

AMUSEMENTS AT BATTLE CREEK

Letter to Ellen G. White
from W.W. Prescott

Battle Creek, Michigan
October 5, 1893

Mrs. Ellen G. White
Banks Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand

Dear Sister:

. . . "I received, this week, the letters which you sent me by the last mail. One was in your own handwriting and the other was typewritten. The typewritten letter consisted of five pages, but the second page was not enclosed. I have regretted this very much as it seems to make such a break in the matter to render it difficult to understand all of it. But I have tried to get the best view of it possible.

"I wish to say that the reproof given us in reference to our games, and the spirit which was in the work last year, is timely and accepted. The evening after your letters arrived, I had a special meeting of the Faculty and read these things to them. The next morning I talked with the whole school about it and read such extracts as seemed proper to present. I also stated our view of the whole matter and that we accepted the reproof and purposed to be guided by it. A good spirit attended the words and I think there is a sentiment in the College to act in harmony with the instruction. A match game of football had already been announced for today; but it was given up at once, with an excellent spirit, and we have decided to have no more match games of any kind on the grounds. Our recreation will be planned in such a way as to give the physical benefit desired without arousing up a spirit of contest, and without having it on the basis of athletic sports. We had already seen the evil of these things sufficiently to decide not to have any such games with the High School students, but had

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planned to permit games with those at the Sanitarium and the Review office; but since the receipt of your letters, we have decided to drop the whole thing. I am sure we shall be better off for doing so.

"I have felt, personally, very much pained over this matter and do feel greatly grieved that what has been done here has made the work harder in other fields. We can only trust in the forgiveness of God and pray for more grace and wisdom that the work which He has intrusted to us may be done in harmony with His will. We are thankful that when we do make mistakes, He, in His goodness, sends us reproof to put us right again."

"The burden of the work rests quite heavily upon some of us here now. With Elder Olsen out of the country, with Brother White and yourself in New Zealand, and others upon whom we have depended for counsel either absent from the country or in other parts of the field here, we are often weighed down by the cares and perplexities connected with the work."