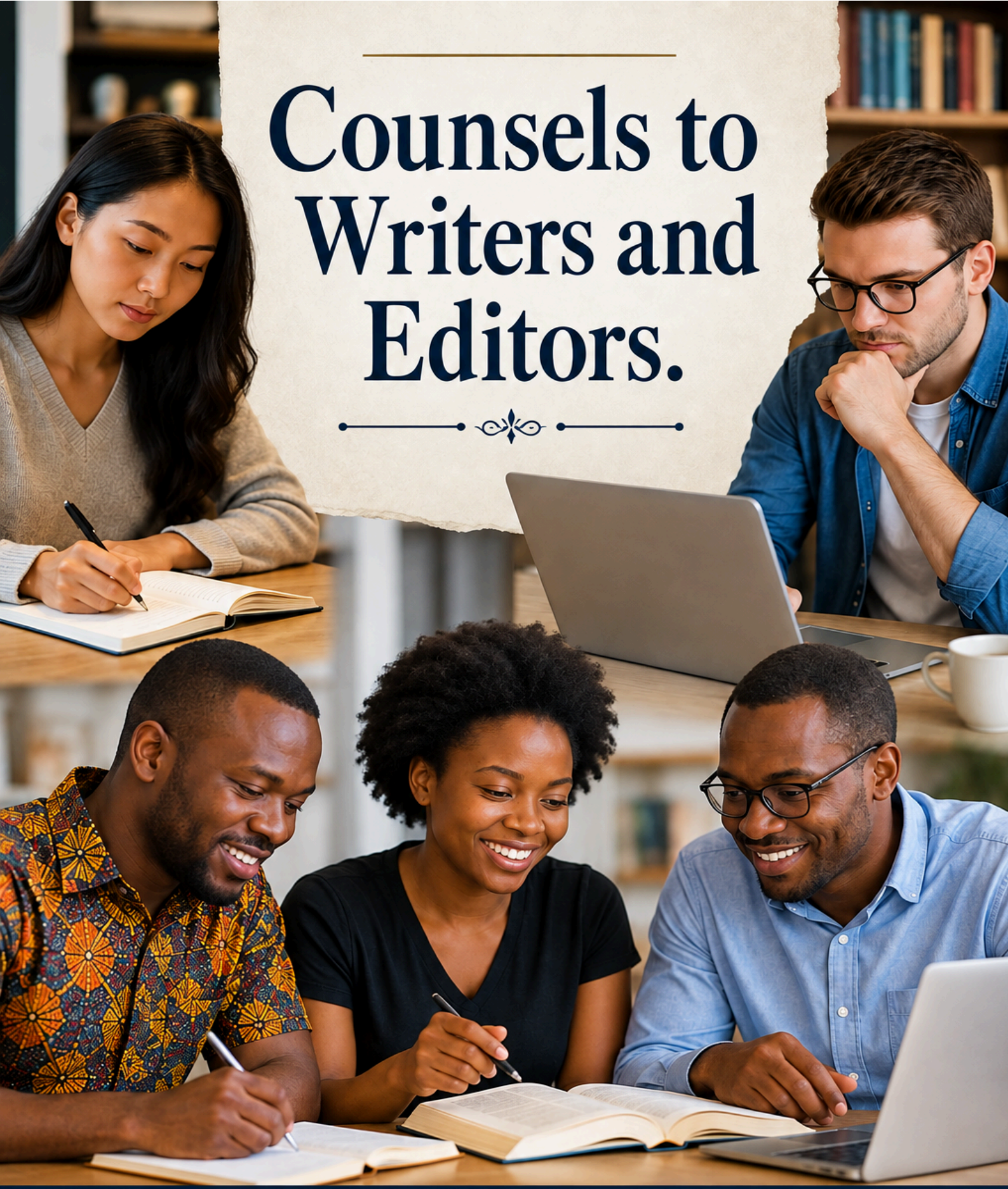
Counsels to Writers and Editors.



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Counsels to Writers and Editors

Seventh-day Adventist editors from all parts of the world met in Washington,D.C.,in August,1939,to participate in a General Editorial Council,the first to be held.As a source of inspiration and guidance to this group,the leaders of the denomination arranged to have placed in their hands the E.G.White instruction which had been directed to our writers and editors through the years,drawn from both published sources and manuscripts.This counsel and instruction was distributed to the editors in the form of a little paper-bound work entitled *Counsels to Editors*.Additional copies were furnished to the members of the Boards of Directors of our publishing houses and to others concerned with our publishing interests throughout the world field.CW 5.1

Five hundred copies of this little work were printed,and the stock was soon exhausted.There has been an increasing call for the book by Seventh-day Adventist workers generally.Inasmuch as the writing for our journals and the production of denominational books is done largely by our worker group throughout the world,and inasmuch as our evangelists with their radio ministry are entering more and more the field of writing in the preparation of their scripts,it seems appropriate to make this volume of counsels generally available through a new edition,which is now issued as a permanent publication.CW 5.2

The reader will observe that certain of these messages speak plainly of detrimental policies and of dangers which have threatened the work.Specific publications are referred

to and publishing houses named.These counsels have been a source of guidance in the work of the past,and their inclusion here should not be construed to constitute a condemnation or criticism of these publications and publishing houses today,but,rather,as cautions against a repetition of former mistakes.Some journals are mentioned which are not now issued.As an aid to the reader in identifying these,footnotes have been appended.The fields which they served are now cared for by other publications.The principles set forth are,however,unchanging,and they serve as a guide today.CW 6.1

In this second edition there has been added a few articles broadening the scope to better fit the needs of the larger group to which the volume is now being released,and there has been some rearrangement of the articles.CW 6.2

To give the reader a better understanding of the setting of the messages presented,the date of writing or first publication is noted.In the case of material drawn from the E.G.White manuscript files,the year of writing forms a part of the source credit.The publication date appears as a part of the reference to excerpts from periodical articles.In the case of selections drawn from the standard books,the date of publication is given immediately following the credit.CW 6.3

As this little volume is now sent forth on its larger mission,it is with the expectation that its counsels will make a material contribution toward a more effective ministry of the written word.CW 7.1

The Trustees of
the Ellen G.White
Publications.

Chapter 1—The Object of Our Publications

A Decisive Message—The power and efficiency of our work depend largely on the character of the literature that comes from our presses.Therefore great care should be exercised in the choice and preparation of the matter that is to go to the world.The greatest caution and discrimination are needed.Our energies should be devoted to the publication of literature of the purest quality and the most elevating character.Our periodicals must go forth laden with truth that has a vital,spiritual interest for the people.CW 11.1

God has placed in our hands a banner upon which is inscribed,"Here is the patience of the saints:here are they that keep the commandments of God,and the faith of Jesus."Revelation 14:12.This is a distinct,separating message,—a message that is to give no uncertain sound.It is to lead the people away from the broken cisterns that contain no water,to the unfailing Fountain of the water of life.CW 11.2

Our publications have a most sacred work to do in making clear,simple,and plain the spiritual basis of our faith.Everywhere the people are taking sides;all are ranging themselves either under the banner of truth and righteousness or under the banner of the apostate powers that are contending for the supremacy.At this time God's message to the world is to be given with such prominence and power that the people will be brought face to face,mind to mind,heart to heart,with truth.They must be brought to see its superiority over the multitudinous errors that are pushing their way into notice,to supplant,if possible,the word of God for this solemn time.CW 11.3

The great object of our publications is to exalt God,to call men's attention to the living truths of His word.God calls

upon us to lift up,not our own standard,not the standard of this world,but His standard of truth.CW 12.1

It is only as we do this that His prospering hand can be with us.Consider God's dealings with His people in the past.Notice how,while they carried His banner,He exalted them before their enemies.But when in self-exaltation they departed from their allegiance,when they exalted a power and a principle that were opposed to Him,they were left to bring upon themselves disaster and defeat....CW 12.2

The editors of our periodicals,the teachers in our schools,the presidents of our conferences,all need to drink of the pure streams of the river of the water of life.All need to understand more fully the words spoken by our Lord to the Samaritan woman:"If thou knewest the gift of God,and who it is that saith to thee,Give Me to drink;thou wouldst have asked of Him,and He would have given thee living water....Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst;but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."John 4:10-14....CW 12.3

Character of Matter for Publication—Let our periodicals be devoted to the publication of living,earnest matter.Let every article be full of practical,elevating,ennobling thoughts,thoughts that will give to the reader help and light and strength.Family religion,family holiness,is now to be honored as never before.If ever a people needed to walk before God as did Enoch,Seventh-day Adventists need to do so now,showing their sincerity by pure words,clean words,words full of sympathy,tenderness,and love.CW 13.1

There are times when words of reproof and rebuke are called for.Those who are out of the right way must be aroused to see their peril.A message must be given that shall startle them from the lethargy which enchains their senses.Moral renovation must take place,else souls will perish in their sins.Let the message of truth,like a sharp,two-

edged sword,cut its way to the heart.Make appeals that will arouse the careless,and bring foolish,wandering minds back to God.CW 13.2

The attention of the people must be arrested.Our message is a savor of life unto life or of death unto death.The destinies of souls are balancing.Multitudes are in the valley of decision.A voice should be heard crying,“If the Lord be God,follow Him;but if Baal,then follow him.”1 Kings 18:21....CW 13.3

Present the Message for This Time—Let all have more to teach,to write,and to publish in regard to those things that are now to be fulfilled,and that concern the eternal welfare of souls.Give meat in due season to the old and the young,to saints and to sinners.Let everything that can be said to awaken the church from its slumbers be brought forward without delay.Let no time be lost in dwelling on those things that are not essential,and that have no bearing upon the present necessities of the people....CW 13.4

Let more time be given to the publication and circulation of books containing present truth.Call attention to books dwelling on practical faith and godliness and to those that treat on the prophetic word.The people are to be educated to read the sure word of prophecy in the light of the living oracles.They need to know that the signs of the times are fulfilling.It is God alone who can give success either in preparing or in circulating our publications.—Testimonies for the Church 7:150-158(1902).CW 14.1

A Definite,Far-reaching Work—The warning message for this time is not being given earnestly in the great business world.Day after day the centers of commerce and trade are thronged with men and women who need the truth for this time,but who gain no saving knowledge of its precious principles,because earnest,persevering efforts are not put forth to reach this class of people where they are.CW 14.2

The publications and periodicals that come from our presses have a definite and far-reaching work to do.These papers are not to repeat and discuss the errors that are all the time coming in to divert the mind from what is truth.Let the articles deal with the truths of the word of God,giving clear instruction regarding the saving truths for this time,and warning of the near approach of the judgments of God and the end of all things.CW 14.3

As the work advances,our publications in all languages should increase in circulation.Our presses are now at work in many lands,sending forth the truth in French,Danish,German,and many foreign languages.Let a spirit of harmony and unity prevail as the work is carried forward;we have no time for contention and strife.In every clime the truth is to go forth as a lamp that burneth.Let every reasoning mind have the privilege of hearing the truth for this time.—Manuscript 61,1909.CW 15.1

Early Encouragement and Instruction—July,1853,I saw that it was not as it should be,that the paper,owned and approved by God,should come out so seldom.[*The Review and Herald* previous to this time had been published quite irregularly,and was now issued semimonthly.]The cause,in the time in which we are living,demands the paper weekly,and the publication of many more tracts to expose the increasing errors of this time;but the work is hindered for want of means.I saw that the truth must go,and that we must not be too fearful;that tracts and papers might better go to three where they were not needed than to have one deprived of them who prizes them,and can be benefited by them.I saw that the last-day signs should be brought out clearly,for the manifestations of Satan are on the increase.The publications of Satan and his agents are increasing,their power is growing;and what we do to get the truth before others,must be done quickly.CW 15.2

I was shown that the truth once published now,will stand,for it is the truth for the last days;it will live,and less need be said upon it in future.Numberless words need not be put upon paper to justify what speaks for itself and shines in its clearness.Truth is straight,plain,clear,and stands out boldly in its own defense;but it is not so with error.It is so winding and twisting that it needs a multitude of words to explain it in its crooked form.I saw that all the light they had received in some places had come from the paper;that souls had received the truth in this way,and then talked it to others;and that now in places where there are several,they had been raised up by this silent messenger.It was their only preacher.The cause of truth should not be hindered in its onward progress for want of means.—Early Writings,96(1853).CW 15.3

Chapter 2—The Character of Periodical Articles

Practical,Elevating,and Helpful—An indiscriminate class of articles should not be published in our periodicals.Cheap,worthless stories should find no place in them.There are articles of romance and fiction which contain no seeds that will bear good fruit.I would say to our editors,Be careful in the selection of the matter which is to go to the world.Show the greatest caution and discernment.Be careful that the *Review and Herald* and the *Signs of the Times* are kept free from worthless matter.Precious matter from what has already been printed can be found for our papers.CW 17.1

