

COPY

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My dear Brother White:

Yesterday I forwarded to you the copies of the book. Regarding the questions: - -

I think your statement regarding Dr. Kellogg is fair. I am anxious always that he should receive honorable mention, and if anything is said it should be on the side of mercy and pity. The Doctor has done a great work, for which Sister White gave him credit. I have in my possession many communications which testify to this. I also know what later communications contained, that referred to his hopeless condition. You recall the message Jonah the prophet was commanded to give to Nineveh. It was a hopeless message, and yet Nineveh was not destroyed. Nineveh repented. There is a possibility of the Doctor repenting yet.

I recall something that took place in Lodi at a camp meeting. Several of our old ministers, including Elders Corliss, Shultz, Loughborough, and myself were seated in front of a small tent. We all expressed ourselves quite freely regarding the doctor's hopeless condition. Elder Loughborough was silent. After everything was said that could be said, to show that his case was a hopeless one, Elder Loughborough spoke up and said, in his characteristic way, "I believe at the resurrection, when Dr. Kellogg's father rises, the first thing he will say will be, 'Where is John?' and I believe John will be there to greet him." This was the climax to the conversation. I shall never forget this.

There can exist no excuse for the doctor's attitude toward some of the brethren, but I know if the brethren had at times been a little more considerate and had taken a more Christlike attitude, possibly the doctor would have been won. Elder Daniells, more than once, told me that he was sorry he had taken at times a condemnatory attitude when it should have been one of mercy. The doctor is a man that can not be forced. Possibly he could have been won. God knows all about this.

Then the doctor had by his side men of some influence who sanctioned his rebellion and encouraged him to fight. I am well acquainted with all of this. I attended meetings where both sides were represented and neither one of them revealed much of the Christ spirit. This affords no excuse for the doctor's attitude. Even by placing the worst construction on their motives, the doctor should have manifested the spirit of a Joseph and should have said, "Ye meant evil against me, but God meant it for good." The doctor's sympathizers had much to do with his opposition to the movement and organization.

I am here reminded of a statement concerning William Miller, who too opposed this movement before his death. On page 258 of "Early Writings," it says, "Others led him to this; others must account for it. But angels watch the precious dust of this servant of God, and he will come forth at the sound of the last trump." Let us hope this will be so in regard to the doctor, and that Elder Loughborough's prediction will come to pass, and that his father may be able to greet John, his favorite son. None of us, I am sure, will be sorry then to see this prodigal son clothed with the best robe reserved for him.

A.L.W.--2

"We know in part, and prophesy in part." Some day we shall have an explanation of all the dark providences which now perplex us.

In regard to the drug problem, knowing the present attitude of some of the doctors, it might be advisable not to make the statement so prominent, although I think it is right.

Your brother,

(Signed) D. H. Kress

P. S. -- I am enclosing in this a couple of letters which you should read to get possibly a side light on the situation. Please return them. Don't fail.

DHK

P.S. - - Would you please also send me a copy of the letter to you. I should like to keep it on file. Having no stenographer I am handicapped.

DHK