

White, WC

Sanitarium, Cal., Jan. 22, 1914.

Elder J. S. White,

Marshall, Mich.

Dear Brother Edson,---

Monday evening I went down to San Francisco, and spent Tuesday and Wednesday forenoon with our brethren at Pacific Press. Wednesday afternoon I did considerable business in the City, the most important part of which was hunting up a Finnish translator, and securing from him the translation of all those words, titles, and mottos necessary to the making of a set of chapter headings for "Great Controversy" Finnish. Pastor Ahlman of the Finnish Lutheran Mission in San Francisco did the translating, and by four thirty I had the whole business in the hands of Pedro Lemos, who is teaching in the San Francisco art school.

Coming home yesterday, Wednesday, evening, I found Napa county in the grip of another flood, so much so that I could not get home, but spent the night in the village and came home this morning. Mother is about as usual. She is enduring the confinement consequent upon the bad weather patiently and well.

On my desk I found your letters of January 14 and 16, in which you outline plans for making us a visit during the last days of January and the first of February. The plan struck us as being a very good one. Since I wrote you last, I have learned that some of the annual meetings which I thought came the first of February will not be held until the first of March; therefore I was just ready to write to you, saying that nothing would please us better than your last plan about a visit here, when we received a telegram from Prof. A. W. Spaulding, asking for money that he might

immediately go to Marshall and work some days with you. He said that Rogers was with you.

From this we concluded that since your letters were written, you have had a visit from Prof. F.R. Rogers, and that talking over various plans, you have decided to ask Spaulding to come at once to Marshall and work with you on "Lights and Shades" while Rogers is there.

I suppose this may delay your California trip a few days, and starting a little later and stopping off in New Mexico to see Rennings, at Nanaheim and Loma Linda, you would not get to Mountain View until the first week in February. Whenever you come, if I know beforehand when you will be in Mountain View, I will endeavor to meet you there, and while you are with us, we shall endeavor to make your pleasure and your business our first consideration. There is one reason why I think your visit will be more pleasant if you come toward the middle of February than the last of January. Our weather prophets have told us that this would be a very rainy winter and that our worst storms would come during the last days of January. They also prophesy some rain in February. But I am hoping that by the second week in February we shall have some better weather. Already we have had forty inches of rain in the Napa Valley.

There are several reasons why I think it will be greatly to the advantage of the book "Lights and Shades" if you can work with Spaulding just before you come west. As the work now stands, we cannot go further with our criticism, and he cannot do good work in rewriting the book until it has received from you a faithful effort to strengthen those chapters relating to your work in Vicksburg and the Yazoo Valley.

Now if you carry out the plan intimated by Spaulding's telegram, and for us you will open up the way for him to go forward in perfecting the Ms., and coming here with your study of the Ms. fresh in mind, you will be able to help us and we to help you regarding the finding and placing of material that is within our reach and that ought to be incorporated in the Ms.

I think your plan to do some gardening next summer is a good one. You have a fairly good opportunity to raise garden stuff, and the work will be very beneficial to your health if you work regularly and moderately. I am hoping it will do more for you than a course of treatment at a sanitarium.

Do not forget the Morris chair when you are in Chicago, and tell us if you can take time to look up some printing material for the boys. They think they want a universal press, and if you have time in Chicago, I wish you would see what there is in a good rebuilt press that can be bought at a bargain.

I thank you most heartily for sending me copy of your correspondence with Professor Prescott. I hope you will ~~give~~ help me to get a clear statement from one of the men who was with you during your interview with Elder Colcord.

Regarding the live questions that are up between authors and publishers, I shall hope for opportunities to discuss these matters with you while you are here. I hope your visits to Rennings, to Mrs. Leitzman, and at Loma Linda and Mountain View may be very satisfactory. It is not necessary for you to give us the exact day of your arrival at St. Helena, but if you keep us informed regarding your progress and give us your opinion as to about when you will be here, it will help us to prepare to make your visit profitable.

Before closing I must say just a word regarding your work with Professor Spaulding. If before you separate, you and Brother Rogers can go over the whole plan of the book with Brother Spaulding and suggest ways to strengthen it, we will be very thankful. But the first and most important thing in connection with your work together at Marshall, is the thorough study of that portion of the book which deals with your work and the lessons that you learned in connection ~~with~~ with your experimental efforts which may be of service to others who have a desire to engage in a similar work. Closely connected with this would naturally come a study of Brother Roger's work in Vicksburg, showing the development of that which you began. As you study the chapters one by one, you will find many places where additional incidents can be brought in and additional lessons taught. You will also find some places where the story can be abbreviated. For example, the story of carrying the "Morning Star" across Lake Michigan is quite vividly told. It is an interesting story, especially to those who know the boat and the principal men connected with the experience. But it does not teach such important lessons regarding the work for the colored people as the following chapters, and to some it might look as though an effort had been made to develop a thrilling story for the story's sake. I mention this only by way of illustration. It has seemed to me that those stories which teach a very important lesson in a clear way ought to be strengthened, and that those incidents which do not teach any important lesson should be told quite briefly.

It is my conviction that when you and Brother Rogers and Brother Spaulding sit down together and study these chapters one

by one, remembering the character of the chapters going before and following, that you will think of many things to add which will increase the value of the book as an educator, and that you will find some things to subtract and thus give room for those things which you wish to add.

When it comes to those chapters relating to the work of Brother Rogers, I think that you can greatly add in the strengthening of them by calling up incidents and by suggesting the best use of those incidents already included in the MS. Some things which he tells would be more valuable if told in a more dignified way, and there are many things which I have heard related by you and by him that are passed over lightly or not mentioned at all.

It seems to me that it will be well for you to call up the after history of some of your best students and tell a little more regarding the life work of those who began in the primary department of your mission schools.

To-night we are sending you a telegraphic night letter which reads as follows:

"Spaulding telegraphs Rogers with you and you will devote ten days to Lights and Shades. We telegraph him money for trip. We favor early visit from you to Mother, but think February better time. Wire Spaulding when to visit Marshall."

I felt that there must be no mistake will reference to the matter of Spaulding's visit to Marshall.

With best wishes, I am

Your brother,

*W. C. White*