I hope that God will sanctify the perceptive faculties of our editors.I read an article in the *Signs* of a few weeks back which would have done very well for a comic almanac,but for such a paper as the *Signs* it was only as hay,wood,and stubble.My heart ached as I read it.If there was any germ of

truth in the seed sown,I could not find it.I do not think the article could in any way benefit those who read it.CW 17.2

The tastes of some who write for our papers need to be educated and refined.The editors of the *Review and Herald* and the *Signs of the Times* should refuse to fill the columns of these papers with articles manufactured by minds which reveal themselves in their productions.Articles in any way coarse should be refused as matter unworthy of notice,—the production of those who know nothing of pure,elevated,and sanctified communion with God.Let no rough,uncouth presentation find place in our papers.The articles which go to thousands of readers should show purity,elevation,and sanctification of soul,body,and spirit on the part of the writer.The pen should be used as a means of sowing seed unto eternal life.This is a“Thus saith the Lord.”CW 17.3

The articles published in our papers should contain pure provender,thoroughly winnowed from chaff.We are living in a most solemn time.Let our editors call for articles giving living experience.Let the ministers regard it as a part of their duty to send short articles of experience to our papers.It will be food for those who are laboring in isolated places,in foreign countries and the islands of the sea,to hear in this way from their friends with whom they have been associated.These experiences may be to the readers as a love feast,because the writers have been eating the bread which came down from heaven.CW 18.1

We do not need romance,for in the daily life we meet with real experiences,which,if told in short articles,and in simple words,would be helpful to many.Let our workers try this.We want truth,solid truth,from solid,consecrated men,women,and youth.You who love God,whose minds are stored with precious bits of experience,and with the living realities of eternal life,kindle the flame of love and light in

the hearts of God's people.Help them to deal with the problems of life.CW 18.2

A Pen Controlled by the Holy Spirit—Speech and pen are to be under the control of the Holy Spirit.If this is not the case with the writers for our periodicals,they might better lay aside the pen,and take up work of another order.God calls us into the mount to talk with Him,and when by faith we behold Him who is invisible,our words will not be cheap and common.The space in our papers is too precious to be filled up with articles that are not the best.Crowd in subjects weighty with eternal interests.Put not the crib too high for the minds of the common people.Let the articles be written with Christlike simplicity,and let them be free from all chaff and stubble,for this will be consumed as worthless.God calls for consecrated pens.The articles published in our papers should be full of practical,elevating,ennobling thoughts,which will help and teach and strengthen the mind that reads them.God help our editors to choose wisely....”—Manuscript 80,1899.CW 19.1

Spiritual Articles vs.Current News—It is not the business of any of God's stewards to extol any human being,be he living or dead.God has given us no such message to bear.Let all who by pen or voice are brought before the public be sifted of all inclination to laud any human being;for in doing this work they are entirely out of their boundary.In giving expression to these sentiments,so easy to flow from human lips and pens,time is lost which is very precious now,and which should be used in appropriate speech,after much prayer to God and converse with Jesus Christ.Let every word be seasoned with grace,and thus reveal that you have been in communion with God and are imbued with His spirit.CW 19.2

Again,there are brought into our periodicals selections which can be found in other papers and books,and which need not be repeated.It costs money to issue these matters

that have no bearing on the times or the spiritual interests of our people.The long accounts of the war can be obtained in any political or daily paper.It is not the business of the householder,whom God has appointed,to bring before the people subjects that may be found in the publications of the world,and the less these things are brought into our religious papers,and the more space given to that class of matter which is spiritual food,—in living experience,in Bible studies,in plain,simple,earnest appeals,—the better will it be for the spiritual good and advancement of the work.—Manuscript 95,1898.CW 20.1

Exalt Christ—In our periodicals we are not to exalt the work and characters of men in positions of influence,constantly keeping human beings before the people.But as much as you please you may uplift Christ our Saviour."We all,with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord,are changed into the same image from glory to glory[from character to character],even as by the Spirit of the Lord."Those who love and serve God are to be the light of the world,shining amid moral darkness.—Fundamentals of Christian Education,480(1899).CW 20.2

Not to Exalt Fellow Men—The Lord has not laid the burden upon any to elevate,praise,and exalt men and women,even though their work may have been to turn the attention of the people to things of highest importance,to the things that concern the salvation of the soul,and shall our time and space be given to glorifying those who have been at work to raise false issues?The Lord has given to every man his work,and to those whom He has placed in positions of responsibility,either in writing,or in speaking,He says,"Your work is to preach the word."CW 20.3

The work of keeping before the people the common things transpiring around us,the news of the day,is not the work of present truth.Our work is to fill every page of printed matter

with spiritual food.What is the chaff to the wheat?All these common things are very cheap,and often are but stale food to those who are starving for the heavenly manna.—Manuscript 95,1898.CW 21.1

Not in the Form of Romance—We are living in an important period of this world's history.A great work is to be done in a short time.I feel an overwhelming sense of the condition of our world....CW 21.2

We are standing in a time that is of the greatest consequence to the whole world.We see the necessity of understanding the instruction given in the Scriptures.The religious life is not to be represented from the pulpit or in our papers as a romance.It pains my soul to see in the papers coming from our press,the most important truth placed before the people in the form of a romance.Let the articles in our papers at this time,when the eternal interests of souls are at stake,be of a character to arouse souls to a sense of their peril.At this time Bible truth is to make a solemn impression upon hearts.The genuine facts of truth are to be presented as they came from the lips of the greatest teacher the world has ever known.CW 21.3

Novelty and romance do no honor to our publications.I am growing heartsick and weary over productions from the press that lower the truth as it should not be lowered.The fewer of these productions that are brought in,the more influence will the genuine,sacred truth connected with the scenes that are to take place,have upon minds.CW 22.1

“Then said Jesus unto His disciples,If any man will come after Me,let him deny himself,and take up his cross,and follow Me.For whosoever will save his life shall lose it:and whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it.For what is a man profited,if he shall gain the whole world,and lose his own soul?or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His

Father with His angels;and then He shall reward every man according to his works."CW 22.2

Christ Disapproves—There are some excellent things published in our papers.But when phases of most solemn truth are made to take on a lightness of representation,I am bidden to say that if Christ were present,He would have words of disapproval to speak regarding these representations.CW 22.3

Pure and undefiled religion must be constantly presented before the people.Let the truth come forth from pen and voice in a way that will have weight with every soul who shall read the articles in our papers or listen to our speakers.We are dealing with eternal realities.Christ's lessons,from first to last,are weighty with eternal issues.—Manuscript 17,1910.CW 22.4

Present it in Bible Style—The message is to be proclaimed with sanctified ability.The word of the Lord has been spoken.God calls for sanctified hearts and lips.The messages of warning are to be given in the large cities,and also in the towns and villages.The men of God's appointment are to be zealously at work,disposing of our books,and disseminating light.The articles in our papers are not to present the truth in the style of a romance;for this weakens the impression that should be made by the most solemn truth ever committed to mortals.They are to contain a plain,"Thus saith the Lord."The message must be repeated,and Bible reasons given,not in the style of a romance,but in the style of the Bible.There are many who are watching for the evidence of true religion.CW 23.1

The Lord declares,"The message is to go forth in words of solemn warning.Nothing that will hinder the clear presentation of the message is to be introduced into your plans.Repeat the message.The wickedness in the cities is increasing;the adversary has great influence over men,because My people did not open their hearts to realize

their responsibility.Tell My people to take up their work and proclaim the message.They are to speak and work in the simplicity of true godliness,and My Spirit will make the impression on hearts.Let the true note of warning be sounded.My angel shall go before you if you will be sanctified through the truth."—Letter 88,1910.CW 23.2

A Message for Frequent Appearance—In the twenty-first chapter of Luke Christ foretold what was to come upon Jerusalem,and with it He connected the scenes which were to take place in the history of this world just prior to the coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.Mark the words:"Take heed to yourselves,lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting,and drunkenness,and cares of this life,and so that day come upon you unawares.For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.Watch ye therefore,and pray always,that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass,and to stand before the Son of man."CW 23.3

This is a warning to those who claim to be Christians.Those who have had light upon the important,testing truths for this time,and yet are not making ready for the coming of the Son of man,are not taking heed."Take heed to yourselves,lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting,and drunkenness,and cares of this life,and so that day come upon you unawares."There is no period of time when spiritual slothfulness is excusable.CW 24.1

Only by being clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness can we escape the judgments that are coming upon the earth.Let all remember that these words were among the last that Christ gave His disciples.If this instruction were often repeated in our papers and publications,and less space were taken for matter which is not one hundredth part so important,it would be more

appropriate.In these sacred,solemn warnings the danger signal is lifted.It is this instruction that church members and the people of the world need;for it is present truth.—Letter 20,1901.CW 24.2

Ellen G.White Articles in New Fields—I have received the impression that you want short articles for the paper,and more of them.I have not felt any special burden to measure the lines that I write.I think if there is more put into the paper of living religious practice,it would certainly be of great value;for this is what the people need.To keep out the living experiences,and yet present the controversial,is not according to the light which God has given.CW 25.1

You have a very large field to select from in the many testimonies.In *Christian Education* there is a rich supply,but if you think not best to select and use these things God has given for the instruction of His people and all to whom they may come,then you are right in laying them on one side.But if these things are of value,let them speak.I am a little puzzled over this matter.The request made is,Short articles,Sister White.This cannot always be.Therefore I leave you my books to select from,which would be new matter to the readers in this country,Australia,and New Zealand,and just what they need.I have felt no burden to write for the paper,because you had a new field of matter for this country,which would be a blessing to those who receive it.Selections are made of matter,apparently to fill up,from other papers.What the people want is instruction.What shall I do that I may save my soul?We need more and still more of vital godliness brought out in the papers.—Letter 21,1896.CW 25.2

The Testimony of Pioneer Workers—I have had presentations regarding the deceptions that Satan is bringing in at this time.I have been instructed that we should make prominent the testimony of some of the old workers who are now dead.Let them continue to speak through their

articles as found in the early numbers of our papers.These articles should now be reprinted,that there may be a living voice from the Lord's witnesses.The history of the early experiences in the message will be a power to withstand the masterly ingenuity of Satan's deceptions.This instruction has been repeated recently.I must present before the people the testimonies of Bible truth,and repeat the decided messages given years ago.I desire that my sermons given at camp meetings and in churches may live and do their appointed work.—Letter 99,1905.CW 26.1

The Three Angels'Messages—The proclamation of the first,second,and third angels'messages has been located by the word of Inspiration.Not a peg or pin is to be removed.No human authority has any more right to change the location of these messages than to substitute the New Testament for the Old.The Old Testament is the gospel in figures and symbols.The New Testament is the substance.One is as essential as the other.The Old Testament presents lessons from the lips of Christ,and these lessons have not lost their force in any particular.The first and second messages were given in 1843 and 1844,and we are now under the proclamation of the third;but all three of the messages are still to be proclaimed.It is just as essential now as ever before that they shall be repeated to those who are seeking for the truth.By pen and voice we are to sound the proclamation,showing their order,and the application of the prophecies that bring us to the third angel's message.There cannot be a third without the first and second.These messages we are to give to the world in publications,in discourses,showing in the line of prophetic history the things that have been,and the things that will be.—Manuscript 32,1896.CW 26.2

Chapter 3—The Foundations,Pillars,and Landmarks

Early Workers to Speak—God has given me light regarding our periodicals.What is it?—He has said that the dead are to speak.How?—Their works shall follow them.We are to repeat the words of the pioneers in our work,who knew what it cost to search for the truth as for hidden treasure,and who labored to lay the foundation of our work.They moved forward step by step under the influence of the Spirit of God.One by one these pioneers are passing away.The word given me is,Let that which these men have written in the past be reproduced.And in the *Signs of the Times* let not the articles be long or the print fine.Do not try to crowd everything into one number of the paper.Let the print be good,and let earnest,living experiences be put into the paper.CW 28.1

Not long ago I took up a copy of the *Bible Echo*.[The *Bible Echo*,sometimes referred to as the *Echo*,was issued in Australia in 1885 as a weekly missionary paper.In 1903 it became *The Australian Signs of the Times*.]As I looked it through,I saw an article by Elder Haskell and one by Elder Corliss.As I laid the paper down,I said,These articles must be reproduced.There is truth and power in them.Men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.CW 28.2

Let the truths that are the foundation of our faith be kept before the people.Some will depart from the faith,giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils.They talk science,and the enemy comes in and gives them an abundance of science;but it is not the science of salvation.It is not the science of humility,of consecration,or of the sanctification of the Spirit.We are now to understand what the pillars of our faith are,—the truths that have made us as

a people what we are,leading us on step by step.—The Review and Herald,May 25,1905.CW 29.1

