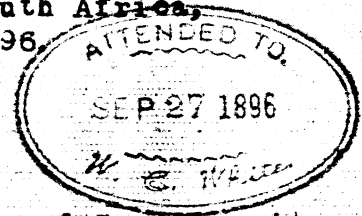


W. W. Prescott

28a Roeland Street, Cape Town, South Africa,
June 5th, 1896.

Eld. W. C. White,
Cooranbong, N. S. W.



Dear Brother White:-

A boat leaves for Australia tomorrow and I will write a few lines today to let you know of our safe arrival and so much of our plan for work as has already been formed.

I wrote to your mother and mailed it at Albany so I need write nothing of our experiences up to that time. The voyage from Albany to Cape Town was much after the same order as from Melbourne to Albany. The most of the time the weather was very pleasant and the sea quite smooth but we of course had exceptional days and one or two of them were quite exceptional, but taking it altogether I think we had a very favorable run. The most unpleasant experience was just at the close of the voyage. When we were within two hours' run of Table Bay a fog shut down upon us so that we had to lay to and drift around in the fog for nearly twenty-four hours. Two other steamers were there with us and sometimes we got uncomfortably near to each other when the fog was the densest. We should have been in on Monday noon but on account of this experience we were delayed until Tuesday forenoon.

I had an opportunity to do some work on the voyage, although the class of passengers was not very favorable for any religious interest. I spoke three times to the third class passengers and such of the first class as cared to attend and besides this I held a few Bible Readings. I wish that Bro. Daniells, to whom I shall send a copy of this letter, would tell Sr. Neal of Williamstown that I had some good talks and Bible Readings with that Mr. McClelland and that he became deeply interested in the sabbath question and told me that he should give it serious thought, as he desired to obey God and follow the teachings of the Bible. I hope to see more of him here, as I told him of our meetings and he promised to attend some of them and to see me further about these things. I was quite encouraged by my experience with him and his desire to know the truth. He got copies of Christ and the Sabbath of me to send back home to his friends.

We were all in good health when we reached here, although of course Mrs. Prescott was suffering from the effects of the voyage, and received a very hearty welcome from all the friends. My niece is stopping at the School and Mrs. Prescott and I are at Bro. Harmon Lindsay's. He has bought Henry Wessels home and Henry is now living at Timour Hall with Mother Wessels. I am spending the most of the time just now at the office in the city attending to my

W. C. N. 2.

6-5-96

correspondence and talking with the brethren about the work, plans, &c. It is now quite well settled that I shall start on a trip through the colonies June 17th, visiting Kimberly and Beaconsfield, Johannesburg, Durban, Port Elizabeth, Lovedale, and some other places. The trip will be likely to occupy the time until about the tenth of August and the opening of the Bible school will doubtless be deferred until about the middle of August. I am not certain who will accompany me but I think Eld. Haskell and possibly Eld. Robinson for a part of the time at least. Until the above date I shall be occupied with my writing and lesson work, in getting acquainted with the work in this field, and speaking on sabbaths and Sundays.

You may be surprised to learn that they have put Prof. Elffers in charge of the school. This action was taken just a short time since and he is now moving into the school home. I have been to the school only once, attending the opening exercises and looking through the buildings. I may not be able to give it any very special attention before my trip through the colonies and this will give Prof. Elffers a chance to get hold of his work and for me to get somewhat acquainted both with him and the general situation.

I shall speak tomorrow at Claremont and Sunday evening in the Hall where they are conducting a series of meetings in Claremont village. Next sabbath I am expected to speak here in Cape Town.

Of course I am not prepared to write you anything in particular about the work here, as I have only been here three days. Eld. Haskell has just returned from Kimberly where he reports good meetings and quite an interest to hear among outsiders. The attendance at the meetings at Claremont village is quite small I understand.

Of course the political situation is the all absorbing theme here and everybody is wondering what will come next. I am persuaded that we in other countries had a very meager idea of the true state of affairs here and I am not so sure that the people in general here know very much about it. It seems to be a deep political scheme to build up English interests in South Africa at the expense of the Transvaal and the poor Matabeles but what will come of it no one is prepared to predict.

We think of you all with deep interest and hope to hear from you by the next mail. We shall be anxious to know of the prosperity of all the work.

Accept kind regards for yourself and family and remember us kindly to all the friends, and this is for both N. S. W. and Victoria.

Yours faithfully in the work,

W. H. Innes