

What Dr. Olsen remembered about Elder and Mrs. James White.
From a letter written to their son, Elder W.C. White,
August 23, 1937.

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"It is a very pleasant memory for me to recall my first meeting with you and with your brother Edson, as well as your majestic father and your godly mother, at a Wisconsin camp meeting, years and years ago, so long ago that I have forgotten the location. . . .

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"I can remember so well, way back in those anxious days, listening to the very earnest and powerful sermons of your beloved father and the beautiful discourses of your mother. You will not be surprised when I tell you that I preferred to hear her, because she talked so much about Christ and salvation and getting ready for heaven. Very properly, Elder James White had a great deal to say about our sins and about the heat of the 'hot place' to which sinners would be finally condemned. That did not sound so good to a little boy whose feet hung from the crude benches without reaching the floor.

"It was always a keen pleasure to recall my intimate association with your mother during the summer of 1887. . . . I remember once in Cleveland having a severe cold which I was trying hard to conceal, but at the table Mrs. White noticed it and said, 'Alfred, you have a cold, I am sure.' I was obliged to admit it. 'Come to my tent right after dinner, I'll give you some treatment that will cure you up promptly.' I went, and had the treatment--it was so strenuous that I did not dare to have a cold after that!

"You will also remember the wonderful weeks we enjoyed together at the Ministerial Council at Harbor Springs, Michigan, where we had the privilege daily of hearing a morning talk by your mother. . . .

"Since then, I met her from time to time at the General Meetings that I came over from England to attend. The last time was in 1913 in Washing-

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ton. Your mother was getting on in years, and was frail and feeble. Of course I heard her addresses, but never thought of presuming to call upon her, much as I wanted to see her. Can you believe it--she sent me a definite invitation through Sara McEnterfer, an old friend of mine. . . . Well, I was thrilled with the invitation to call on Sister White, and we had a most delightful visit. She asked me all about the Sanitarium work in England, and of course I was glad to talk about it."

Dr. Olsen's last meeting with Mrs. White was in 1913, two years before her death. She was eighty-five that year, so it was natural that he should remember her as "frail and feeble."

Those who knew and associated with Mrs. White could never forget the warmth of her friendship or the inspiration they gained from listening to her talks and sermons.

--Letter from A.D. Olsen, M.D.,
Battle Creek Sanitarium,
August 23, 1937.