

Newark, _____
February 7, 1881

My Dear Ellen,

I am now at William Byington's at this place. He has been very sick. Is better now. Eli Glover has brought me your letter in which you mention Lucinda, and your going to California. I am very sorry to hear of your poor health.

In relation to myself I will say that in consequence of steam-heated rooms in New York I took hard cold when I went out. The cold is on my lungs, and I cough some. As to my business, I am succeeding well. Moran will complete the sketch to suit me, for \$300. And the engraver will make the plate for \$800, in all eleven (\$1100) hundred dollars. This is more than I first expected. But Moran puts into it all of \$300 worth of work than I first expected. The matter will come out much better than I first expected. I have seen the engraver's work, and it is very fine. I shall have a picture that will readily sell for \$2 a copy.

H.W. Kellogg was to start evening after the Sabbath. But is not in New York yet. I spent Sabbath and Sunday at Plainfield, New Jersey, with Ethan Lan-phear, a S.D. Baptist who takes the Review and is with us on the immortality question. Elder A.H. Lewis is pastor there. I like Brother Lanphear and enjoyed visiting with Elder Lewis and family. Elder Canright seems to be doing well.

I hope to meet H.W. Kellogg tomorrow and close up the Album business, and also my business. And if my cold presses on me I shall not go to Mass. but return to Battle Creek.

I am surprised that you had not heard from me when you wrote. I ^{wrote} ~~note~~ cards and letters back all through Canada and at Rome [New York]. Since coming to New York City I thought I would wait till I heard from you. And now that yours has come I delay not to write.

I shall now leave all general matters. Campmeetings for 1881 are out of the question. I ~~it~~ will not do for you and me to suffer ourselves to be brought under the excitement, care and labor of campmeetings, or anything of the kind. You will not find relief in this respect, by going to California. I think that Lucinda and

May Ann with us, we should remain at our good home at Battle Creek, and go to Colorado in the heat of summer. We must get out certain books. These we shall not complete in California, or in Battle Creek, unless we keep away from the Office and its business.

Our financial matters stand well, and there is wealth yet in our pens, if we will keep away from bustle and care and work, and use our pens. In this way we can leave something that will tell when we may be gone.

The financial condition of our institutions is such that I am glad I am out, and I shall keep out till others carry the run-in-debt plan to its legitimate destiny--ruin. I am settled here, and no one can move me from it. I have made a mistake in losing my individual identity in the cause. The result has been of making the cause a part of myself, that when others' rashness and want of caution and ability have hurt the cause I have been hurt, and still I have clung, feeling in a too great a degree that the cause was mine. I now regain my individuality and leave the cause and its poor managers with the Lord. And I find relief here, I am happy in the thought that the Lord will let me have rest and peace from the general cause, and give me time to improve our Battle Creek home, and get out book, --Mother's Influence--will be a good and important book for the public. I shall not stop short of a beautiful engraving of Henry. I now expect to prepare a book on Christ, the Way of Life, which will canvass with the steel engraving of the same for \$5 a set.

I now expect to close up here the 8th or 9th and be at Battle Creek the 11th before the Sabbath.

Your husband,

(Signed) James White