



"MORNING STAR"

SOUTHERN MISSIONARY STEAMER.

VICKSBURG, MISS., APRIL 21, 1895.

DEAR MOTHER,

I FEEL TO REGRET EXCEEDINGLY MY LONG DELAY IN WRITING TO YOU, AND WANT TO ASSURE YOU IT WAS NOT THROUGH ANY FEELINGS OF INDIFFERENCE THAT THE DELAY HAS OCCURRED. I HAVE BEEN HURRIED FROM ONE PIE CE OF WORK TO ANOTHER TILL WHENEVER I WOULD COME IN I WOULD BE SO TIRED THAT IT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO GET MY MIND ONTO ANYTHING TO WRITE. AND NOW THAT I HAVE WRITTEN, I FEEL THAT I HAVE BEEN REPAID FOR THE DELAY, FOR I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, AND IT HAS SEEMED THAT I HAVE NOT HAD ANYTHING TO SAY TILL NOW. I AM SO GLAD THAT GOD IS AT WORK FOR US, AND THAT HE IS SHOWING THAT HE IS AT WORK. THAT HE IS WILLING TO WORK THROUGH US TO BRING OTHER SOULS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH. THEIR JOY AND PEACE AND HAPPINESS IS SUCH A SOURCE OF HAPPINESS AND COMFORT TO US.

WELL, I INCLOSE IN THIS A COPY OF A LETTER RECEIVED BY ME FROM REV. WM. M. VINEY, OF CALIFORNIA. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS LETTER ARE TRULY REMARKABLE, --AT LEAST TO ME. WHILE IN MEMPHIS I WORKED FOR ELD FREEMAN, A FIRST-DAY COLORED PREACHER. HE PROMISED TO OBEY, BUT AFTER I LEFT MADE UP HIS MIND THAT IT WAS NOT REALLY IMPORTANT FOR HIS PEOPLE TO OBEY THE SABBATH, FOR IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO DO SO. AND A LOT MORE IN THAT LINE. WELL, I THEN WROTE HIM A LONG LETTER, A COPY OF WHICH I SENT TO YOU, WITH THE CORRESPONDENCE PERTAINING TO IT. HE SOON STRAIGHTENED AROUND AND IS NOW FIRM IN THE TRUTH. A COPY OF THOS LETTER TO FREEMAN I MAILED TO BRO. AMADON IN BATTLE CREEK. HE HAD IT INSERTED IN THE REVIEW, WORD FOR WORD. I DID NOT INTEND IT FOR PUBLICATION, BUT HAD WRITTEN IT HURRIEDLY ON THE MACHINE AS I AM WRITING THIS LETTER. WELL, IT SEEMS THAT A COPY OF THE PAPER CONTAINING THAT ARTICLE GOT INTO THE HANDS OF THIS CALIFORNIA MINISTER, AND A FEW DAYS AGO I GOT THE LETTER OF WHICH THIS IS A COPY. I MUST SAY IT DID ME GOOD. NOW, MOTHER, I HAVE BEEN WRITING TO MANY WHERE I HAVE THOUGHT IT MIGHT DO GOOD, AND HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED AT THE LETTERS THAT HAVE COME TO ME IN RESPONSE, OF HO W MUCH GOOD THE LETTERS HAVE DONE THEM, AND I HAVE FELT THAT THE LORD HAS BEEN BLESSING ME IN THIS KIND OF WORK. ONE CASE IN PARTICULAR, --CHARLIE JONES, SON OF CHAS. JONES, ELDER OF THE MONTEREY CHURCH. HE HAD LEFT THE TRUTH. HE WAS SWEARING AND USING TOBACCO, AND HAD GIVEN UP EVERYTHING. WELL, I BEGAN TO WRITE TO HIM, AND KEPT IT UP FOR MONTHS. AS A RESULT HE FINALLY WROTE THAT HE HAD DECIDED TO MAKE AFULL SURRENDER, AND DI D



