

Emma - The sale of the building relieves me
from \$6000⁰⁰ debts, gives me \$1000⁰⁰ stock in Pub. Assn.
and gives us 4th floor of bldg. for 2 years. This is A.K.
L. F. 772 A

Nashville, Tenn. August 15, 1902.

Mrs. J. E. White,
915 Bluff St.,
Boulder, Colo.

Dear Emma:--

I arrived from the Alabama meeting yesterday morning, and I am glad to say that I am feeling better than I have at any time for two years, so far as I can remember. My mind is becoming clear and my head is not being full of depression as it has been. I am very thankful for this and hope the condition will continue.

I was very glad to read from your letter that you were also feeling better, and had gained three pounds. I think you have time before you come home to gain about three pounds more; for I do not think I shall be willing to consent for you to return before the last of September or the first of October. I want you to have a chance to get a good start and not come here at the time when our bad weather will be in full blast..

Emma, now I have a whole lot to tell you. In the first place I want to say that our meeting in Alabama was the best meeting, and probably the most important one that was ever held in the South. To be brief, I will state some of my experiences. I came on the ground Friday about noon. I went to the best hotel in the city and got a good room, and had good meals while I was there, although I ate but very little meat, yet they had other things that helped me right along, and I feel that the food that I had there did me much good. They had a miserable provision stand, so that some of the people there could not endure it. But Elder Butler and Brother Wales who boarded together and roomed together, after one meal made arrangements to board themselves. They bought health foods and bread, etc., and boarded themselves; they couldn't stand it. Brother Bollman was sick half the time because of the miserable food. I had him come over to dinner with me twice, and each time he said

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it did him a good deal of good.

From the first, I went into all the councils with the brethren at their special request. Arriving Friday, we had a committee meeting in the afternoon, but I did not attend it, as it was some matters referring to the office here, and I thought it was best for me to be absent. But 8 o'clock Sabbath morning they were all called together in the committee room which they had hired near the camp-ground, and I met with them. At that time, I made quite a little talk,--I don't know, perhaps 20 minutes. I told them of the experiences we have had here at Nashville and how I had determined that no week should pass but what every difference should be settled before the Sabbath. I told them of the blessing that it brought in at our Nashville board meeting, and how it had affected the church here and of the wonderful good it was doing. I then acknowledged to them that I had been sharp and censorious in my methods of talking of them and to them, and I took it all away. I want to say that the blessing of the Lord came down, and there was weeping all over the room. Brother Bollman told me afterwards that it was not an ordinary thing for him to break down and that it was something that was not easy to bring about, "But," said he, "I was broken all to pieces that day." Others seemed to feel in the same way; others spoke, and harmony came into our work immediately, and this harmony continued all the time that we were there, and I did not leave until Wednesday night.

They were arranging for me to speak night after the Sabbath to the ordinary congregation that came out; but Brother Bollman made the suggestion that he thought that I had things to say that would be of more benefit to our people if we would have it Sabbath afternoon, and so the appointment was changed to that time. I will send you a copy of the Watchman that is just out, and on the first page you will see something that I have written. Well, I read this to them in the afternoon and commented upon it. Then I took up our experiences in the Nashville

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Church, in the board meeting here, and in the committee meeting that very morning; and the Lord was never nearer to me than He was as I spoke to the people at that time, and the hearty Amens showed that the people were appreciating it. At the close of the meeting, I begged for a few minutes of social meeting, and we had it; about 40 spoke, and it was right to the point that had been brought out in the sermon. Several said that at first it seemed that they could not come to the meeting at all, but finally they came; and they felt that that meeting we have just had was worth all the trouble and expense they had been to to reach the meeting.

Brother Bollman and I then had a talk on the sidewalk. It seemed to me that every difficulty against Brother Palmer had been removed, and we thought that Brother Palmer ought to be present. We saw Brother Butler about it; he agreed with us. So I sent a telegram on Sabbath for him to come, signed by Butler, Bollman, and White. Brother Palmer started that night, and was with us at about noon Sunday. I was very glad. He went to the hotel where I was and stayed there until Tuesday night, when he returned home.

