

It has been several days since we received from you the letter written by Orval Harder. I have been pushed hard with work in the office and have been out some on vacation, consequently my correspondence has been delayed.

There are two questions raised in the letter you enclosed relating to statements made by Sister White. The first has to do with the statement in "Testimonies for the Church," No. 6, published in 1861, pages 10 and 11. This is now found in Vol. I, p. 215. The statement is made regarding a certain individual that "if he repents ever so heartily the church must let his case alone. If he goes to heaven it must be alone, without the fellowship of the church."

We do not know just who the H.C. of Testimony No. 6 and the E of Vol. I, page 215 is. Of course, the initials in the present Testimonies are changed, beginning with A in each one. As I have heard my father discuss this case, it is my understanding that this Mr. E referred to, was guilty of repeated involvements in gross immorality, and my father was of the opinion that these involvements included incest. I wish we had more information on this case, but it is quite clear from the context that the man's record was such that, although it would be possible for him to be saved, yet because of his reputation and repeated offenses, the church could not take him into their full fellowship. It is an exceptional case. I know of no other similar case in the history of our work.