The Message to Present—Our lesson for the present time is,How may we most clearly comprehend and present the gospel that Christ came in person to present to John on the Isle of Patmos,—the gospel that is termed“the revelation of Jesus Christ”?We are to present to our people a clear explanation of Revelation.We are to give them the word of God just as it is,with as few of our own explanations as possible.No one mind can do this work alone.Although we have in trust the grandest and most important truth ever presented to the world,we are only babes,as far as understanding truth in all its bearings is concerned.Christ is the great teacher,and that which He revealed to John,we are to tax our minds to understand and clearly to define.We are facing the most important issues that men have ever been called upon to meet.CW 29.2

The theme of greatest importance is the third angel's message,embracing the messages of the first and second angels.All should understand the truths contained in these messages and demonstrate them in daily life,for this is essential to salvation.We shall have to study earnestly,prayerfully,in order to understand these grand truths.—Letter 97,1902.CW 29.3

The Landmarks Defined—In Minneapolis God gave precious gems of truth to His people in new settings.This light from heaven by some was rejected with all the stubbornness the Jews manifested in rejecting Christ,and there was much talk about standing by the old landmarks.But there was evidence they knew not what the old landmarks were.There was evidence and there was reasoning from the word that commended itself to the conscience;but the minds of men were fixed,sealed against the entrance of light,because they had decided it was a dangerous error removing the“old landmarks”when it was

not moving a peg of the old landmarks,but they had perverted ideas of what constituted the old landmarks.CW 30.1

The passing of the time in 1844 was a period of great events,opening to our astonished eyes the cleansing of the sanctuary transpiring in heaven,and having decided relation to God's people upon the earth,[also]the first and second angels'messages and the third,unfurling the banner on which was inscribed,"The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."One of the landmarks under this message was the temple of God,seen by His truth-loving people in heaven,and the ark containing the law of God.The light of the Sabbath of the fourth commandment flashed its strong rays in the pathway of the transgressors of God's law.The nonimmortality of the wicked is an old landmark.I can call to mind nothing more that can come under the head of the old landmarks.All this cry about changing the old landmarks is all imaginary.CW 30.2

Now at the present time God designs a new and fresh impetus shall be given to His work.Satan sees this,and he is determined it shall be hindered.He knows that if he can deceive the people who claim to believe present truth,[and make them believe that]the work the Lord designs to do for His people is a removing of the old landmarks,something which they should,with most determined zeal,resist,then he exults over the deception he has led them to believe.The work for this time has certainly been a surprising work of various hindrances,owing to the false setting of matters before the minds of many of our people.That which is food to the churches is regarded as dangerous,and should not be given them.And this slight difference of ideas is allowed to unsettle the faith,to cause apostasy,to break up unity,to sow discord,all because they do not know what they are striving about themselves.Brethren,is it not best to be sensible?Heaven is looking upon us all,and what can they

think of recent developments?While in this condition of things,building up barriers,we not only deprive ourselves of great light and precious advantages,but just now,when we so much need it,we place ourselves where light cannot be communicated from heaven that we ought to communicate to others.—Manuscript 13,1889.CW 31.1

Let Pioneers Identify Truth—When the power of God testifies as to what is truth,that truth is to stand forever as the truth.No aftersuppositions,contrary to the light God has given are to be entertained.Men will arise with interpretations of Scripture which are to them truth,but which are not truth.The truth for this time,God has given us as a foundation for our faith.He Himself has taught us what is truth.One will arise,and still another,with new light which contradicts the light that God has given under the demonstration of His Holy Spirit.CW 31.2

A few are still alive who passed through the experience gained in the establishment of this truth.God has graciously spared their lives to repeat and repeat till the close of their lives,the experience through which they passed even as did John the apostle till the very close of his life.And the standard-bearers who have fallen in death,are to speak through the reprinting of their writings.I am instructed that thus their voices are to be heard.They are to bear their testimony as to what constitutes the truth for this time.CW 32.1

We are not to receive the words of those who come with a message that contradicts the special points of our faith.They gather together a mass of Scripture,and pile it as proof around their asserted theories.This has been done over and over again during the past fifty years.And while the Scriptures are God's word,and are to be respected,the application of them,if such application moves one pillar from the foundation that God has sustained these fifty years,is a great mistake.He who makes such an application

knows not the wonderful demonstration of the Holy Spirit that gave power and force to the past messages that have come to the people of God.—Preach the Word,p.5(1905).CW 32.2

Chapter 4—Attitude to New Light

Maintaining Truth Not to Preclude New Light—It is a fact that we have the truth,and we must hold with tenacity to the positions that cannot be shaken;but we must not look with suspicion upon any new light which God may send,and say,Really,we cannot see that we need any more light than the old truth which we have hitherto received,and in which we are settled.While we hold to this position,the testimony of the True Witness applies to our cases its rebuke,"And knowest not that thou art wretched,and miserable,and poor,and blind,and naked."Those who feel rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing,are in a condition of blindness as to their true condition before God,and they know it not.—The Review and Herald,August 7,1894.CW 33.1

Led of God,but Not Infallible—We must not think,"Well,we have all the truth,we understand the main pillars of our faith,and we may rest on this knowledge."The truth is an advancing truth,and we must walk in the increasing light.CW 33.2

A brother asked,"Sister White,do you think we must understand the truth for ourselves?Why can we not take the truths that others have gathered together,and believe them because they have investigated the subjects,and then we shall be free to go on without the taxing of the powers of the mind in the investigation of all these subjects?Do you not think that these men who have brought out the truth in the past were inspired of God?"CW 33.3

I dare not say they were not led of God,for Christ leads into all truth;but when it comes to inspiration in the fullest sense of the word,I answer,No.I believe that God has given them a work to do,but if they are not fully consecrated to God at all times,they will weave self and their peculiar traits of character into what they are doing,and will put their mold upon the work,and fashion men in religious experience after their own pattern.It is dangerous for us to make flesh our arm.We should lean upon the arm of Infinite Power.God has been revealing this to us for years.We must have living faith in our hearts and reach out for larger knowledge and more advanced light.—The Review and Herald,March 25,1890.CW 34.1

Increased Light to Shine—A spirit of pharisaism has been coming in upon the people who claim to believe the truth for these last days.They are self-satisfied.They have said,"We have the truth.There is no more light for the people of God."But we are not safe when we take a position that we will not accept anything else than that upon which we have settled as truth.We should take the Bible,and investigate it closely for ourselves.We should dig in the mine of God's word for truth."Light is sown for the righteous,and gladness for the upright in heart."Some have asked me if I thought there was any more light for the people of God.Our minds have become so narrow that we do not seem to understand that the Lord has a mighty work to do for us.Increasing light is to shine upon us;for"the path of the just is as the shining light,that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."—The Review and Herald,June 18,1889.CW 34.2

Many Gems Yet to Be Discovered—New light will ever be revealed on the word of God to him who is in living connection with the Sun of Righteousness.Let no one come to the conclusion that there is no more truth to be revealed.The diligent,prayerful seeker for truth will find

precious rays of light yet to shine forth from the word of God.Many gems are yet scattered that are to be gathered together to become the property of the remnant people of God.—Counsels on Sabbath School Work,34(1892).CW 35.1

Investigation of Doctrine—There is no excuse for anyone in taking the position that there is no more truth to be revealed,and that all our expositions of Scripture are without an error.The fact that certain doctrines have been held as truth for many years by our people,is not a proof that our ideas are infallible.Age will not make error into truth,and truth can afford to be fair.No true doctrine will lose anything by close investigation.CW 35.2

We are living in perilous times,and it does not become us to accept everything claimed to be truth without examining it thoroughly;neither can we afford to reject anything that bears the fruits of the Spirit of God;but we should be teachable,meek and lowly of heart.There are those who oppose everything that is not in accordance with their own ideas,and by so doing they endanger their eternal interest as verily as did the Jewish nation in their rejection of Christ.CW 35.3

The Lord designs that our opinions shall be put to the test,that we may see the necessity of closely examining the living oracles to see whether or not we are in the faith.Many who claim to believe the truth have settled down at their ease,saying,“I am rich,and increased with goods,and have need of nothing.”—The Review and Herald,December 20,1892.CW 36.1

How to Search the Scriptures—How shall we search the Scriptures?Shall we drive our stakes of doctrine one after another,and then try to make all Scripture meet our established opinions?or shall we take our ideas and views to the Scriptures,and measure our theories on every side by the Scriptures of truth?Many who read and even teach the

Bible,do not comprehend the precious truth they are teaching or studying.CW 36.2

Men entertain errors,when the truth is clearly marked out;and if they would but bring their doctrines to the word of God,and not read the word of God in the light of their doctrines,to prove their ideas right,they would not walk in darkness and blindness,or cherish error.Many give the words of Scripture a meaning that suits their own opinions,and they mislead themselves and deceive others by their misinterpretations of God's word.CW 36.3

As we take up the study of God's word,we should do so with humble hearts.All selfishness,all love of originality,should be laid aside.Long-cherished opinions must not be regarded as infallible.It was the unwillingness of the Jews to give up their long-established traditions that proved their ruin.They were determined not to see any flaw in their own opinions or in their expositions of the Scriptures;but however long men may have entertained certain views,if they are not clearly sustained by the written word,they should be discarded.Those who sincerely desire truth will not be reluctant to lay open their positions for investigation and criticism,and will not be annoyed if their opinions and ideas are crossed.This was the spirit cherished among us forty years ago....CW 36.4

We have many lessons to learn,and many,many to unlearn.God and heaven alone are infallible.Those who think that they will never have to give up a cherished view,never have occasion to change an opinion,will be disappointed.As long as we hold to our own ideas and opinions with determined persistency,we cannot have the unity for which Christ prayed.CW 37.1

Could those who are self-sufficient see how the universe of God regards them,could they see themselves as God sees them,they would behold such weakness,such manifest want of wisdom,that they would cry to the Lord to be their

righteousness;they would want to hide from His sight.The apostle says,“Ye are not your own.For ye are bought with a price:therefore glorify God in your body,and in your spirit,which are God's.”When our schemes and our plans have been broken;when men who have depended upon our judgment conclude the Lord would lead them to act and judge for themselves,we should not feel like censuring,and like exercising arbitrary authority to compel them to receive our ideas.Those who are placed in authority should constantly cultivate self-control....CW 37.2

Would-be Guardians of the Doctrine—The rebuke of the Lord will be upon those who would be guardians of the doctrine,who would bar the way that greater light shall not come to the people.A great work is to be done,and God sees that our leading men have need of greater light,that they may unite harmoniously,with the messengers whom He shall send to accomplish the work that He designs they should.The Lord has raised up messengers and endued them with His Spirit,and has said,“Cry aloud,spare not,lift up thy voice like a trumpet,and show My people their transgression,and the house of Jacob their sins.”CW 38.1

Let no one run the risk of interposing himself between the people and the message of heaven.The message of God will come to the people;and if there were no voice among men to give it,the very stones would cry out.I call upon every minister to seek the Lord,to put away pride,to put away strife after supremacy,and humble the heart before God.It is the coldness of heart,the unbelief of those who ought to have faith,that keeps the churches in feebleness.—The Review and Herald,July 26,1892.CW 38.2

A Sign of Growth—Whenever the people of God are growing in grace,they will be constantly obtaining a clearer understanding of His word.They will discern new light and beauty in its sacred truths.This has been true in the history of the church in all ages,and thus it will continue to the

end.But as real spiritual life declines,it has ever been the tendency to cease to advance in the knowledge of the truth.Men rest satisfied with the light already received from God's word,and discourage any further investigation of the Scriptures.They become conservative,and seek to avoid discussion.CW 38.3

The fact that there is no controversy or agitation among God's people,should not be regarded as conclusive evidence that they are holding fast to sound doctrine.There is reason to fear that they may not be clearly discriminating between truth and error.When no new questions are started by investigation of the Scriptures,when no difference of opinion arises which will set men to searching the Bible for themselves,to make sure that they have the truth,there will be many now,as in ancient times,who will hold to tradition,and worship they know not what.CW 39.1

I have been shown that many who profess to have a knowledge of present truth,know not what they believe.They do not understand the evidences of their faith.They have no just appreciation of the work for the present time.When the time of trial shall come,there are men now preaching to others,who will find,upon examining the positions they hold,that there are many things for which they can give no satisfactory reason.Until thus tested,they knew not their great ignorance.CW 39.2

And there are many in the church who take it for granted that they understand what they believe,but,until controversy arises,they do not know their own weakness.When separated from those of like faith,and compelled to stand singly and alone to explain their belief,they will be surprised to see how confused are their ideas of what they had accepted as truth.Certain it is that there has been among us a departure from the living God,and a turning to men,putting human wisdom in place of divine.CW 39.3

