



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

Dear Mother:-

I expected to write to you some time ago regarding our recent meeting at this place, but have not had the opportunity before this time. I am afraid now that I cannot go into particulars as I would like to do for I am very much pressed with many things in the way of the work. I have, however, given some points in regard to the work from time to time, so that you know something of how it stands.

In the first place I want to say that there was never a time when so much harmony of sentiment prevailed as it does now, and for this we are very thankful. But what we would have done for Elder Butler's presence, I do not know. The Lord of course, saw our extreme need and worked for us. I could see the time in many meetings when serious difficulties would have been quite sure had it not been for the steady hand which Elder Butler had upon the doings of the meetings.

The one thing I feel the greatest satisfaction regarding is the position that was finally taken by Elder Bollman. Elder Butler had been holding a prayer-meeting each morning and invited all to come who desired to do so, and there was quite a general attendance. During one of

these meetings Elder Bollman broke down. He took up the situation quite fully and straightened himself well, but he had already arranged to go onto his farm and no effort was made to keep him here. It was not thought best to do so at present.

Elder Stone took some positions exactly opposite to the influence he had been exerting against the work. For this we were glad but we had hoped to see him undo some of the bad work already done. I think his influence for the future will be better than it has for the past.

The Board of the Southern Publishing Association was elected as follows:-

Geo. I. Butler, J. N. Nelson, N. W. Allee, I. N. Ford, O. M. Hayward, W. O. Palmer, and J. E. White. Bro. Butler feels that he can work with this board in a very satisfactory way and I feel that I can work with them also. When it came to organizing the board Bro. Butler was put in president, I was chosen as vice-pres., and you can see that this means considerable from the fact that Elder Butler will be absent most of the time.

W. O. Palmer was put in secretary, J. N. Nelson, business manager, I. A. Ford treasurer and manager of department of circulation.

At a recent board meeting it was decided to make the Southern Watchman a weekly paper with some illustrations that would properly represent our work and they add a special interest to the articles written.

It was also the action of the board that the first page should contain an article written from your pen. I have many here that can be selected from, and we shall be very glad to have such new ones as you may see fit to send us.

The editorial staff of the paper is as follows and in the order as given:-

Editor, G. I. Butler, Associate editors, J. E. White, and

Elder Brunson, Asst. Editor, Eliza Burnham.

As these responsibilities were being voted upon me I told them of my condition and the circumstances and said of these were carried by me I should be obliged to surround myself with the best of help I could possibly get. Many of the responsibilities I have carried I shall have to allow others to attend ~~at~~ to largely.

There is another matter which has been acted upon and which is very important and that is the institute for the colored workers to be held at Huntsville, Alabama, beginning July 1st and continuing eight weeks. We have a fund of one thousand dollars to use for this purpose and the management has been placed upon the Southern Missionary Society and the Education committee of the Southern Union Conference. We feel this to be one of the most important events that has taken place regarding the work in the south. I have connected with me in this branch of the work Elder Haliday who has stood by the colored work so faithfully for the past eight years. Next Friday I go to Graysville to meet with the committee for final arrangements.

I have been chosen as the southern representative of the denominational book committee and I understand that there is to be a meeting at College View some time in June and at the same time there is to be held there a convention on education. I am invited to take part in this and to represent by stereoptican the colored work of the schools in the south. I want to attend this but I fear that I can not be there at that time.

One result of our recent meeting which has been of great satisfaction to me has been the selling of my building to the Publishing Association.

In order to do this I donated two thousand dollars which I took in stock of the Association but this relieves me of considerable indebtedness and makes the situation at Nashville much pleasanter. The

publishing house now controls all of the buildings.

My wife and I have been living on the farm for about three weeks and to-day the foundation is being laid for an office building in which the Southern Missionary Society and myself will have our business offices. It is 18-ft. long, wide, 66 ft. long, and will be only one story. It is beautifully situated and will be very pleasant and convenient. I shall soon put a duplicate by the side of it to be used for other parts of the work. I am arranging for the employees to own homes near by and in fact am selling the lots to them so that they can live in the country with the rest of us.

How I wish you and W. C. could have been here during our strawberry season. I had four rows of early berries eight rods long set out last spring and nearly one half of the plants died. From the rest we have so far gathered about seven bushels of berries, and there are many more on the vines. Our late picking is coming on and we had them on the table to-day for the first time and they were enormous in size. We have had two or three ministers with us all most every day for two weeks with seven or eight quarts of strawberries for each meal. We are right in the midst of green peas and although we have all we can eat every day they are getting ahead of us, and we shall have to pick and give away some to-morrow. We have asparagus, onions, radishes, lettuce, etc. We have a fine field of early potatoes now in blossom and from which we shall be eating in two or three weeks. We have plenty of good milk and cream from our own cow and feel we are living on the fat of the land. Neither Emma nor I would go back to live in the city under any consideration.

The foundation is up for my house, being laid some time ago but we are living in a small cottage of five rooms which we built last winter.

This was intended for our helpers. My plans are not definite as to the kind of house I shall build and I do not want to undertake it until my finances are in a satisfactory shape and the absolute necessities of the work here provided for.

There is much I want to write to you in regard to your book work and I will try to do this to-morrow. I will just drop a suggestion or two, however.

In regard to "Steps to Christ", I am waiting for you to secure the ownership of this book. Then I want to take hold of it and illustrate it and set it up anew and make a book that will interest the people in the south or anywhere else. I am anxiously awaiting the results of your communication with the Review and Herald.

In regard to Patriarchs and Prophets, I am satisfied in my own mind that this book should be issued in one volume. It should be thoroughly illustrated and a fine paper, small margin issue gotten out to sell at from \$1.50 to \$1.75. It can be done. Then there should be a thick paper edition, handsomely bound in, perhaps, two styles of binding for a higher priced book as to illustrating and type-setting it will cost from \$2,000 to \$2,500 to bring it out the way I want to bring it out and it is not worth while to attempt to bring it out in any other way. I think I can arrange to bear half of this expense and let it apply on what I owe you on past account. I do not want to undertake work on this book unless I can have the opportunity to present something that will be exceedingly good and have the chance of making a great sale.

My books are still selling very rapidly from this office, and will say that last week the office was behind its orders some 16,000 copies on my different books including "Story of Joseph". If it were not for the royalties I get from this office, I should not be able to go on

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with my work satisfactorily.

I will not write longer at this time but will take up some matters in particular a little later,

As ever, your son,

*J. E. White*

J. E. W. -L. J. -