

A. W. Prescott

The Educational Secretary.

50 Manchester Street.

Battle Creek, Michigan, U. S. A.,

October 23, 1894.

Eld. W. C. White,
Per Ardua, Williams St.,
Granville, N. S. W., Australia.

Dear Brother:--

I received in due time your letter of Sept. 3rd and intended to reply in time to reach the regular boat from San Francisco, but before I was aware of it the time had passed, and I will now send it by the Vancouver mail.

I do not know that I can throw any further special light upon the vexed question of the school location. You have before this received the action of the Foreign Mission Board in which the Australian brethren are left free to act according to their own judgment in the matter, in view of our distance from the field and our lack of personal knowledge concerning the situation. I can only hope and pray that the Lord will give wisdom so that his mind may be met in the plans which shall be followed out. I can appreciate something of the perplexity under which you have labored from some experience in looking up school locations in this country, although I judge that your situation has been much more embarrassing. We shall await with interest to know what decisions have been reached and what progress has been made in carrying out your plans.

With reference to sending teachers to Australia at any future time; when you are ready for them, I can only say that we have the same interest as ever in the work there, and shall be ready to do all that we can for its advancement. In the meantime, we must, of course, provide work for those in this country as they cannot be expected to wait an indefinite time to meet the appointments made for them in Australia. By the time you need further help, we may be able to do better for you that we have already planned, as each year brings us additions to our corps of trained workers.

Bro. Lacey will complete his work this year, and I suppose you will expect him to return to the Australasian field and probably to connect with the school work. With reference to funds for Bro. Lacey, I will enclose an estimate which he has prepared of the amount necessary for his present year's expenses. He was able to earn between \$100.00 and \$200.00 during the summer vacation by teaching, and this will be quite a help on his expenses. He seems to be doing well in the work, and I hope will be a valuable helper when he returns to your field.

I enclose a circular letter which will give you information concerning the general school work. As you are especially interested in Healdsburg College, I will add a word further in particular about that school.

My last report from Pfof. Howe, received yesterday is very encouraging. It is evident that he appreciates the situation and is doing all in his power to elevate the standard of the work and to give

a somewhat different air to the appearance of the buildings and yet he is using such tact as not to arouse any prejudice or to call forth any envious spirit on the part of the supporters of the former administration. I read his last letter to Eld. Olsen this morning and we were agreed that if Prof. Howe does not become discouraged by the many difficulties nor exalted by a measure of success, he would in a short time place the Healdsburg College at the very front among our schools. This is very encouraging to us and I know you will be glad to hear of it. I will quote a few lines from Prof. Howe's letter that you may see how the religious interests of the school are being cared for:

"Up to the present time we have made satisfactory arrangement for our own Sabbath school and last Sabbath we held the first students' afternoon meeting ever conducted, I think, in the College chapel. There was a good attendance of all of our students and other young people of the church. We had a blessed occasion together. Tomorrow afternoon from 5 to 6 in the Home here, will be held the first students missionary meeting. We give one evening a month to foreign missions one to R. L. work, one to health and temperance and one to home missionary work. The outlook for this society is very encouraging. On the coming Friday evening, we shall have our first faculty prayer meeting.

"Our new electric bell system has been in successful operation for a week. Since which we have inaugurated the evening 'silent hours'. Their observance has a very marked effect in assisting to maintain quiet throughout the evening."

I am now planning to visit Union, Healdsburg and Walla Walla Colleges, leaving here this week, and being absent six or eight weeks. After that, by the advice of the General Conference Committee, I shall probably spend most of the time in Battle Creek until after the next General Conference, giving especial attention to assisting Eld. Olsen in the General Conference work and preparing for the General Conference

After writing my letter in which I spoke of the absence of one page from your letter of June 10th, we found that it was simply an error in paging and so it caused no further anxiety.

Since Eld. Olsen's return 10 or 12 days ago, we have been quite busy with meetings of the different Boards and Committees. I find that Eld. Olsen is not in the best of health, and I think he will need to use great care or he will be poorly prepared for the special strain of the next General Conference. Some plans must certainly be laid by which a way will be provided for relieving a few persons of such heavy burdens. I learn that your health has been somewhat impaired by your arduous labors, but perhaps more by the anxiety in bearing so many responsibilities.

I do not know that I can suggest anything which will be of any help to you, further than to say you have our sympathy and prayers. We will certainly be able to rejoice when these cares and burdens are laid aside and we are permitted to enjoy the fruit of our labors in the kingdom. I shall be glad to hear from you as the interests of the work may indicate, and will endeavor to reply more promptly next time. I wish you would give our special regards to your mother, and say to her that I have not written her for sometime, because I did not wish to weary her with unnecessary correspondence. I should be glad, however to hear from her at any time. Yours very truly, J. N. Bassett