God will arouse His people;if other means fail,heresies will come in among them,which will sift them,separating the chaff from the wheat.The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep.Precious light has come,appropriate for this time.It is Bible truth,showing the perils that are right upon us.This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures,and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold.CW 40.1

God would have all the bearings and positions of truth thoroughly and perseveringly searched,with prayer and fasting.Believers are not to rest in suppositions and ill-defined ideas of what constitutes truth.Their faith must be firmly founded upon the word of God,so that when the testing time shall come,and they are brought before councils to answer for their faith,they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them,with meekness and fear.CW 40.2

Agitate,agitate,agitate!The subjects which we present to the world must be to us a living reality.It is important that in defending the doctrines which we consider fundamental articles of faith,we should never allow ourselves to employ arguments that are not wholly sound.These may avail to silence an opposer,but they do not honor the truth.We should present sound arguments,that will not only silence our opponents,but will bear the closest and most searching scrutiny....CW 40.3

Continual Search for Greater Light—Whatever may be man's intellectual advancement,let him not for a moment think that there is no need of thorough and continuous searching of the Scriptures for greater light.As a people,we are called individually to be students of prophecy.We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us.We are to catch the first gleamings of truth;and through prayerful study,clearer light

may be obtained,which can be brought before others.CW 41.1

When God's people are at ease,and satisfied with their present enlightenment,we may be sure that He will not favor them.It is His will that they should be ever moving forward,to receive the increased and ever-increasing light which is shining for them.CW 41.2

The present attitude of the church is not pleasing to God.There has come in a self-confidence that has led them to feel no necessity for more truth and greater light.We are living at a time when Satan is at work on the right hand and on the left,before and behind us;and yet as a people we are asleep.God wills that a voice shall be heard arousing His people to action.—Gospel Workers,297-300(1915).CW 41.3

Right Spirit Essential—Brethren,we must sink the shaft deep in the mine of truth.You may question matters with yourselves and with one another,if you only do it in the right spirit;but too often self is large,and as soon as investigation begins,an unchristian spirit is manifested.This is just what Satan delights in,but we should come with a humble heart to know for ourselves what is truth.CW 41.4

The time is coming when we shall be separated and scattered,and each one of us will have to stand without the privilege of communion with those of like precious faith;and how can you stand unless God is by your side,and you know that He is leading and guiding you?Whenever we come to investigate Bible truth,the Master of assemblies is with us.The Lord does not leave the ship one moment to be steered by ignorant pilots.We may receive our orders from the Captain of our salvation.—The Review and Herald,March 25,1890.CW 42.1

Chapter 5—Investigation of New Light

Not to Be Suspected—When a doctrine is presented that does not meet our minds,we should go to the word of God,seek the Lord in prayer,and give no place for the enemy to come in with suspicion and prejudice.We should never permit the spirit to be manifested that arraigned the priests and rulers against the Redeemer of the world.They complained that He disturbed the people,and they wished He would let them alone;for He caused perplexity and dissension.The Lord sends light to us to prove what manner of spirit we are of.We are not to deceive ourselves.CW 43.1

In 1844,when anything came to our attention that we did not understand,we kneeled down and asked God to help us take the right position;and then we were able to come to a right understanding and see eye to eye.There was no dissension,no enmity,no evil-surmising,no misjudging of our brethren.If we but knew the evil of the spirit of intolerance,how carefully would we shun it!—Gospel Workers,301,302(1915).CW 43.2

The Test of New Light—Our brethren should be willing to investigate in a candid way every point of controversy.If a brother is teaching error,those who are in responsible positions ought to know it;and if he is teaching truth,they ought to take their stand at his side.We should all know what is being taught among us;for if it is truth,we need it.We are all under obligation to God to know what He sends us.He has given directions by which we may test every doctrine,—"To the law and to the testimony:if they speak not according to this word,it is because there is no light in them."If the light presented meets this test,we are not to refuse to accept it because it does not agree with our ideas.—Gospel Workers,300,301.CW 43.3

Examination of New Views—Truth is eternal,and conflict with error will only make manifest its strength.We should never refuse to examine the Scriptures with those who,we have reason to believe,desire to know what is truth as much as we do.Suppose a brother held a view that differed from yours,and he should come to you,proposing that you sit down with him and make an investigation of that point in the Scriptures;should you rise up,filled with prejudice,and condemn his ideas,while refusing to give him a candid hearing?CW 44.1

The only right way would be to sit down as Christians and investigate the position presented,in the light of God's word,which will reveal truth and unmask error.To ridicule his ideas would not weaken his position in the least if it were false,or strengthen your position if it were true.If the pillars of our faith will not stand the test of investigation,it is time that we knew it.There must be no spirit of pharisaism cherished among us.When Christ came to His own,His own received Him not;and it is a matter of solemn interest to us that we should not pursue a similar course in refusing light from heaven.CW 44.2

We must study the truth for ourselves.No living man should be relied upon to think for us.No matter who it is,or in what position he may be placed,we are not to look upon any man as a perfect criterion for us.We are to counsel together,and to be subject to one another;but at the same time we are to exercise the ability God has given us to learn what is truth.Each one of us must look to God for divine enlightenment.We must individually develop a character that will stand the test in the day of God.We must not become set in our ideas,and think that no one should interfere with our opinions.—The Review and Herald,June 18,1889.CW 45.1

Not Revealed to Just One or Two—God has not passed His people by,and chosen one solitary man here and another

there as the only ones worthy to be entrusted with His truth.He does not give one man new light contrary to the established faith of the body.In every reform men have arisen making this claim.Paul warned the church in his day,“Of your own selves shall men arise,speaking perverse things,to draw away disciples after them.”The greatest harm to God's people comes through those who go out from among them speaking perverse things.Through them the way of truth is evil spoken of.CW 45.2

Let none be self confident,as though God had given them special light above their brethren.Christ is represented as dwelling in His people;and believers,as“built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone;in whom all the building,fitly framed together,groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord;in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.”“I therefore,the prisoner of the Lord,”says Paul,“beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,with all lowliness and meekness,with long-suffering,forbearing one another in love;endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.There is one body,and one spirit,even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;one Lord,one faith,one baptism,one God and Father of all,who is above all,and through all,and in you all.”CW 45.3

Beware of Side Issues—That which Brother D calls light is apparently harmless;it does not look as though anyone could be injured by it.But,brethren,it is Satan's device,his entering wedge.This has been tried again and again.One accepts some new and original idea which does not seem to conflict with the truth.He talks of it and dwells upon it until it seems to him to be clothed with beauty and importance,for Satan has power to give this false appearance.At last it becomes the all-absorbing theme,the one great point around

which everything centers;and the truth is uprooted from the heart.CW 46.1

No sooner are erratic ideas started in his mind than Brother D begins to lose faith,and to question the work of the Spirit which has been manifested among us for so many years.He is not a man who will entertain what he believes to be special light without imparting it to others;therefore it is not safe to give him influence that will enable him to unsettle other minds.It is opening a door through which Satan will rush in many errors to divert the mind from the importance of the truth for this time.Brethren,as an ambassador of Christ I warn you to beware of these side issues,whose tendency is to divert the mind from the truth.Error is never harmless.It never sanctifies,but always brings confusion and dissension.It is always dangerous.The enemy has great power over minds that are not thoroughly fortified by prayer and established in Bible truth.CW 46.2

Submit New Light to Experienced Brethren—There are a thousand temptations in disguise prepared for those who have the light of truth;and the only safety for any of us is in receiving no new doctrine,no new interpretation of the Scriptures,without first submitting it to brethren of experience.Lay it before them in a humble,teachable spirit,with earnest prayer;and if they see no light in it,yield to their judgment;for“in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”—Testimonies for the Church 5:291-293(1885).CW 47.1

Inconsequential Matters—I would say to my brethren and sisters,Keep close to the instruction found in the word of God.Dwell upon the rich truths of the Scriptures.Thus only can you become one in Christ.You have no time to engage in controversy regarding the killing of insects.Jesus has not placed this burden upon you.“What is the chaff to the wheat?”These side issues which arise are as hay,wood,and stubble compared with the truth for these last days.Those

who leave the great truths of God's word to speak of such matters are not preaching the gospel.They are dealing with the idle sophistry which the enemy brings forward to divert minds from the truths that concern their eternal welfare.They have no word from Christ to vindicate their suppositions.CW 47.2

Do not spend your time in the discussion of such matters.If you have any question as to what you should teach,any question as to the subjects upon which you should dwell,go right to the discourses of the Great Teacher,and follow His instructions....CW 48.1

Erroneous theories,with no authority from the word of God,will come in on the right hand and on the left,and to weaklings these theories will appear as truth which makes wise.But they are as nothingness.And yet many church members have become so well satisfied with cheap food that they have a dyspeptic religion.Why will men and women belittle their experience by gathering up idle tales and presenting them as matters worthy of attention?The people of God have no time to dwell on the indefinite,frivolous questions which have no bearing on God's requirements.—Preach the Word,p.10(1901).CW 48.2

Points Unnecessary for Faith—There are many questions treated upon that are not necessary for the perfection of the faith.We have no time for their study.Many things are above finite comprehension.Truths are to be received not within the reach of our reason,and not for us to explain.Revelation presents them to us to be implicitly received as the words of an infinite God.While every ingenious inquirer is to search out the truth as it is in Jesus,there are things not yet simplified,statements that human minds cannot grasp and reason out,without being liable to make human calculation and explanations,which will not prove a savor of life unto life.CW 48.3

But every truth which is essential for us to bring into our practical life,which concerns the salvation of the soul,is made very clear and positive.—Preach the Word,6,7(1895).CW 49.1

A Device of the Enemy—We are to pray for divine enlightenment,but at the same time we should be careful how we receive everything termed new light.We must beware lest,under cover of searching for new truth,Satan shall divert our minds from Christ and the special truths for this time.I have been shown that it is the device of the enemy to lead minds to dwell upon some obscure or unimportant point,something that is not fully revealed or is not essential to our salvation.This is made the absorbing theme,the“present truth,”when all their investigations and suppositions only serve to make matters more obscure than before,and to confuse the minds of some who ought to be seeking for oneness through sanctification of the truth.—Preach the Word,p.4(1891).CW 49.2

“New Light”Which Unsettles Confidence—Satan hopes to involve the remnant people of God in the general ruin that is coming upon the earth.As the coming of Christ draws nigh,he will be more determined and decisive in his efforts to overthrow them.Men and women will arise professing to have some new light or some new revelation,whose tendency is to unsettle faith in the old landmarks.Their doctrines will not bear the test of God's word,yet souls will be deceived.False reports will be circulated,and some will be taken in this snare.They will believe these rumors,and in their turn will repeat them,and thus a link will be formed connecting them with the archdeceiver.This spirit will not always be manifested in an open defiance of the messages that God sends,but a settled unbelief is expressed in many ways.Every false statement that is made feeds and strengthens this unbelief,and through this means many souls will be balanced in the

wrong direction.—Testimonies for the Church 5:295,296(1885).CW 49.3

Attitude to Those Claiming to Have New Light—Cling close to your Bible,for its sacred truths can purify,ennoble,and sanctify the soul.You must hold the truth and teach it as it is in Jesus,else it is of no value to you.Before the light of God's truth let human opinions and ideas and human wisdom appear as they are in the sight of God,—as foolishness....CW 50.1

If a brother differ with you on some points of truth,do not stoop to ridicule,do not place him in a false light,or misconstrue his words,making sport of them;do not misinterpret his words and wrest them of their true meaning.This is not conscientious argument.Do not present him before others as a heretic,when you have not with him investigated his positions,taking the Scriptures text by text in the spirit of Christ to show him what is truth.You do not yourself really know the evidence he has for his faith,and you cannot really clearly define your own position.Take your Bible,and in a kindly spirit weigh every argument that he presents and show him by the Scriptures if he is in error.When you do this without unkind feelings,you will do only that which is your duty and the duty of every minister of Jesus Christ.—Letter 21,1888.CW 50.2

Hear Before You Condemn—When new light is presented to the church,it is perilous to shut yourselves away from it.Refusing to hear because you are prejudiced against the message or the messenger will not make your case excusable before God.To condemn that which you have not heard and do not understand will not exalt your wisdom in the eyes of those who are candid in their investigations of truth.And to speak with contempt of those whom God has sent with a message of truth,is folly and madness.If our youth are seeking to educate themselves to be workers in His cause,they should learn the way of the Lord,and live by

every word that proceedeth out of His mouth.They are not to make up their minds that the whole truth has been unfolded,and that the Infinite One has no more light for His people.If they entrench themselves in the belief that the whole truth has been revealed,they will be in danger of discarding precious jewels of truth that shall be discovered as men turn their attention to the searching of the rich mine of God's word.—Counsels on Sabbath School Work,32,33(1892).CW 51.1

