

April 16, 1908.

Mrs. E. G. White,

Sanitarium, Cal.,

Dear Mother:-

Since writing you last in regard to the case of Brother and Sister Nicola, knowing some of the circumstances as I do, I know it only right for me to forward these letters to you. I verily believe that the time has come when a halt should be called in this domineering kind of work. I know the situation is peculiar and yet I cannot see how it is improved by young men who have become presidents of conferences attacking old and tried workers like Elder Nicola.

Now, mother, I am trying not to trouble you with things which come to my knowledge if I can possibly avoid it. I know you have your head and heart full, and yet, mother, there are things which I cannot ignore that are taking place and I wish you would let me know if I shall feel free in special cases to write the circumstances to you. I know that some are annoyed when I do this. I want to know how you feel about it. I shall try to be careful; I shall try to keep on the right side. I think for the past year or two I have not brought many matters to your notice. I have hardly felt free to do so. I do not think it will be best for me to trouble you with many things anyway. But I wish you would frankly tell me what your desires are. If you wish me to confine myself to simply friendly letters I will try to do that. If you have any confidence, whatever, in my judgment and are willing that I should place matters before you occasionally that, to my mind, deserves consideration at your hands, I desire to know how you feel about it.

I am trying to be very careful, but I believe the deadlock in regard to my work at the Publishing House is breaking. I have been dissatisfied for a long time with the way my work is being butchered at that office. Certain persons have taken positions in regard to it which are designed to drive me out of the book field so far as possible. But I am glad to say that the new Board is determined to get to the bottom of

things and investigate the true condition. They are alarmed at the unsatisfactory and losing work of the Publishing House and are determined that the evil shall be remedied somehow. They are somewhat puzzled to know what steps to take, for there are obstacles thrown in the way of change which the majority of the Board do not know how to overcome as yet. I think something will be done before long, however.

Some time ago I called for a committee to examine into the plans for publication for my new book. I had attempted to arrange this with Brother Ford several times but he had no desire to enter into a consideration of the details of the work. His determination was to decide the whole thing himself and leave me no option. The committee that was appointed expected a stormy time and that I would demand many unreasonable things. I met them with a calm statement of the situation and treated the matter in as kindly a way as I knew how and went into the plans for bringing out the book. In one instance the Board felt that my plan was not wise, and after talking it over, I dropped my plan and accepted theirs. But of the whole the plans that were devised for issuing the book were very satisfactory to myself and also to the Board. The members of the Board who have met me on Board meetings recently have expressed themselves as surprised to find that I was reasonable and sensible in the presentation of the situation. It has given me a strong influence with the Board, although Brother Ford still holds to his opposition to my plans. The Board, however, is prepared to carry such things as they deem wise right over his head. I told the Board that I had plans to present which was the result of many years of experience, and I asked them to consider them candidly and whatever was not practical to their mind, we would discuss in a reasonable way and we would simply undertake those things on which we could all mutually agree. I find that this position is giving me a strength with the Board which I have not had for years.

Now, under these conditions I felt it was best for me to spend the summer right near the office so I rented a comfortable house for twelve dollars a month and shall stay here this summer and attend to completing my new book and such other work as shall come before me. Emma will go to her sisters for two or three months during the hottest of the weather, and the rest of the time will stay with me in Nashville.

You remember that in my last letter I talked of coming to California very soon. I suppose you will think I am very changeable, but to be perfectly frank, mother, the future to me has been a very serious problem. I have dreaded leaving the South with the feelings existing as they have been, and especially after you suggested in one of your letters that it might be best for me to remain here until my influence in the South was strengthened. I firmly believe that the next few months spent by me in Nashville, close by the office where I can come in contact with the Board of the office, will change

White-3-

the feelings and sentiments of the people as nothing else can. I am determined to be careful in my words and that my influence with these people shall be right and sensible. They are inclined to favor the propositions which I make and I can see that my influence with them is much stronger now than is the influence of Brother Ford.

I believe that with the new administration ^{and} with my linking closely with these men who have the work of the office on their shoulders, that I can demonstrate to them that I am reasonable and that my work is not a menace to the publishing house. When this season is over it can then be determined what my future shall be. I believe you will agree that the plans I have mentioned above are the best. I will say that I have the utmost confidence that the Lord will guide and protect me in the plan I have taken, for my stand is to be reasonable and to work in a way that will attract the interest of the best elements of our people.

Hoping that you are feeling well, I remain

As ever,

Your son,

JEW-WRC