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SO, AND HAS BEEN FIRM EVER SINCE. BUT THERE WAS MORE TO IT. WHEN I SAW HIM HE SAID THAT THOSE LETTERS WERE READ IN THE CHURCH AT MEETINGS, AND WERE BORROWED AND READ UNTIL THEY WERE WORN OUT. AND SOME WANTED TO WRITE MISSIONARY LETTERS TO OTHERS ON SOME SUBJECTS, AND WOULD BORROW THOSE LETTERS TO MAKE QUOTATIONS FROM. NOW, IT HAS SEEMED TO ME THAT THIS KIND OF WORK WAS AS VALUABLE AS SOME OTHERS, AND I HAVE THOUGHT IF IT WAS NOT BEST FOR ME TO KEEP IT UP AS THE OCCASION OFFERED. I HAVE TAKEN SELECTIONS FROM YOUR LETTERS AND THE MATTER YOU HAVE SENT ME FROM TIME TO TIME, AND USED THEM, AND IN EVERY CASE THE RESULT HAS BEEN GOOD. IN SEVERAL IT HAS BEEN QUITE MARKED. IF YOU HAVE ANY WISDOM ON THIS I WOULD LIKE YOU TO WRITE IT TO ME. I WANT TO WORK WHERE I CAN ACCOMPLISH THE MOST.

RIGHT HERE I THINK IT IS PROBABLE THAT I SHALL NOT PREACH VERY MUCH MORE. THE CHURCHES ARE BECOMING FRIGHTENED SOMEWHAT, AND I THINK NOW THAT MORE GOOD CAN BE DONE IN SMALL COMPANIES IN BIBLE READINGS.

WELL, I THOUGHT I WAS THROUGH WHEN I HAD FINISHED WRITING NINE PAGES, AND HERE I AM REELING IT OFF AGAIN. I THINK I AM MAKING UP FOR LOST TIME.

I HAVE THOUGHT MANY TIMES SINCE MOVING IN UP HERE, AND HAVE MENTIONED IT TO EMMA,--I WISH MOTHER COULD BE HERE AND ENJOY OUR LARGE AIRY, SUNLIT ROOMS. NOT ONE BUT HAS SUNLIGHT IN IT SOMETIME THROUGH THE DAY. THEN ON THE VERANDAS, SPACIOUS AS SOME WHOLE HOUSES, WITH EASY CHAIR ONE CAN ENJOY THE FRESH AIR AND THE BREEZES FROM THE LAKE AND FROM THE HILLS BACK OF THE HOUSE. WE CAN ALSO SWING HAMMOCKS ON THESE VERANDAS, AND IN THE HOURS OF THE HOTTEST DAYS, WHEN IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GO OUT, THEY SAY THERE IS ALWAYS A BREEZE IN THIS HOUSE AND ON ITS VERANDAS. BUT I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE PLEASANT ROOMS WHERE YOU ARE. BUT TO US, HAVING BEEN ON A STEAMER SO LONG, THE WEALTH OF ROOM,--YES, IT SEEMS THE PRODIGALITY OF IT,--SEEMS STRANGE TO US YET.

I WAS INTERESTED IN YOUR ACCOUNT OF THE COMING MARRIAGE OF WILLIE. I AM VERY GLAD THAT HE HAS FOUND SOME ONE WHO WILL BE A COMPANION AND A HELP TO HIM. HIS LIFE HAS NOT BEEN ONE OF EASE OR PLEASURE, AND THE PAST YEARS OF LOSS OF HIS COMPANION AND SEPARATION FROM HIS CHILDREN COULD NOT FAIL TO BE YEARS OF LONELINESS. I CERTAINLY WISH HIM HAPPINESS, IN HIS NEW RELATION, AND ONLY WISH EMMA AND I COULD DROP IN AT THE WEDDING.

YOUR SON,

*J. E. White*