Chapter 6—Integrity of the Message

Landmarks of Truth,Experience,and Duty—Messages of every order and kind have been urged upon Seventh-day Adventists,to take the place of the truth which,point by point,has been sought out by prayerful study,and testified to by the miracle-working power of the Lord.But the waymarks which have made us what we are,are to be preserved,and they will be preserved,as God has signified through His word and the testimony of His Spirit.He calls upon us to hold firmly,with the grip of faith,to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority.—Special Testimonies,Series B,No.2,p.59(1904).CW 52.1

As a people we are to stand firm on the platform of eternal truth that has withstood test and trial.We are to hold to the sure pillars of our faith.The principles of truth that God has revealed to us are our only true foundation.They have made us what we are.The lapse of time had not lessened their value.—Special Testimonies,Series B,No.2,p.51(1904).CW 52.2

No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are,is to be weakened.We have the old landmarks of truth,experience,and duty,and we are to stand

firmly in defense of our principles,in full view of the world.—Testimonies for the Church 6:17.CW 52.3

Moving a Block or Stirring a Pin—I saw a company who stood well guarded and firm,giving no countenance to those who would unsettle the established faith of the body.God looked upon them with approbation.I was shown three steps,—the first,second,and third angels'messages.Said my accompanying angel,"Woe to him who shall move a block or stir a pin of these messages.The true understanding of these messages is of vital importance.The destiny of souls hangs upon the manner in which they are received."I was again brought down through these messages,and saw how dearly the people of God had purchased their experience.It had been obtained through much suffering and severe conflict.God had led them along step by step,until He had placed them upon a solid,immovable platform.—Early Writings,258,259(1858).CW 53.1

The Sanctuary a Point of Special Attack—In the future,deception of every kind is to arise,and we want solid ground for our feet.We want solid pillars for the building.Not one pin is to be removed from that which the Lord has established.The enemy will bring in false theories,such as the doctrine that there is no sanctuary.This is one of the points on which there will be a departing from the faith.Where shall we find safety unless it be in the truths that the Lord has been giving for the last fifty years?—The Review and Herald,May 25,1905.CW 53.2

Satan is striving continually to bring in fanciful suppositions in regard to the sanctuary,degrading the wonderful representations of God and the ministry of Christ for our salvation into something that suits the carnal mind.He removes its presiding power from the hearts of believers,and supplies its place with fantastic theories invented to make void the truths of the atonement,and destroy our confidence in the doctrines which we have held

sacred since the third angel's message was first given.Thus he would rob us of our faith in the very message that has made us a separate people,and has given character and power to our work.—Special Testimonies,Series B,No.7,p.17(1905).CW 53.3

I know that the sanctuary question stands in righteousness and truth,just as we have held it for so many years.It is the enemy that leads minds off on sidetracks.He is pleased when those who know the truth become engrossed in collecting scriptures to pile around erroneous theories,which have no foundation in truth.The scriptures thus used are misapplied;they were not given to substantiate error,but to strengthen truth.—Gospel Workers,303(1915).CW 54.1

Chapter 7—How to Meet Opposition

"We Cannot Come Down"—Time and strength can be better employed than to dwell at length upon the quibbles of our opponents who deal in slander and misrepresentations.While precious time is employed in following the crooks and turns of dishonest opponents,the people who are open to conviction are dying for want of knowledge.A train of senseless quibbles of Satan's own invention,are brought before minds,while the people are crying for food,for meat in due season.CW 55.1

It takes those who have trained their minds to war against the truth to manufacture quibbles.And we are not wise to take them from their hands,and pass them out to thousands who would never have thought of them had we not published them to the world.This is what our opponents want to have done;they want to be brought to notice,and to have us publish for them.This is especially true of

some.This is their main object in writing out their falsehoods,and in misrepresenting the truth and the characters of those who love and advocate the truth.They will die out more speedily to be left unnoticed,to have their errors and falsehoods treated with silent contempt.They do not want to be let alone.Opposition is the element that they love.If it were not for this,they would have but little influence....CW 55.2

There are occasions where their glaring misrepresentations will have to be met.When this is the case,it should be done promptly and briefly,and we should then pass on to our work.The plan of Christ's teaching should be ours.He was plain and simple,striking directly at the root of the matter,and the minds of all were met.CW 56.1

It is not the best policy to be so very explicit,and say all upon a point that can be said,when a few arguments will cover the ground,and be sufficient for all practical purposes to convince or silence opponents.You may remove every prop today,and close the mouths of objectors so that they can say nothing,and tomorrow they will go over the same ground again.Thus it will be,over and over,because they do not love the light,and will not come to the light lest their darkness and error should be removed from them.It is a better plan to keep a reserve of arguments than to pour out a depth of knowledge upon a subject which would be taken for granted without labored argument.Christ's ministry lasted only three years,and a great work was done in that short period.In these last days,there is a great work to be done in a short time.While many are getting ready to do something,souls will perish for the light and knowledge.CW 56.2

If men who are engaged in presenting and defending the truth of the Bible,undertake to investigate and show the fallacy and inconsistency of men who dishonestly turn the

truth of God into a lie,Satan will stir up opponents enough to keep their pens constantly employed,while other branches of the work will be left to suffer.CW 56.3

We must have more of the spirit of those men who were engaged in building the walls of Jerusalem.We are doing a great work,and we cannot come down.If Satan sees that he can keep men answering the objections of opponents,and thus keep their voices silent,and hinder them from doing the most important work for the present time,his object is accomplished....CW 57.1

The world needs labor now.Calls are coming in from every direction like the Macedonian cry,“Come over and help us.”Plain,pointed arguments,standing out as mileposts,will do more toward convincing minds generally than will a large array of arguments which cover a great deal of ground,but which none but investigating minds will have interest to follow.—Testimonies for the Church 3:36-39(1872).CW 57.2

Chapter 8—Words of Caution

Let the Truth Cut—Christ said to His disciples:“Behold,I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves:be ye therefore wise as serpents,and harmless as doves.”Matthew 10:16.CW 58.1

Satan's attacks against the advocates of the truth will wax more bitter and determined to the very close of time.As in Christ's day the chief priests and rulers stirred up the people against Him,so today the religious leaders will excite bitterness and prejudice against the truth for this time.The people will be led to acts of violence and opposition which they would never have thought of had they not been imbued with the animosity of professed Christians against the truth.CW 58.2

What course shall the advocates of truth pursue?They have the unchangeable,eternal word of God,and they should

reveal the fact that they have the truth as it is in Jesus.Their words must not be rugged and sharp.In their presentation of truth they must manifest the love and meekness and gentleness of Christ.Let the truth do the cutting;the word of God is as a sharp,two-edged sword,and will cut its way to the heart.Those who know that they have the truth should not,by the use of harsh and severe expressions,give Satan one chance to misinterpret their spirit.CW 58.3

No Railing Accusation—As a people,we must stand as did the world's Redeemer.When in controversy with Satan in regard to the body of Moses,Christ durst not bring against him a railing accusation.He had every provocation to do this,and Satan was disappointed because he could not arouse in Christ a spirit of retaliation.Satan was ready to misinterpret everything that was done by Jesus;and the Saviour would give him no occasion,not the semblance of an excuse.He would not turn from His straightforward course of truth in order to follow the wanderings,and twistings,and turnings,and prevarications of Satan.CW 59.1

We read in the prophecy of Zechariah that when Satan with all his synagogue stood up to resist the prayers of Joshua the high priest,and to resist Christ,who was about to show decided favor to Joshua,“The Lord said unto Satan,The Lord rebuke thee,O Satan;even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee;is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?”Zechariah 3:2.CW 59.2

The course of Christ in dealing even with the adversary of souls,should be an example to us in all our intercourse with others,never to bring a railing accusation against any;much less should we employ harshness or severity toward those who may be as anxious to know the right way as we are ourselves.CW 59.3

Those who have been educated in the truth by precept and example,should make great allowance for others who have had no knowledge of the Scriptures except through the

interpretations given by ministers and church members,and who have received traditions and fables as Bible truth.They are surprised by the presentation of truth;it is as a new revelation to them,and they cannot bear to have all the truth,in its most striking character,presented to them at the outset.All is new and strange,and wholly unlike that which they have heard from their ministers;and they are inclined to believe what the ministers have told them,—that Seventh-day Adventists are infidels,and do not believe the Bible.Let the truth be presented as it is in Jesus,line upon line,precept upon precept,here a little,and there a little.CW 59.4

Unkind Thrusts and Personal Allusions—Let not those who write for our papers make unkind thrusts and allusions that will certainly do harm,and that will hedge up the way and hinder us from doing the work that we should do in order to reach all classes,the Catholics included.It is our work to speak the truth in love,and not to mix in with the truth the unsanctified elements of the natural heart,and speak things that savor of the same spirit possessed by our enemies.All sharp thrusts will come back upon us in double measure when the power is in the hands of those who can exercise it for our injury.Over and over the message has been given to me that we are not to say one word,not to publish one sentence,especially by way of personalities,unless positively essential in vindicating the truth,that will stir up our enemies against us,and arouse their passions to a white heat.Our work will soon be closed up,and soon the time of trouble,such as never was,will come upon us,of which we have but little idea.CW 60.1

Disqualified by Careless Statements—The Lord wants His workers to represent Him,the great Missionary Worker.The manifestation of rashness always does harm.The proprieties essential for Christian life must be learned daily in the school of Christ.He who is careless and heedless in uttering words or in writing words for publication to be sent

broadcast into the world,sending forth expressions that can never be taken back,is disqualifying himself to be entrusted with the sacred work that devolves upon Christ's followers at this time.Those who practice giving harsh thrusts,are forming habits that will strengthen by repetition,and will have to be repented of.CW 61.1

We should carefully examine our ways and our spirit,and see in what manner we are doing the work given us of God,which involves the destiny of souls.The very highest obligation is resting upon us.Satan is standing ready,burning with zeal to inspire the whole confederacy of satanic agencies,that he may cause them to unite with evil men,and bring upon the believers of truth speedy and severe suffering.Every unwise word that is uttered through our brethren will be treasured up by the prince of darkness.CW 61.2

I should like to ask,How dare finite human intelligences speak careless and venturesome words that will stir up the powers of hell against the saints of God,when Michael the archangel durst not bring against Satan a railing accusation,but said,“The Lord rebuke thee”?Jude 9.CW 61.3

It will be impossible for us to avoid difficulties and suffering.Jesus said,“Woe unto the world because of offenses!for it must needs be that offenses come;but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh!”Matthew 18:7.But because offense will come,we should be careful not to stir up the natural temperament of those who love not the truth,by unwise words,and by the manifestation of an unkind spirit.CW 62.1

Present Truth Without Censure—Precious truth must be presented in its native force.The deceptive errors that are widespread,and that are leading the world captive,are to be unveiled.Every effort possible is being made to ensnare souls with subtle reasonings,to turn them from the truth to fables,and to prepare them to be deceived by strong

delusions.But while these deceived souls turn from the truth to error,do not speak to them one word of censure.Seek to show these poor,deluded souls their danger,and to reveal to them how grievous is their course of action toward Jesus Christ;but let it all be done in pitying tenderness.By a proper manner of labor some of the souls who are ensnared by Satan may be recovered from his power.But do not blame and condemn them.To ridicule the position held by those who are in error,will not open their blind eyes,nor attract them to the truth.CW 62.2

When men lose sight of Christ's example,and do not pattern after His manner of teaching,they become self-sufficient,and go forth to meet Satan with his own manner of weapons.The enemy knows well how to turn his weapons upon those who use them.Jesus spoke only words of pure truth and righteousness.CW 62.3

If ever a people needed to walk in humility before God,it is His church,His chosen ones in this generation.We all need to bewail the dullness of our intellectual faculties,the lack of appreciation of our privileges and opportunities.We have nothing whereof to boast.We grieve the Lord Jesus Christ by our harshness,by our unchristlike thrusts.We need to become complete in Him.CW 63.1

Thrusts at the Catholics—It is true that we are commanded to“cry aloud,spare not,lift up thy voice like a trumpet,and show My people their transgression,and the house of Jacob their sins.”Isaiah 58:1.This message must be given,but while it must be given,we should be careful not to thrust and crowd and condemn those who have not the light that we have.We should not go out of our way to make hard thrusts at the Catholics.Among the Catholics there are many who are most conscientious Christians,and who walk in all the light that shines upon them,and God will work in their behalf.Those who have had great privileges and opportunities,and who have failed to improve their

physical,mental,and moral powers,but who have lived to please themselves,and have refused to bear their responsibility,are in greater danger and in greater condemnation before God than those who are in error upon doctrinal points,yet who seek to live to do good to others.Do not censure others;do not condemn them.CW 63.2

