your story of the Hebrew Captives in one book. I also believe that the plan of printing the scripture texts at the top of the page as is done in commentaries, will not make the book a popular seller.

I sincerely hope that you will center your energies on the one book, The story of the Hebrew Captives, before undertaking work on the Child's New Testament. It is by getting too many irons in the fire that we suffer great loss.

I am hoping that some day our Educational Department will bestir itself and secure for our schools the binding of the juvenile books. When this is done, we can have a board binding at small cost.

I am glad to hear that you had a talk with Elder Colcord while in Washington regarding the shocking statement which he made at our October Council. If you feel free to do so, I wish you would send me copy of what you wrote to Elder Prescott. I shall be obliged to issue a statement to the members of the Council regarding various rumors that are going about the country as to what I ^{have} said and have done, and I want to make a good, clear, correct statement regarding this accusation made by Elder Colcord.

Please tell me how the manager of Review and Herald looks upon your plans for bringing out new books.

Yours very truly,

W. C. White