



# SOUTHERN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

OF THE

YAZOO AND MISSISSIPPI VALLEYS.

Missionary Steamer "Morning Star," J. E. White, Master and Chaplain.

Incorporated 1898.

*Yazoo City, Mississippi,*

Battle Creek, Mich., July 4, 1899.

Pastor W. C. White,

Cooranbong, N.S.W.

Dear Brother:--

I have your short letter of May 24. The check came O.K. I passed it at once to Rhodes, and he attended to it. It will be fixed all right there. From the reading of your letter, which I had passed over to him he saw that you intended that the organ should be bought, and so the matter went right ahead. It has been sent forward, and I hope it will arrive all right. Lamson attended to the shipping of it, as he has attended to such matters before. I wish my matters were in better shape so I could send you one or two more on my own account, but my own living will be very precarious until books come out straight.

Now in regard to books, I saw that Comong King must come out in German, and went to R&H and put the matter before them, asking them to bring it out, and offering that in case it did not pay satisfactorily in 18 mos. that they could charge back whatever it might be behind in paying for translating and putting into plates, but they refused everything. Heralds was coming out in German and that was enough. So I told them the book SHOULD come out in German, and went ahead with it as a job. But this will cut me off from my income this summer. It is a hard blow, for my books had just cleared themselves here at this place, and were getting pretty near so at the P.P. Now the P.P. is driving Heralds and doing little on C.K., and my R&H business is again tied up. So I have fully decided not to go back to the field till business matters open up. The Testimonies say it will be of little use to attempt to work in that field without money, and I have found it to be so. The institutions have tied our hands at every step, and they will now have to bear the burden of the responsibility. I have lost my health in the work, but hope to recover it. I have used my money, but hope to be able to pick up again so that in time the work can go forward again. You say that mother's letters are bringing out principles, but I cannot see that they are regarded in any degree. But I have got where I am leaving all this thing with the Lord, and shall go on, endeavoring to do my duty, and let him take care of the rest. I shall put my time in working on somewhat different lines than formerly.

Some time ago the letters from Australia contained reference to the new edition of the book, "Christ Our Saviour." But of late all interest in it seems to be lost. Was it not possible to be sending me duplicates of the cuts and of the signatures of the work as it is going on there, so that I could be carrying it on here too? The season of my vacation is passing, and I must return to the field in a few weeks if the way opens for means so that I can, and I fear that the opportunity will be lost. I tried to think of every emergency in regard to "Coming King," and I hope an interest will be taken with me in this matter.

I notice what you say in regard to Eld. Fulton in regard to school work. This is just what we must do. We must buy tracts of land



and open up industrial schools, and set off small farms that can be let or sold to colored men who have accepted the truth and get into difficulty for so doing. We must care for these people. O, there is so much to do in this field, and so little is being done. Our people WILL NOT take hold of it. But I will try to do what I can, but time is so short. The fact is, you in Australia are getting about all the money that is raised in the U.S. You are not getting too much, but everything seems paralyzed. But in this I will not give way. The Lord has said this work must be done, and if we relate ourselves to it in a proper manner, He will see that we are enabled to do it. He has done so in the past, but now the time has come when the plans for the work must broaden. If we have had hundreds of dollars in the past we must have thousands in the future. We are perfecting plans here that I feel sure will bring the needed funds. If you will notice some of the copies of the Herald that I have sent you, you will notice a Smouse fund that has been set apart for this Southern work. It is a simple thing, but has brought in about \$500.00 the past year. We are now planning for a Northern Bureau for this work, with headquarters at Battle Creek. The leading young men in the Review Office are preparing to take an interest in the matter. I am now working to get the addresses of the sisters in all our churches, and have a plan that will get them. Now, before going farther in this will tell you what the Baptist women are doing. They have a Baptist Women's Missionary Society. This society sends 100 missionaries to the South to work among the colored people. They have a place where they are educated especially for the work, and rules for work given them. Then they are sent out two and two, all of them women. They are wholly supported by this society, and its workings are very efficient. They are doing much good in many parts of the South. This society is also operating missions in the large cities of the North.

