



Post Office, Edgefield, Tenn.
Freight and Express Office, Edgefield Junction, Tenn.

Edgefield, Tenn. Feb. 6, 1908.

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

Dear Mother;-

I have received two or three letters from you of late. One that interested me the most was your statement in regard to the food-factory. In this you stated ^{you were confident that} that some party would come along and buy the property and you further stated that I was to possess myself in patience and that was the message you had been instructed to give to me. Now, Mother, I am glad for this message for it has helped me in an especially trying time. I was deeply dissatisfied at the outcome of the work at the Conference ~~and~~ that has recently closed here. I really expected that something would be done at that time, but I personally felt that I should not be much in evidence and so I left the work with others who were deeply interested in the work, but actually they could not get a single thing done nor a work even started toward it. Since that time I learned that there were people there who were ready to take hold of it if they could have any assurance that would make them feel safe in doing so, but since that time they just simply said they would have nothing to do with it. This has hurt me very much but I am endeavoring to have patience and hope the Lord will give me a victory on this point. I was preparing to write a letter which I felt was really just but which I do not feel would be the best thing at the present time, so I shall simply try to be patient under the present difficulties and wait for the Lord to work it out and I believe he will do it.

I will say that a company is now forming to take up the work and to push it through and accomplish the sale. I think they will incorporate and get the thing on the proper basis with a good recommendation from the Southern Union Conference and Southeastern Union conference men, and then

they will go to work to raise money to buy the property. I will be able to tell you more particulars later but I will say that the thing now looks in better shape than at any time that I have known it.

Now when my brother was here he suggested to one of the interested parties that if it were put on such a basis that you would invest something in this and this investment would be part of what I owe you. Now in my present financial condition I could not allow much to go on this but if you could take say \$500 in stock and just charge it up to what I owe you it would help the matter very materially. Your name as owning stock would be an incentive to others and really an endorsement of the enterprise and you have all along been in favor of it and anxious to have it sold. Now I shall be very glad if this arrangement can be made and made immediately. I will write to W.C. about it at a little later time. I have not time to do so to-day.

Now there has happened at my place a very singular circumstance. A short time ago when I was at my office I heard the farm bell at my place ringing violently and long. I was just starting to send a man up to see what the difficulty was when the telephone at the office rang, (I have an extension line running up to the house) and I went to the phone and they said, "Come up quick for the house is all on fire". Well, I gathered all that we had there, two or three men, and we hurried up as quickly as we could, and I was glad that we were able to put it out within a few moments with but very little damage. I think that the damage will not amount to more than \$5.00 all told, but a few moments later it would have broken through the roof of the house and then with the small amount of water at our command I do not think it would have been possible to save my home.

Now we all believe to the depths of our hearts and feel sure that there was a providence in the way this matter occurred. You see the fire began to burn in the attic of the house, and right around the chimney. Now we had left a place opening up ^{around} into the chimney where I expected to put a little cupboard, but the cupboard had not been built in yet, and so it was open clear up to the roof in there. Well, my wife had not been upstairs

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during the day-time before for a full week, but some way she had an idea that she wanted to go upstairs that day and she went up and went into her bed-room and she heard something like fire burning up in the roof and she looked up this opening and there she saw the inside of the roof was all on fire and burning. So then she sent down word and they rang the bell and telephoned and we came up and put it out. Now the peculiarity of the condition was even more remarkable. Although she had not been upstairs for more than a week before this time, yet if she has not come just at this time the house would not have been saved. If she had come a few minutes earlier of course the fire would not have been there, and if she had been fifteen minutes later it would have been too late to save our home. We believe that the Lord influenced the thing and that the angels of God protected us from this terrible calamity. We have been very grateful ever since and have acknowledged to the Lord our thanks for His preserving care in the danger which surrounded us.

Emma is about as well as usual but she had quite a severe time with the grip recently and she has not recovered her usual strength since, although I think she is gaining. I am fairly well and am doing a large amount of work now. I am pushing the work on the book, Past/ Present, and Future, and it will not be but a little while now until it is completed. Will say that I am up as far as page 310, with all revised, and with the new chapters which were called for, and I believe the book will accomplish a great deal of good. I know that I have prayed earnestly to the Lord for help and those who have seen the book think that it will be readable and one that will do much good.

Hoping you are well, I remain, as ever

Your son,

J. E. White