During this time the work of the publishing here at Nashville came up, and the preparation before it had been such that nothing but harmony prevailed in all our councils. The Gospel Herald will be enlarged to a 16-page paper, with the price at \$1 per year, and the Southern Watchman will be enlarged to an 8-page paper, price 50 cents per year. The Southern Union Conference has agreed to pay the deficit that will come on these papers in their publication until they get on a paying basis. It was perfectly astonishing how eager and ready they were to second any plans that were connected with the Publishing Association. All the opposition at Graysville has vanished; and Brother Sharp did not come until Monday, but he came and made a confession of his feelings toward me in the way he had spoken, and before we were through there

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was nothing but harmony on the ground.

On Monday Brother Bollman arose and made a few remarks about my connection with the work, and then made a motion that I be put back again as a member of the Southern Union Conference Committee. Emma, I want to say to you, that the hearty good will and confidence that has come to Brother Bollman in regard to myself and the work here has been very precious to me. His making this motion was very agreeable to me. I made a few remarks and said that I was perfectly sincere when I resigned from the board, and if anything new had come to change the situation, that of course would be a matter that I would be willing to consider. Brother Bollman got up at once and said, "Brother White, there has something new come, and you know what it is." He referred to the instruction that has been received that I should remain as counsellor with my brethren. I told him that I could not pretend to misunderstand it, and under such circumstances of course I could not make any objection; that I ever regarded that as indicating my line of duty. And I want to say that the vote for my return to the Board was the most hearty thing I ever saw.

After the meeting, Brother Butler was inclined to be a little pleasant with me, and he said, "See here, young man, from the way things look, you are getting to be about the most popular man on these grounds." Well, of course, that was a little pleasantry, but it does indicate the good feeling that has come in regard to the work here in which I am connected, and with myself, and also with Brother Palmer. Tuesday forenoon I spoke on the subject of industrial schools; and while I had not had much time to prepare, the subject was well in mind, and they seemed to think that some thoughts I brought out there were well worthy of consideration. Taking it all around, I am very, very thankful I went to that meeting. Brother Bollman says that all there is about it is that the good spirit that began here at Nashville was brought into that

meeting; and that before I came there, there was nothing particular to move the ministers, but that that meeting on the Sabbath moved the whole company and that the feeling and spirit that was there brought in extended through the whole meeting.

Well, Emma, you remember that some time ago the Testimony came that my work was not done in the South, and that when my work was done the Lord would indicate it to me. I could not understand it then, and yet I thought I would simply wait and see how it would come. You also know that from time to time mother has said that I have a duty to do at the camp-meetings. I have always said that the people did not want me at the camp-meetings, and would give me no opportunity; so that I could not see where any duty of mine came in. In telling it to mother, she seemed perplexed and said, "Of course if there is no way open, why then I was free in the matter. I am frank to say to you, Emma, that I do not believe that up till the present time I was in position to help in the general councils of the South, or in our camp-meeting work. But I candidly believe that I have a message of union and harmony for the people that God has given me; He has enabled me to get it myself and He has enabled me to impart it to others. And when I begin to speak on these points and the way the Lord has led me, the Spirit of God comes into the meetings and all the old lines and prejudices seem to give way and be forgotten. Perhaps this is what the Lord had for me to do. I certainly hope that I can get where He can use me to the very best advantage in His work.

I have felt impressed for some time that it is my duty to go to the Michigan Camp-meeting. There are things up there that need my attention, and a recent letter from Elder Gowell shows a good feeling towards the work here and towards me. I believe if I should go there, I can get help for the Hildebran School, and also get a large list of subscribers for the Gospel Herald; and perhaps the circumstances which

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have brought the Spirit of God and the harmony into the work down here may follow me there and help some in the work up there. I mentioned it to Brother Butler and he thought probably it would be a good idea. Our people here at Nashville think so too, and I think probably I shall go up within about 10 days. E

Coming back from there, I shall go to the colored camp-meeting to be held in Jackson, Miss., the 4th of September. The 3rd of September we shall have the annual meeting of the Southern Missionary Society at Yazoo City, Miss., and then pass on to Jackson, Miss., the 4th, and spend a day or two there, and then go North to the Kentucky Camp-meeting, and spend a day or two there. Then I hope to be allowed to return to the work here in the office and go forward with the books. The Life of Joseph is not yet finished; it requires 8 pages more of copy, and then it will be done; I hope to have that ready by the first of next week: so that that work shall be done before I go.