Now, if they can do this, why should not the women of S.D.A.'s do something in some cause? But we do not now expect to go into the field to solicit means for this work in the way of donations. There is danger that such work will be abused by everybody going to the people and soliciting means. But we hope to open enterprises through this Bureau so that the women can be set to work right where they live. We can prepare for them simple articles that they can dispose of readily, and then turn the total receipts into the general society. After taking out the first cost the balance to go to the Southern Field. I am now working with half a dozen of the brightest Office boys, and we shall have a meeting soon and prepare for organizing the thing. Then they will look around and select a few others to go in with them, being very careful in the selection, working up gradually, and have a meeting about once a week, and attend to such business as is required, and make necessary arrangements for the business to properly attended to. From the success of the Smouse enterprise I feel sure this will also succeed. May God prosper and guide us. I have been learning good lessons of trust of late.

As to the material we are to work with, that is yet to be decided. I may put a low priced book into their hands, or something else may be taken. But if God blesses the effort it MUST succeed, and unless He does bless something the work in the South must die. I can no longer do the work I have been doing in the way I have been doing it. I have aged fifteen years in five. There is something better than this for me, and I believe God will guide me to it, in such a way that it will build up the work among the colored people in the South.

In regard to the Primer? I hardly know yet what to say. I realize that it is to uphold a principle that you have written as you have in regard to the matter. But my mind cannot reach very far. I cannot work it all over the globe as you can. I get some work in hand, and every energy of my being is put into that work. Hence an interest in a



book enterprise 7000 miles away is something that I cannot appreciate or plan for, or even take an intelligent interest in the plans that may be made by others. Whatever is where I can see to it and plan for it and know of it I can appreciate. Now, I have a plan to propose to you. Sell me your United States and Canada interest in the Primer. Look over the situation as it is, count what you have put into it, add to it what I owe you on past account, then take all the interest of the English editions of the book in the world outside of U.S. and Canada, take also into account what you have this year received, and then state what you consider will be a fair settlement of the whole matter.

I may not have stated the matter correctly, or so it can be understood. I will try again. Sell me your interest in the Primer for U.S. and Canada. You to keep the English edition in the rest of the world, and translate as you see fit into whatever language you desire except the great popular languages of the world such as the Gen. Conf. is supposed to control from the sale we made them. You paid for the book to Bro. Kellogg. You have received something in royalties. You retain territory for its future sale. Look the matter over and tell what you think the settlement ought to be. Then to whatever I should pay you for this, add what I owe you on old account, and I will pay you whatever you may think is right. I am trying to get my matters into proper shape where I can know what to depend upon, and then I intend to keep within my income.

There are matters connected with the Primer deal that are working against me. It is quoted against me at the offices that I have sold out the book, and if they have done wrong, so have I, and that it is as much my duty to get the book back ~~back~~ as it is for them to make the wrongs right that they have done. I am negotiating with H.W. Kellogg. He has agreed that from the first of this month all the royalties on the Primer shall go to my work in the South. But I am pulling for him to transfer the ownership to me in some way. I expect to get it. Then if I can purchase back the interest that you have I can stand free in the matter. Now, I make these propositions because you have written to me as you have in regard to the book. It would be a great relief to me to get the matter into that shape. I now leave the matter with you. Do not hesitate to speak in it, and make the transaction so that it will be doing liberally by you in the matter. I want to get these things settled if I can. One reason why I want to get hold of the book is that I want to bring out another and simpler primer, but have not felt it right to do so because of the one that is in the field, fearing that it would be considered incroaching after selling out the other book. Well, I will leave the matter with you. I hope to hear from you in regard to it soon. Now in regard to the work of translating and putting the book into other languages for the islands as you mention, I say go ahead. If it is not best for you to sell to me as I propose, then go on and use the money you have in the work if you desire. I have no claim or hold on it nor have I any desire to have. Act for me in the matter as for yourself. I say this so that the work may not be delayed by correspondence. It is yours. Use the book as if it were yours. If we can make a separation as I propose it will please me. If not, then I shall be glad to have the proceeds advance the work.

I think your arrangements for a set of plates of Desire of Ages are all right. Hope the book will be a success in your country. I am in hopes the sales in this country will be greater than was expected.

Well I must close as I have a letter to write to mother tonight. I send by this to her four photos. of Emma and me. 2 kinds. one of each for each of you. Haste, *J. C. White*

*Please let mother read this letter*