

(fragment)

To W.C.W. Fall, 1877

a year and board. This last arrangement commenced, I think, about one year since.

3. I have never hurried May in her work. I have tried in vain to keep her from work. The reporting of the camp meeting was hard. I did all I could to save May. And when the second volume of Spirit of Prophecy was urged to be hurried out last fall, I objected. May and your mother did not agree with me. The thing was rushed through, not according to my judgment.

4. I did not want to go to California last fall. I urged May to bring her mother and sister to Battle Creek. May objected. I spoke of painting [or printing] the charts--good work for Addie. May would not consent to have her sister and mother come here. I then offered to ship the charts to Kansas, and Mother and I would go to Baldwin City. This was to please May. But she and your mother said California is the place. Then, said I, we will stay over two winters, and get the books out there. Here I made one of the greatest mistakes in my life, in suffering May and your mother [to] influence me as they did. I think your mother is now fully decided to let me act my own judgment in such matters.

5. It seems that misfortune has followed my false step in going to California, last fall. One mistake and misfortune after another has brought us where we are. May took a family on her hands, which she felt bound to support. When she should rest, she would work nights against my earnest entreaties. Her persistent night work last winter against my entreaties cuts off all just grounds of complaints against me for camp meeting labor or any other. I plead not guilty.

May always considers her judgment in such matters sufficient, and never asks advice as to the amount of work she should do, and our high regard for her has led us to not cross her plans. We did urge her to attend the camp meetings which she became reconciled to, and even enjoyed some of them. But could she have taken my advice to rest at the close of the camp meetings, and been three months getting out Vol. 2 of Spirit of Prophecy, she need not have failed in health.

6. But we are here, and will remain east. And May and her mother are in Oakland. I ought to suffer for letting May have her own way when at work for me. I cheerfully pay her fare and that of her mother to California last fall, and her fare back again to any point they wish to come. And I will also pay the freight of their goods, both ways, and will take their goods at Oakland and pay them every dollar they have paid out for furniture, stove, etc. This I will cheerfully do for them, whether they live at Battle Creek or Kansas, or whether May ever works a day for us or not. I do this cheerfully for being a fool, and not acting my own judgment.

7. I was astonished and grieved at Mary [May's] rashness and headstrong course before we left. It cut us more, because of our respect for May, and the connection we had in labor. Your mother has grieved as for a child. And unless there is a great change in May, I do not see how we can work together.

8. But if she does come with us, to assist us, we cannot promise to do any more or better for her. Only this: I shall not surrender my judgment as I have done.

May knows that I respect and love her as a child. I gladly will be a father to her, but must take a father's position to his child in a modified sense.

It is now 32 hours since I sent my dispatch, and as none comes from you, I do not expect to hear from it under a week. We go to Wisconsin and Minn. camp meetings, and await the result of matters in California. I shall be very glad to see May and Cinda, and shall do all I can to make them happy. If they wish a guarantee for the future I point to the past.

What I have written to you relative to my business I mean. Sell my house on the corner for \$5,500 if you cannot get \$6,000. Close up my business, or I shall have to go to California and do it. I am perfectly satisfied that I have no work there at present.

10. I think you had not best ship the Cameron type. I add it to the

material furnished from Eastern fund for \$200.00 or \$400.00, for what cost me \$300.00. I take this \$100.00 to part fill the place of nearly \$400.00 I lost on Edson's Diamond Press.

This makes in all expended from Eastern Fund	\$11,100.06
Total Amount Received	12,952.69
In the Treasury	<u>\$ 1,852.63</u>
I give you on new engine, from this fund.	\$ 700.00
leaving, not laid out	<u>\$ 1,152.63</u>

This \$700, I will draw here, and you will see