

DF

5

Elder A. G. Daniells and the Testimonies

And while I am on this point, [the testimonies dealing with the Battle Creek crisis ] I will say more. I have not done all that I should in the position I have occupied, to place the Testimonies in the hands of the great mass of our people. I have been thinking of this a great deal of late. My mind was first greatly aroused over this matter at the time of the Oakland Conference.

Perhaps I have told you that I was in terrible perplexity and anxiety as to what I should do. I set apart the first Sabbath that I was in Oakland for fasting and prayer that I might know my duty at that time. I was sorely tempted to leave the work in the United States, and go to Great Britain, and give the remainder of my life to the work on that side of the Atlantic. I did not want to be rash, nor do anything that was wrong; so I set apart the day for prayer that I might get special light from the Lord with reference to my own personal duty. After long, earnest pleading, the Lord came graciously near to me, and gave me a most profound impression. Every doubt was removed from my mind. I was deeply impressed that I must not run away from the work in this country; that I must stop all questioning about that, and stand at my post of duty with my brethren. At the same time I was very deeply impressed that I must be as true to the spirit of prophecy as the needle to the pole, that I must do the part of a man in standing by the Lord's servant, upholding her hands, and leading this denomination to recognise and appreciate this great gift.

I was so completely overwhelmed with this thought that my strength departed from me. Filled with a terrible sense of the responsibilities resting upon me, I promised the Lord with all my heart that I would be

true to this cause, and do all in my power to prevent anything from arising in this denomination to dim the glory of this gift, and of the Lord's servant who had exercised this gift so many years.

Since then I have had a new view of this whole question. In the first place, I have felt that I must personally square my life and all my doings in the administrative work of this denomination, with the counsels of the spirit of prophecy. In the next place, I have felt that the value of this gift must be made plainer and clearer to our people, and that the product of the gift, that is, the communications that come through it, should be placed in the hands of the denomination. I have been so busy that I have not done all that I might and should have done in this respect.

A. G. Daniells letter to WCW, Dec. 24, 1903