If we allow selfish considerations,false reasoning,and false excuses,to bring us into a perverse state of mind and heart,so that we shall not know the ways and will of God,we shall be far more guilty than the open sinner.We need to be very cautious in order that we may not condemn those who,before God,are less guilty than ourselves.CW 63.3

Let everyone bear in mind that we are in no case to invite persecution.We are not to use harsh and cutting words.Keep them out of every article written,drop them out of every address given.Let the word of God do the cutting,the rebuking:let finite men hide and abide in Jesus Christ.Let the spirit of Christ appear.Let all be guarded in their words,lest they place those not of our faith in deadly opposition against us,and give Satan an opportunity to use the unadvised words to hedge up our way.CW 64.1

There is to be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation.Our work is to study to weed out of all our discourses everything that savors of retaliation and defiance and making a drive against churches and individuals,because this is not Christ's way and method.—Testimonies for the Church 9:239-244(1909).CW 64.2

Regarding the Catholics—Brethren,I feel hurt when I see that so many decided thrusts are made against the Catholics.Preach the truth,but restrain the words which show a harsh spirit;for such words cannot help or enlighten anyone.The *Echo* is a paper that should be circulated largely.Do not do anything that would hinder its sale.There is no reason why it should not be as a light shining in a dark

place.But for Christ's sake heed the admonitions which have been given in regard to making scathing remarks about the Catholics.Many Catholics read the *Echo*,and among the number there are honest souls who will accept the truth.But there is such a thing as shutting the door in their faces as they are about to enter.Put more cheering testimonies of thanksgiving into the *Echo*.Do not hedge up its way,and prevent it from going to all parts of the world by making it a medium for hard expressions.Satan rejoices when one word of bitterness is found on its pages.—Letter 20,1896.CW 64.3

Less to Say—There is need of a much closer study of the word of God;especially should Daniel and the Revelation have attention as never before in the history of our work.We may have less to say in some lines,in regard to the Roman power and the papacy,but we should call attention to what the prophets and apostles have written under the inspiration of the Spirit of God.The Holy Spirit has so shaped matters,both in the giving of the prophecy,and in the events portrayed,as to teach that the human agent is to be kept out of sight,hid in Christ,and the Lord God of heaven and His law are to be exalted.—Letter 57,1896.CW 65.1

No Condemnatory Articles—The light which I have to give to our people is,Let no condemnatory speeches be printed in our papers.A large number of precious souls are groping in darkness,yet longing and weeping and praying for light.Thus it is in churches everywhere.—Manuscript 46,1900.CW 65.2

No Gall.—Every article you write may be all truth,but one drop of gall in it will be poison to the reader.One reader will discard all your good and acceptable words because of that drop of poison.Another will feed on the poison,for he loves such harsh words.—Letter 91,1899.CW 65.3

Facing Readers in Judgment—My attention has been called to your articles in our papers in reference to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.In the work of temperance all church members are supposed to stand

upon the platform of union.Your putting on the appearance of antagonism is natural to you,but it is not after the order of Christ.You are building up barricades that should not be made to appear.After reading your articles,will those who know not what our faith is feel inclined to make an attempt to unite with us?The tone of your articles savors of pharisaism.The man who expects to enlighten a deceived people must come near to them and labor for them in love.He must become a center of holy influences....CW 66.1

The ideas expressed in your articles savor so strongly of antagonism that you will do harm,more than you can possibly conceive.Remember that if by the injudicious use of your pen you close the door to even one soul,that soul will confront you in the judgment.O,how much has been said that has turned souls to bitterness and gall against the truth.Words that should have been a savor of life unto life have been made a savor of death unto death by the spirit which accompanied them.—Letter 17,1900.CW 66.2

In the Spirit of Christ—We cannot help the Christless by finding fault with them.We have not been given the work of reproving or giving personal thrusts in our periodicals.This attitude is misleading,We are to be“not easily provoked.”We are to remember that by our spiritual attitude we are to show that we are feeding on Christ,the bread of life.By our words,our tempers,and our works,we may testify to those with whom we come in contact,that the Spirit of Christ dwells in us.—Manuscript 46,1898.CW 66.3

Chapter 9—Attitude to Civil Authorities

Bring No Attack—By some of our brethren many things have been spoken and written that are interpreted as expressing antagonism to government and law.It is a

mistake thus to lay ourselves open to misunderstanding.It is not wise to find fault continually with what is done by the rulers of government.It is not our work to attack individuals or institutions.We should exercise great care lest we be understood as putting ourselves in opposition to the civil authorities.It is true that our warfare is aggressive,but our weapons are to be those found in a plain"Thus saith the Lord."Our work is to prepare a people to stand in the great day of God.We should not be turned aside to lines that will encourage controversy,or arouse antagonism in those not of our faith.CW 68.1

We should not work in a manner that will mark us out as seeming to advocate treason.We should weed out from our writings and utterances every expression,that,taken by itself,could be so misrepresented as to make it appear antagonistic to law and order.Everything should be carefully considered,lest we place ourselves on record as encouraging disloyalty to our country and its laws.We are not required to defy authorities.There will come a time when,because of our advocacy of Bible truth,we shall be treated as traitors;but let not this time be hastened by unadvised movements that stir up animosity and strife.CW 68.2

Condemned by Our Own Words—The time will come when unguarded expressions of a denunciatory character,that have been carelessly spoken or written by our brethren,will be used by our enemies to condemn us.These will not be used merely to condemn those who made the statements,but will be charged upon the whole body of Adventists.Our accusers will say that on such and such a day one of our responsible men said thus and so against the administration of the laws of this government.Many will be astonished to see how many things have been cherished and remembered that will give point to the arguments of our adversaries.Many will be surprised to hear their own words

strained into a meaning that they did not intend them to have.Then let our workers be careful to speak guardedly at all times and under all circumstances.Let all beware lest by reckless expressions they bring on a time of trouble before the great crisis which is to try men's souls.CW 69.1

Charges against Authorities and Powers—The less we make direct charges against authorities and powers,the greater work we shall be able to accomplish,both in America and in foreign countries.Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States.Though she leads out,yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.CW 69.2

It is our work to magnify and exalt the law of God.The truth of God's holy word is to be made manifest.We are to hold up the Scriptures as the rule of life.In all modesty,in the spirit of grace,and in the love of God,we are to point men to the fact that the Lord God is the Creator of the heavens and the earth,and that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.CW 70.1

In the name of the Lord we are to go forward,unfurling His banner,advocating His word.When the authorities command us not to do this work;when they forbid us to proclaim the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus,then it will be necessary for us to say as did the apostles:“Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God,judge ye.For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”Acts 4:19,20.CW 70.2

The truth is to be set forth in the power of the Holy Spirit.This alone can make our words effective.Only through the Spirit's power will victory be gained and held.The human agent must be worked by the Spirit of God.The workers must be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.They must have divine wisdom,that nothing may be uttered which would stir up men to close our way.Through the inculcation of spiritual truth we are to

prepare a people who shall be able,in meekness and fear,to give a reason for their faith before the highest authorities in our world.CW 70.3

We need to present the truth in its simplicity,to advocate practical godliness;and we should do this in the spirit of Christ.The manifestation of such a spirit will have the best influence upon our own souls,and it will have a convincing power upon others.Give the Lord opportunity to work through His own agents.Do not imagine that it will be possible for you to lay out plans for the future;let God be acknowledged as standing at the helm at all times and under every circumstance.He will work by means that will be suitable,and will maintain,increase,and build up His own people.CW 70.4

Hasten Not the Stormy Times—The Lord's agents should have a sanctified zeal,a zeal that is wholly under His control.Stormy times will come rapidly enough upon us,and we should take no course of our own that will hasten them.Tribulation will come of a character that will drive to God all who wish to be His,and His alone.Until tested and proved in the furnace of trial,we do not know ourselves,and it is not proper for us to measure the characters of others and to condemn those who have not yet had the light of the third angel's message.CW 71.1

If we wish men to be convinced that the truth we believe sanctifies the soul and transforms the character,let us not be continually charging them with vehement accusations.In this way we shall force them to the conclusion that the doctrine we profess cannot be the Christian doctrine,since it does not make us kind,courteous,and respectful.Christianity is not manifested in pugilistic accusations and condemnation.CW 71.2

Many of our people are in danger of trying to exercise a controlling power upon others,and of bringing oppression upon their fellow men.There is danger that those who are

entrusted with responsibilities will acknowledge but one power,—the power of an unsanctified will.Some have exercised this power unscrupulously,and have caused great discomfiture to those whom the Lord is using.One of the greatest curses in our world(and it is seen in churches and in society everywhere)is the love of supremacy.Men become absorbed in seeking to secure power and popularity.This spirit has manifested itself in the ranks of Sabbathkeepers,to our grief and shame.But spiritual success comes only to those who have learned meekness and lowliness in the school of Christ.CW 71.3

We should remember that the world will judge us by what we appear to be.Let those who are seeking to represent Christ be careful not to exhibit inconsistent features of character.Before we come fully to the front,let us see to it that the Holy Spirit is poured upon us from on high.When this is the case,we shall give a decided message,but it will be of a far less condemnatory character than that which some have been giving;and all who believe will be far more earnest for the salvation of our opponents.Let God have the matter of condemning authorities and governments wholly in His own keeping.In meekness and love,let us as faithful sentinels defend the principles of truth as it is in Jesus....CW 72.1

Present Truth with Gentleness—The truth should be presented with divine tact,gentleness,and tenderness.It should come from a heart that has been softened and made sympathetic.We need to have close communion with God,lest self rise up,as it did in Jehu,and we pour forth a torrent of words that are unbefitting,that are not as dew,or as the still showers that revive the withering plants.Let our words be gentle as we seek to win souls.God will be wisdom to him who seeks for wisdom from a divine source....CW 72.2

Attitude Toward Opponents—God's plan is first to get at the heart.Speak the truth,and let Him carry forward the reformatory power and principle.Make no reference to what opponents say;but let the truth alone be advanced.The truth can cut to the quick.Plainly unfold the word in all its impressiveness.—Testimonies for the Church 6:394-400(1900).CW 73.1

Chapter 10—On Publishing Conflicting Views

Unity of Utterance—Those who speak to the people through our periodicals should preserve unity among themselves.Nothing that savors of dissension should be found in our publications.Satan is always seeking to cause dissension,for well he knows that by this means he can most effectually counteract the work of God.We should not give place to his devices.Christ's prayer for His disciples was,"That they all may be one;as Thou,Father,art in Me,and I in Thee,that they also may be one in us;that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me."John 17:21.All true laborers for God will work in harmony with this prayer.In their efforts to advance the work,all will manifest that oneness of sentiment and practice which reveals that they are God's witnesses,that they love one another.To a world that is broken up by discord and strife,their love and unity will testify to their connection with heaven.It is the convincing evidence of the divine character of their mission.—Testimonies for the Church 7:156,157(1902).CW 74.1

"No one has the right to start out on his own responsibility,and advance ideas in our papers on Bible doctrines,when it is known that others among us hold different opinions on the subject,and that it will create

controversy."—Testimonies for the Church 5:534(1889).CW 74.2

Present a United Front—Letters came to me from some attending the Healdsburg College in regard to Brother-----'s teachings in regard to the two laws.I wrote immediately protesting against their doing contrary to the light which God had given us in regard to all differences of opinion,and I heard nothing in response to the letter.It may never have reached you.If you,my brethren,had the experience that my husband and myself have had in regard to these known differences being published in articles in our papers,you would never have pursued the course you have,either in your ideas advanced before our students at the college,neither would it have appeared in the *Signs*.Especially at this time should everything like differences be repressed.These young men are more self-confident and less cautious than they should be.You must as far as difference is concerned,be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.Even if you are fully convinced that your ideas of doctrines are sound,you do not show wisdom that that difference should be made apparent.CW 75.1

I have no hesitancy in saying you have made a mistake here.You have departed from the positive directions God has given upon this matter,and only harm will be the result.This is not in God's order.You have now set the example for others to do as you have done,to feel at liberty to put in their various ideas and theories and bring them before the public,because you have done this.This will bring in a state of things that you have not dreamed of....CW 75.2

It is no small matter for you to come out in the *Signs* as you have done,and God has plainly revealed that such things should not be done.We must keep before the world a united front.Satan will triumph to see differences among Seventh-day Adventists.These questions are not vital points....CW 76.1

