

The General Conference

OF

Seventh-day Adventists

267 West Main Street.

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1893-1902

Battle Creek, Mich., U S A

May 13, 1902.

Elder A. G. Daniells,
451 Holloway Road,
London, N., England.

Dear Brother Daniells:--

Your letters of May 6 and May 9, with enclosures, have been received, and read with much interest. I am thankful for the comfortable voyage which you had, your safe arrival, and the encouraging features of your experience thus far. I shall begin to use at once in the REVIEW your letters, as well as your editorial matter, and hope you will find time to give me something regularly. Your letters make me feel very much as though I would like to be with you in London.

There are so many things here that are perplexing and wearing all the time that I often feel that it would be a great relief to be off in the field again.

Of course it will not be profitable for me to attempt to give the details of everything here since you left; but I will speak of some of the leading questions that have received attention. Brother Spicer has written you of the closing of the contract for the Nyassaland property, and of the arrangement for the colored family from Colorado. Everything is moving on in this matter according to this plan.

We have just received a telegram from Brother A.T. Jones, which reads as follows: "You can draw two thousand dollars to-day. Blessings upon Nyassaland." This brings up the total cash pledges to \$9500, with \$4000 already paid in, and this \$2000 from California just as good as cash. With this outlook, we think it is best to pay for the whole property at once, and thus save any complications and any interest. The Lord seems to be prospering this work in a marked way, and I think we should feel much encouraged about it. Brother Branch and his family will be in London in time to sail with brother Booth next month.

You will note in the REVIEW, that we have begun the campaign on the Christiania collection in July. I inserted an article in the GENERAL CONFERENCE BULLETIN, which will be circulated next week, and we shall have something in the REVIEW regularly. We are depending upon you to correspond with the presidents of the different State Conferences, as you planned to do, and hope we may also have some communication for the REVIEW.

A week ago last Sabbath Brother Spicer and I spoke in the morning in the Tabernacle, taking up the question of the local finances as was mentioned in the meeting of the church board when they voted to assume their own expenses. It was a very stormy Sabbath, as we had a hard snow-storm beginning about ten o'clock. The ground, trees and all were covered with snow to the depth of one or two inches. It was quite a remarkable sight. As a consequence of this, we of course did not reach the full congregation, but we perhaps reached those whose influence would decide matters. So far as I know there is no disposition to go back on the position then taken, and I think we can depend upon its being carried through.

Yesterday Brother Evans received a long letter from Brother C.H. Jones, of the Pacific Press, in which he states that the Pacific Press Board decline to turn over the territory of the Atlantic Union Conference to be supplied with books, etc., from this office. He writes a long letter, and quotes quite extensively from the Testimonies, and proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that it would be a great wrong for them to do this. We understood that this matter was already settled; and in a meeting of the Review and Herald Board our action was simply to accept the proposition which had been made. Of course it makes the members of the Board here feel rather sore in view of the fact that they have, during the past year, given up any claim to District No. 2, to the whole of the Canadian territory, and now the Pacific Press insists upon taking over Iowa, Nebraska, and Wyoming, in spite of the fact that they do not expect to release their hold upon the Atlantic Union territory. We have decided simply to enter a protest with the Pacific Press, and leave the matter until the general Conference Committee can take it up.

You will note by the REVIEW that the Pacific Press has entered upon a missionary effort to establish a printing plant in Mexico; but calls upon all the people for donations with which to meet the whole expense. This is a kind of missionary effort which any one can enter upon without any very great self-sacrifice.

Since you left, Brother Spicer has corresponded with Brother Geo. M. Brown, of Nebraska, with reference to his going to Mexico, and the Nebraska Conference Committee have met and considered the matter. They write that at present they have no one prepared to take Brother Brown's place in leading the campaign for the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons," and fear that it would result in great hindrance to that work. They say that as soon as Brother Nelson returns, they think Brother Brown could be released for Mexico. We therefore feel that it would be better to defer our trip to Mexico until Brother Brown can accompany us. The crisis there is no more acute now than it has been for some time, and we do not feel like going down there merely to look at their difficulties and come away. We wish to take a man with us to install as superintendent of the field, and to study the situation with him, and plan with him for the future of the work. The sooner Brother Nelson returns, the sooner we will plan to go to Mexico with Brother Brown.

I had two or three interviews with Dr. Kellogg about his new book, "The Living Temple," before he sailed. During his last interview it was agreed that it would be useless to attempt to put the book upon the market until this campaign for "Christ's Object Lessons" was more nearly finished, as it would be likely to lead to confusion. I suppose therefore the book will not be printed for some time yet. I regard this as a very fortunate decision, for we shall need to take much care about the ~~subject-matter of the book.~~ Brother Spicer and I have looked it over together, giving particular attention to such portions as we thought would be open to ~~any criticism;~~ and we are agreed in recommending that quite a portion of the matter as now prepared ought to be wholly omitted. I purpose, if possible, in harmony with an agreement with Dr. Kellogg, to ~~write~~ out to-day my views on the subject of the matter already in type, and forward to him at London. I will send a copy to you, and am anxious that you and Dr. Waggoner should consider this matter carefully. I suggested to Dr. Kellogg the propriety of having Dr. Waggoner read the matter, and he willingly acceded to this suggestion. As I hope to write quite fully about it, to go in this same mail, I will not speak further in this letter.

A.G.D. -3-

The exercises of laying the corner-stone of the new Sanitarium were held a week ago yesterday, and I think all present regarded it as a very successful occasion. We print this week as full a report as our space would permit.

The work in general goes on much as usual. I do not need to tell you that every day brings some perplexing questions, and that our minds are kept occupied all the time. I have been specially pressed during the last week or two in getting out the rest of the Sabbath-school lessons for the second quarter, and in trying to look over Dr. Kellogg's matter for his book.

I will try to write you from time to time, and suppose Brother Spicer will do the same. We think of you and the work over there every day, and pray that the Conference may be a very great blessing, both in its immediate and future effects.

With kind regards to all the friends, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

R.

H. W. Cress.