

W. C. WHITE LETTER REGARDING THE EASTERN QUESTION

St. Helena, Calif. March 6, 1919.

Elder John Vuilleumier
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

Dear Brother:

I have your letter of Feb. 26, and the articles which you returned.

You ask about what mother had in mind, about the new way of getting out the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Several times, when we had occasion to speak of the work that is being done in the circulation of the Scriptures in parts, and have shown single books that were cheaply printed, and sold for a few cents each, mother said that we ought to be printing the books of Daniel, and Revelation in this way, and giving them a very wide distribution. When asked to describe the plan, she outlined several plans. One was to print these books without notes, and spread them as we do tracts. Another plan was to print them in tract, or booklet form, with very brief foot notes. Another plan was to print the two books together in one book, with brief notes, and a few illustrations, to attract attention.

We who heard her plans, thought that the cost of these productions would range from five cents to fifteen cents. Consequently when Eld. Haskell claimed that his \$1.50 books were gotten out in response to mother's exhortation, she had to protest, and we who had heard her plans knew very well that the Haskell books did not touch the scheme that she had in mind.

I do not know of any utterance of mother's that tells us about the King of the North. The two things that most nearly approach to it, are the statement in Testimonies 9, p. 14, and Testimonies V.4, page 279. Here, in reporting the Danvers campmeeting, she wrote: "Eld. Smith spoke in the morning on the Eastern Question. The subject was of special interest, and the people listened with the most earnest attention." These things are not

proofs, but they seem to me to be very interesting indications.

Someday, I hope to find time to write out a Bit of History, relating the great burden that Eld. James White was carrying in 1878 and his hope to make a presentation at the Gen. Conf. at B. C. that year of the situation of the work, which called for the raising of money for the lifting of the debts on the B. C. College, and the Sanitarium. Also the necessity of branching out, and establishing new centers of influence, as he had been listening to mother's presentations, and felt that the time had come for a big lift. How he went up to the General Conference of 1878, in high hopes that a mighty advance move would there be made.

Early in the meeting, Eld. Uriah Smith presented the great congregation the same thoughts that he had been presenting in the Review, that the Turco-Russian war of 1877-8 was a beginning of Armageddon. In father's efforts to arouse our brethren to clear off the B. C. College debt, and to raise money for the B. C. San. and for the European Mission, and the proposed British Mission, and other things, he had met the plea, "It is too late, Eld. White to plan for all these things. TOO LATE, TOO LATE.

And when he heard Eld. Smith's presentation, fear seized his soul, and he threw in his exposition on Daniel II, not so much that he really believed it, as that he thought it would check a movement that he thought was bordering onto fanaticism, and might lead to the hinderance of the work to be done.

He was reproved by the Lord for bringing in distrust as to the unity of the leaders, and sank down in discouragement, and thus the great financial campaign collapsed. Faith that God would correct the errors, would have led to the path of victory.

Do you wonder that mother has plead for unity, and the suspension of unprofitable controversy.

Yours in haste,

(Signed) W. C. White