Bring No Differences Into General Meetings—To bring these differences into our general conferences is a mistake;it should not be done.There are those who do not go deep,who are not Bible students,who will take positions decidedly for or against,grasping at apparent evidence;yet it may not be truth,and to take differences into our conferences where the differences become widespread,thus sending forth all through the fields various ideas,one in opposition to the other,is not God's plan,but at once raises questionings,doubts whether we have the truth,whether after all we are not mistaken and in error.CW 76.2

The Reformation was greatly retarded by making prominent differences on some points of faith and each party holding tenaciously to those things where they differed.We shall see eye to eye erelong,but to become firm and consider it your duty to present your views in decided opposition to the faith or truth as it has been taught by us as a people,is a mistake,and will result in harm,and only harm,as in the days of Martin Luther.Begin to draw apart and feel at liberty to express your ideas without reference to the views of your brethren,and a state of things will be introduced that you do not dream of.CW 76.3

Differing Views on Minor Points—My husband had some ideas on some points differing from the views taken by his brethren.I was shown that however true his views were,God did not call for him to put them in front before his brethren and create differences of ideas.While he might hold these views subordinate himself,once[they are]made public,minds would seize[upon them],and just because others believe differently would make these differences the whole burden of the message,and get up contention and variance.CW 76.4

There are the main pillars of our faith,subjects which are of vital interest,the Sabbath,the keeping of the commandments of God.Speculative ideas should not be agitated;for there are peculiar minds that love to get some

point that others do not accept,and argue and attract everything to that one point,urging that point,magnifying that point,when it is really a matter which is not of vital importance,and will be understood differently.Twice I have been shown that everything of a character to cause our brethren to be diverted from the very points now essential for this time,should be kept in the background.CW 77.1

Christ did not reveal many things that were truth,because it would create a difference of opinion and get up disputations,but young men who have not passed through this experience we have had,would as soon have a brush as not.Nothing would suit them better than a sharp discussion.CW 77.2

If these things come into our conference,I would refuse to attend one of them;for I have had so much light upon this subject that I know that unconsecrated and unsanctified hearts would enjoy this kind of exercise.Too late in the day,brethren,too late in the day.We are in the great day of atonement,a time when a man must be afflicting his soul,confessing his sins,humbling his heart before God,and getting ready for the great conflict.When these contentions come in before the people,they will think one has the argument,and then that another directly opposed has the argument.The poor people become confused,and the conference will be a dead loss,worse than if they had had no conference.CW 77.3

Now when everything is dissension and strife,there must be decided efforts to handle,[to]publish with pen and voice these things that will reveal only harmony....CW 78.1

But how do you think I feel to see our two leading papers in contention?I know how these papers came into existence,I know what God has said about them,that they are one,that no variance should be seen in these two instrumentalities of God.They are one and they must remain one,breathing the same spirit,exercised in the same work,to

prepare a people to stand in the day of the Lord,one in faith,one in purpose.CW 78.2

The *Sickle*[The *Sickle* was a short-lived missionary paper published in Battle Creek,Michigan,in 1886.]was started in Battle Creek,but it is not designed to take the place of the *Signs*,and I cannot see that it is really needed.The *Signs of the Times* is needed and will do that which the *Sickle* cannot.I know if the *Signs* is kept full of precious articles,food for the people,that every family should have it.But a pain comes to my heart every time I see the *Sickle*.I say it is not as God would have it.If Satan can get in dissension among us as a people,he will only be too glad.CW 78.3

I do not think that years will wipe out the impressions made at our last conference.I know how these things work.I am satisfied that we must have more of Jesus and less of self.If there is difference upon any parts of the understanding of some particular passage of Scripture,then do not be with pen or voice making your differences apparent and making a breach when there is no need of this.CW 79.1

Unity on the Fundamental Truths—We are one in faith in the fundamental truths of God's word.And one object must be kept in view constantly;that is,harmony and co-operation must be maintained without compromising one principle of truth.And while constantly digging for the truth as for hidden treasure,be careful how you open new and conflicting opinions.We have a world-wide message.The commandments of God and the testimonies of Jesus Christ are the burden of our work.To have unity and love for one another is the great[work]now to be carried on.There is danger of our ministers'dwelling too much on doctrines,preaching altogether too many discourses on argumentative subjects when their own soul needs practical godliness.CW 79.2

There has been a door thrown open for variance and strife and contention and differences which none of you can see but God.His eye traces the beginning to the end.And the magnitude of mischief God alone knows.The bitterness,the wrath,the resentment,the jealousies,the heart burnings provoked by controversies of both sides of the question cause the loss of many souls.CW 79.3

May the Lord give us to see the need of drinking from the living fountain of the water of life.Its pure streams will refresh and heal us and refresh all connected with us.Oh,if the hearts were only subdued by the Spirit of God!If the eye was single to God's glory,what a flood of heavenly light would pour upon the soul.He who spake as never man spake was an Educator upon earth.After His resurrection He was an Educator to the lonely,disappointed disciples traveling to Emmaus,and to those assembled in the upper chamber.He opened to them the Scriptures concerning Himself and caused their hearts to bound with a holy,new,and sacred hope and joy....CW 80.1

Our Redeemer liveth to make intercessions for us,and now if we will daily learn in the school of Christ,if we will cherish the lessons He will teach us in meekness and lowliness of heart,we shall have so large a measure of the Spirit of Jesus that self will not be interwoven into anything that we may do or say.The eye will be single to the glory of God.We need to make special efforts to answer the prayer of Christ that we may be one as He is one with the Father....CW 80.2

Articles on Redemption—The wonders of redemption are dwelt upon altogether too lightly.We need these matters presented more fully and continuously in our discourses and in our papers.We need our own hearts to be deeply stirred with these deep and saving truths.There is danger of keeping the discourses and the articles in the paper like Cain's offering,Christless.CW 80.3

Baptized with the Spirit of Jesus,there will be a love,a harmony,a meekness,a hiding of the self in Jesus that the wisdom of Christ will be given,the understanding enlightened;that which seems dark will be made clear.The faculties will be enlarged and sanctified.He can lead those He is fitting for translation to heaven to loftier heights of knowledge and broader views of truth.The reason that the Lord can do so little for those who are handling weighty truths is that so many hold these truths apart from their life.They hold them in unrighteousness.Their hands are not clean,their hearts are defiled with sin,and should the Lord work for them in the power of His Spirit corresponding with the magnitude of the truth which He has opened to the understanding,it would be as though the Lord sanctioned sin.CW 81.1

That which our people must have interwoven with their life and character is the unfolding of the plan of redemption and more elevated conceptions of God and His holiness,brought into the life.The washing of the robes of character in the blood of the Lamb is a work that we must attend to earnestly while every defect of character is to be put away.Thus are we working out our own salvation with fear and trembling.The Lord is working in us to will and to do of His good pleasure.We need Jesus abiding in the heart,a constant living wellspring;then the streams flowing from the living fountain will be pure,sweet,and heavenly.Then the foretaste of heaven will be given to the humble in heart.CW 81.2

Close Doors of Difference—Truths connected with the second coming of Christ in the clouds of heaven will be talked of,written upon,more than now.There is to be closed every door that will lead to points of difference and debate among brethren.If the old man was purged from every heart,then there would be greater safety in discussion,but now the people need something of a different

character.There is altogether too little of the love of Christ in the hearts of those who claim to believe the truth.While all their hopes are centered in Jesus Christ,while His Spirit pervades the soul,then there will be unity,although every idea may not be exactly the same on all points.CW 81.3

The Bible is yet but dimly understood.A lifelong,prayerful study of its sacred revealings will leave still much unexplained.It is the deep movings of the Spirit of God that is needed to operate upon the heart to mold character,to open the communication between God and the soul,before the deep truths will be unraveled.Man has to learn himself before God can do great things for him.The little knowledge imparted might be a hundredfold greater if the mind and character were balanced by the holy enlightenment of the Spirit of God.Altogether too little meekness and humility are brought into the work of searching for the truth as for hidden treasures,and if the truth were taught as it is in Jesus,there would be a hundredfold greater power,and it would be a converting power upon human hearts;but everything is so mingled with self that the wisdom from above cannot be imparted.—Letter 37,1887.CW 82.1

Chapter 11—Counsels to Writers

Present Truth in an Easy Style—In this age,when pleasing fables are drifting upon the surface and attracting the mind,truth presented in an easy style,backed up with a few strong proofs,is better than to search and bring forth an overwhelming array of evidence;for the point then does not stand so distinct in many minds as before the objections and evidences were brought before them.With many,assertions will go farther than long arguments.They take many things for granted.Proof does not help the case

in the minds of such.—Testimonies for the Church 3:36(1872).CW 83.1

In their writings,some need to be constantly guarded,that they do not make points blind that are plain,by covering them up with many arguments which will not be of lively interest to the reader.If they linger tediously upon points,giving every particular which suggests itself to the mind,their labor is nearly lost.The interest of the reader will not be deep enough to pursue the subject to its close.The most essential points of truth may be made indistinct by giving attention to every minute point.Much ground is covered;but the work upon which so much labor is expended is not calculated to do the greatest amount of good,by awakening a general interest.—Testimonies for the Church 3:35,36(1872).CW 83.2

More Than One Mind—It would be greatly for the interest of Brother D to cultivate simplicity and ease in his writings.He needs to avoid dwelling at length upon any point that is not of vital importance;and even the most essential,manifest truths,those which are of themselves clear and plain,may be so covered up with words as to be made cloudy and indistinct.CW 84.1

Brother D may be sound upon all points of present truth,and yet not be qualified in every respect to give the reasons of our hope to the French people in writing.He can aid in this work.But the matter should be prepared by more than one or two minds,that it may not bear the stamp of any one's peculiarities.The truth which was reached and prepared by several minds,and which in God's time was brought out link after link in a connected chain by the earnest searchers after truth,should be given to the people,and it will be adapted to meet the wants of many.Brevity should be studied,in order to interest the reader.Long,wordy articles are an injury to the truth which

the writer aims to present.—Testimonies for the Church 2:671(1871).CW 84.2

Long Articles—One Writer—I wish to ask you to be sure and keep your articles in the *Watchman*[*The Watchman*,known formerly as *The Southern Watchman*,is now issued under the name *These Times*.]constantly.Elder-----'s articles are long,and unless he changes,he will kill the circulation of the *Watchman*.There should be short,spiritual articles in the *Watchman*.I shall write again to Elder-----.I cannot give my consent to have one man's signature to so many long articles.Brother-----,this order of things must change.But how shall we bring about a change?What can we do?I will write to Elder-----and see if it will do any good.I will do my best.May the Lord give wisdom and sound judgment.There is need of deeper spirituality in the articles published in the *Watchman*,if the interest in the paper is to be kept up.—Letter 78,1906.CW 84.3

Our Ministers to Write—Ministers who are engaged in active labor in the cause of God,and who have earned a reputation among our people,should use their influence to the very best advantage.CW 85.1

Their responsibilities do not cease with their pulpit labors.It is the duty of all who can write,especially those who minister in holy things,to exercise their talents in this direction.They should feel that it is one branch of their work to give tangible proofs of their interest in the *Review and Herald*,by the pointed,spiritual articles from their pens for its columns.This paper,which is the only preaching that hundreds have,is not what it might be,or what it should be.Here is an opportunity to speak to thousands,and all who do speak through the *Review* should have a burden of something to say.CW 85.2

Mediocre Articles—Men of but small experience who have but little influence,can get up commonplace sermons.Some of the people read them,while others feel no interest to read

them.There is nothing in the words,or arrangement of ideas,that melts and burns its way into the heart.Some have interest enough to read every sermon,however deficient in new ideas and interest.When individuals in process of time become acquainted with the men whose names appear at the head of their sermons,they see that these men are not all what they profess to be—that they are deficient in experience.They lose confidence in the paper,and when they read sermons from the pens of men whose names they are not acquainted with,they feel a distrust,because they have been deceived before,and although good matter may be contained in the sermons,they do not acknowledge it as food;therefore they lose much good instruction....CW 85.3

Christians will not make light of the smallest gift in the church.But some of the writers of the sermons which have appeared in the *Review* have not been at work upon their one or two talents,but have been handling the five not committed to them at all.They make bad work.The Master knew their ability,and gave them no more than they could make the very best use of that at the reckoning time,He need not require more of them than they had ability to perform.None should needlessly mourn that they cannot glorify God by talents He has never committed to them.Those who are restricted to only one talent,if they use it well,God will accept according to their ability....CW 86.1

Leading Workers to Contribute Articles—Especial efforts should be made by ministers who have the cause of God at heart,to contribute to the columns of the *Review* the most interesting,spiritual articles.All can find time to do this if they have a will and heart to engage in the work.Some are too indolent and ease loving.They will spend hours in chatting upon subjects not especially connected with the advancement of the cause and work of God.The time thus spent is lost,and they are unprofitable servants.If the time had been occupied in the study of the word of