Now there are some other things that have come up in connection with the work. You know that the Morning Star was dedicated to the work of God, to mission work. And it has been a source of grief to me to see it lying there idle, rotting at the docks. It was not until Brother Spire mentioned a thing to me that any idea came that would give a definite use for the boat. He mentioned that the Cumberland River ran through the States of Kentucky and Tennessee, almost entirely away from railroads, and that there were scores of towns along the river. He suggested that it be used as a mission boat among the white people, stopping for a time at each place, holding a series of meetings, and staying perhaps until a church was brought out. Now, as you know, on the lower deck of the Star it is very easy to arrange a chapel that will seat from 150 to 200 people. We are planning to have Brother Halladay to come down and go with the boat and be the one who will do the principle part of the preaching. Then you know the little boat that I have; that is being

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now fixed up, the bottom extending between the two boats, so as to make a solid hull and it will draw but very little water. You know that Niehaus had a boat at Evansville, Indiana. Well that boat was turned over to me, and it was sold for cash the other day, enough to fit up this boat and make one in shape to do work. Well, I shall use this boat as a despatch boat connecting between the Morning Star and Nashville. And this will give me the diversion that I need, and I can take the despatch boat, "Starlight," and go down and stay with the Morning Star two or three days at a time, or if I want to, I could take my artists on board and go down there and remain a week or two away from all the rush and clatter here at the office, and give my attention entirely to my work on my books. Now I believe that this is all right, and I believe the Lord will bless it. The Conference people that I mentioned it to at the recent camp-meeting thought it was an excellent thing. Brother Butler is in favor of it, and so are others. I have sold my engine here to the office, and it will help very materially to put in a pair of direct-connection engines on the Star. In fact, I only lack about \$200 of paying for a pair that have already been purchased. They have seen some use, but are excellent engines, 7 inch bore in the cylinder by 40 inch stroke. They will hustle that boat in good shape. I hope that this may be the case. I want to see the Morning Star as it used to in the past. I believe that in its new capacity, its usefulness will be enlarged over what it was before. We expect also to put a couple of canvassers on board the Morning Star, and they will use the boat for headquarters and canvass the country all around: and so success will attend the work in other directions.

Now there is another thing that I want to say to you, and that is that the sale has been made of my building here to the Publishing Association. It only requires the making out of the papers to have it settled. This relieves me from my large load of debt and places me where

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that I can go on with other lines of work without being hampered. I expect to retain possession of the fourth floor for two years; that is part of the transaction; and in that way we can live right on just as we are, and simply be out of a large load of debt which is now troubling me. I know this will please you. And I want to say to you, Emma, it will leave us where we will not be cramped financially. You remember that many times you have felt that we were going to be cramped and have difficulty, but every time we have come out all in good shape. I shall be a little short of cash now for about 10 days until this transaction comes off, and then I shall send you another \$10.00. I want you to use what money you need to ride out and do things that are necessary for your health. I want to see you improving. When you come here, I ~~would~~ intend to place you in such conditions that you can improve and that right along.

Now in regard to California, I have a letter from mother that urges us to come and make them a visit this fall, and I think that probably this will be done; and that perhaps some time in September, I may be able to come through Colorado and go with you on to California. I will try to plan in that way at least.

Now I have written you a very long letter. I have dictated it because it would be impossible for me to take the time to write it. I hope the plans and everything proposed in here will meet your mind. Of course I do not think of building on the farm this season. We will stay right in our home in the building this season and not build until we can get into shape financially, so that we can do so without being crippled in any way.

I inclose in this a copy of a letter which fully settles the Stone matter. Brother Bollman was not fully settled until this came; but I think that he has no question about it any further. I have another from mother in regard to the Shireman matter and in regard to this

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building. This is not yet copied, but when it is done I will send it to you.

I shall have two copies of this letter made and send one to mother, because the points that are mentioned in here I desire for her to see also. Now keep up good courage and get as much flesh as you can on and get all the strength you can, and perhaps we will be able to spend a few weeks in California, and then on our return I hope you will be in such health that you will enjoy the winter here.

As ever,

J. E. White,

Dictated to graphophone.fb