God,thoroughly furnishing themselves from its precious pages,fitting themselves to be able ministers,their employment would be more profitable.They would have something to write.They could furnish articles which would instruct and encourage the people of God.Such would be only doing their duty,and would be giving to the flock of God their portion of meat in due season....CW 86.2

A Heartfelt Message—When feasting upon God's word,because of the precious light you gather therefrom,present it to others that they may feast with you.But let your communications be free and heartfelt.You can best meet the people where they are,rather than in seeking for lofty words which reach to the third heavens.The people are not there,but right here in this sorrowing,sinful,corrupt world,battling with the stern realities of life.CW 87.1

Christ came not to be ministered unto,but to minister.He was our example,and God has apportioned to us our work,to minister to the necessities of others,according to the ability He has given us.As we use this ability to the best account,it will increase.Those who do all they can on their part with what God has entrusted to them,and bear their whole weight upon Him,He will strengthen them just when strength is required.In thus doing,we give God room to work for us;to teach and lead and impress us,and make us channels through which His light can be communicated to many who are in darkness.—The Review and Herald,January 5,1869.CW 87.2

Chapter 12—Counsels to Editors

"I Have Set Thee a Watchman."—Solemn is the responsibility that rests upon our houses of publication.Those who conduct these institutions,those who edit the periodicals and prepare the books,standing as they

do in the light of God's purpose,and called to give warning to the world,are held by God accountable for the souls of their fellow men.To them,as well as to the ministers of the word,applies the message given by God to His prophet of old:“Son of man,I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel;therefore thou shalt hear the word at My mouth,and warn them from Me.When I say unto the wicked,O wicked man,thou shalt surely die;if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way,that wicked man shall die in his iniquity;but his blood will I require at thine hand.”Ezekiel 33:7,8.—Testimonies for the Church 7:140(1902).CW 89.1

The Sacred and the Common—The Lord's work needs to be distinguished from the common affairs of life.He says:“I will turn My hand upon thee,and purely purge away thy dross,and take away all thy tin;and I will restore thy judges as at the first,and thy counselors as at the beginning;afterward thou shalt be called,The city of righteousness,the faithful city.Zion shall be redeemed with judgment,and her converts with righteousness.”Isaiah 1:25-27.These words are full of importance.They have a lesson for all who occupy the editorial chair.CW 89.2

The words of Moses possess deep meaning.“Nadab and Abihu,the sons of Aaron,took either of them his censer,and put fire therein,and put incense thereon,and offered strange fire before the Lord,which He commanded them not.And there went out fire from the Lord,and devoured them,and they died before the Lord.Then Moses said unto Aaron,This is it that the Lord spake,saying,I will be sanctified in them that come nigh Me,and before all the people I will be glorified.”Leviticus 10:1-3.This has a lesson for all who are handling the matter that goes forth from our publishing institutions.Sacred things are not to be mingled with the common.The papers that have so wide a circulation should contain more precious instruction than appears in the ordinary publications of the day.“What is the chaff to the

wheat?”Jeremiah 23:28.We want pure wheat,thoroughly winnowed.CW 90.1

“The Lord spake thus to me with a strong hand,and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people,saying,Say ye not,A confederacy,to all them to whom this people shall say,A confederacy;neither fear ye their fear,nor be afraid.Sanctify the Lord of hosts Himself;and let Him be your fear,and let Him be your dread....Bind up the testimony,seal the law among My disciples....To the law and to the testimony;if they speak not according to this word,it is because there is no light in them.”Isaiah 8:11-20.CW 90.2

I call the attention of all our workers to the sixth chapter of Isaiah.Read the experience of God's prophet when he saw the Lord“sitting upon a throne,high and lifted up,and His train filled the temple....Then said I,Woe is me!for I am undone;because I am a man of unclean lips,and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;for mine eyes have seen the King,the Lord of hosts.Then flew one of the seraphim unto me,having a live coal in his hand,which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar;and he laid it upon my mouth,and said,Lo,this hath touched thy lips;and thine iniquity is taken away,and thy sin purged.Also I heard the voice of the Lord,saying,Whom shall I send,and who will go for us?Then said I,Here am I;send me.”Isaiah 6:1-8.CW 91.1

This is the experience needed by those who labor in all our institutions.There is danger that they will fail of maintaining a vital connection with God,of being sanctified through the truth.It is thus that they lose a sense of the power of the truth,lose the ability to discriminate between the sacred and the common.CW 91.2

Meat in Due Season—My brethren in responsible positions,may the Lord not only anoint your eyes that they may see,but pour into your hearts the holy oil that from the two olive branches flows through the golden pipes into the

golden bowl which feeds the lamps of the sanctuary.May He“give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him;the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;that ye may know what is the hope of His calling,...and what is the exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe.”Ephesians 1:17-19.CW 91.3

As faithful householders,give meat in due season to the household of God.Present truth to the people.Work as if in full view of the whole universe of heaven.We have no time to lose—not a moment.Important issues must soon be met,and we need to be hidden in the cleft of the rock,that we may see Jesus,and be quickened by His Holy Spirit.—Testimonies for the Church 7:152-154(1902).CW 92.1

Dangers in Speculative Study—The light of truth which God designs shall come to the people of the world at this time is not that which the world's men of learning are seeking to impart;for these men in their research often arrive at erroneous conclusions,and in their study of many authors become enthused with theories that are of satanic origin.Satan,clothed in the garb of an angel of light,presents for the study of the human mind subjects which seem very interesting,and which are full of scientific mystery.In the investigation of these subjects,men are led to accept erroneous conclusions,and to unite with seducing spirits in the work of propounding new theories which lead away from the truth.CW 92.2

There is danger that the false sentiments expressed in the books that they have been reading will sometimes be interwoven by our ministers,teachers,and editors with their arguments,discourses,and publications,under the belief that they are the same in principle as the teachings of the Spirit of truth.The book,*Living Temple*,is an illustration of this work,the writer of which declared in its support that its teachings were the same as those found in the writings

of Mrs.White.Again and again we shall be called to meet the influence of men who are studying sciences of satanic origin,through which Satan is working to make a nonentity of God and of Christ.—Testimonies for the Church 9:67-68(1909).CW 92.3

To Editors of Our Periodicals—I am warned that the less our ministers handle the subject of pantheism,the less they will help Satan to present his theories to the people.Let the truth for this time be kept before them.Never,never repeat the spiritualistic sentiments,the strange,misleading theories,which have for years been coming in.CW 93.1

The Lord has a message for our ministers to bear,but He does not call them to speak on the subjects upon which the minds of some have been dwelling.Those who do this place in minds seeds that will germinate and spring up to bear fruit.Thus people are educated to catch up the sentiments of Satan,and give them publicity.CW 93.2

Let the repetition of Satan's falsehoods be kept out of our papers.What we need in our papers is the gospel message that will save souls."O Zion,that bringest good tidings,get thee up into the high mountain;O Jerusalem,that bringest good tidings,lift up thy voice with strength;lift it up,be not afraid;say unto the cities of Judah,*Behold your God*."CW 93.3

Keep your eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus Christ,and by beholding Him you will be changed into His likeness.Talk not of these spiritualistic theories.Let them find no place in your mind.Let our papers be kept free from everything of the kind.Publish the truth;do not publish error.Do not try to explain in regard to the personality of God.You cannot give any further explanation than the Bible has given.Human theories regarding Him are good for nothing.Do not soil your minds by studying the misleading theories of the enemy.Labor to draw minds away from everything of this character.It will be better to keep these subjects out of our

papers.Let the doctrines of present truth be put into our papers,but give no room to a repeating of erroneous theories.—Letter 179,1904.CW 93.4

No Compromise on Sabbath Doctrine—The people of the world will try to induce us to soften our message,to suppress one of its more distinctive features.They say:"Why do you in your teaching make the seventh-day Sabbath so prominent?This seems to be always thrust before us;we should harmonize with you if you would not say so much on this point;keep the seventh-day Sabbath out of the *Sentinel*,[reference is here made to *The American Sentinel*(1886-1901),a weekly devoted to the propagation of the principles of religious liberty.It was followed in 1901-1904 by the monthly *Sentinel of Christian Liberty*.]and we will give it our influence and support."And there has been a disposition on the part of some of our workers to adopt this policy.CW 94.1

I am bidden to warn you that deceptive sentiments are entertained,a false modesty and caution,a disposition to withhold the profession of our faith.In the night season,matters have been presented before me that have greatly troubled my mind.I have seemed to be in meetings for counsel where these subjects were discussed,and written documents were presented,advocating concessions.Brethren,shall we permit the world to shape the message that God has given us to bear to them?So then as well might the patient prescribe the remedies that are to be used for his cure.CW 94.2

Shall we for the sake of policy,betray a sacred trust?If the world is in error and delusion,breaking the law of God,is it not our duty to show them their sin and danger?We must proclaim the third angel's message.CW 95.1

What is the *Sentinel* for,but to be the voice of the watchmen on the walls of Zion,to sound the danger signal.We are not to cringe and beg pardon of the world for

telling them the truth:we should scorn concealment.Unfurl your colors to meet the case of men and angels.Let it be understood that Seventh-day Adventists can make no compromise.In your opinions and faith there must not be the least appearance of wavering;the world has a right to know what to expect of us,and will look upon us as dishonest,as hiding our real sentiments and principles out of policy,if we carry even the semblance of being uncommitted till the popular voice has pointed out the safe way.The Comforter,the Holy Spirit,which Christ said He would send into the world,was to bear an unwavering testimony.—Manuscript 16,1890.CW 95.2

Hold Distinctive Features Prominent—The religion of Jesus is endangered.It is being mingled with worldliness.Worldly policy is taking the place of the true piety and wisdom that comes from above,and God will remove His prospering hand from the conference.Shall the ark of the covenant be removed from this people?Shall idols be smuggled in?Shall false principles and false precepts be brought into the sanctuary?Shall antichrist be respected?Shall the true doctrines and principles given us by God,which have made us what we are,be ignored?Shall God's instrumentality,the publishing house,become a mere political,worldly institution?This is directly where the enemy,through blinded,unconsecrated men,is leading us.CW 95.3

These things have gone as far as they should without someone protesting against them in plain words.The Lord's time to set things in order has fully come.There are men in positions of trust who have not had an experience in the leading out of this work,and these men should walk with humility and caution.In the night season I was present in several councils,and there I heard words repeated by influential men to the effect that if the *American Sentinel* would drop the words“Seventh-day Adventist”from

its columns,and would say nothing about the Sabbath,the great men of the world would patronize it;it would become popular,and do a larger work.This looked very pleasing.These men could not see why we could not affiliate with unbelievers and non-professors to make the *American Sentinel* a great success.I saw their countenances brighten,and they began to work on a policy plan to make the *Sentinel* a popular success.CW 96.1

This policy is the first step in a succession of wrong steps.The principles which have been advocated in the *American Sentinel* are the very sum and substance of the advocacy of the Sabbath,and when men begin to talk of changing these principles,they are doing a work which it does not belong to them to do.Like Uzzah,they are attempting to steady the ark which belongs to God,and is under His special supervision.Said my Guide to those in these councils,"Who of the men among you have felt the burden of the cause from the first,and have accepted responsibilities under trying circumstances?Who has carried the burden of the work during the years of its existence?Who has practiced self-denial and self-sacrifice?The Lord made a place for His stanch servants,whose voices have been heard in warning.He carried forward His work before any of you put your hands to it,and He can and will find a place for the truth you would suppress.In the *American Sentinel* has been published the truth for this time.Take heed what you do."Except the Lord build the house,they labor in vain that build it."—Manuscript 29,1890.CW 96.2

To Meet the Sunday-Law Movement—I do hope that the trumpet will give a certain sound in regard to this Sunday-law movement.I think that it would be best if in our papers the subject of the perpetuity of the law of God were made a specialty.Should there not be a paper or a pamphlet issued to take the place of the *Sentinel*?I have not been able to

think that it was the wise thing to do to let that paper drop.It was a voice that was constantly speaking in defense of religious liberty.The truth should be presented in short articles,in clear,distinct lines,giving special points in regard to the Lord's Sabbath,and showing that those who frame laws to compel the observance of the first day of the week,are disloyal to the Lord of heaven,who placed His sanctity upon the seventh day.Are we doing all we can to exalt the law of Jehovah?CW 97.1

We should now be doing our very best to defeat this Sunday law.The best way to do this will be to lift up the law of God and make it stand forth in all its sacredness.This must be done if the truth triumphs.—Letter 58,1906.CW 98.1

Exalt Not Human Beings—In the night I was earnestly addressing those who are bearing responsibilities of editors and contributors of our periodicals....If those in charge of our periodicals have no more judgment than to fill the publications with the exaltations of human beings,then let them seek wisdom from God.Your spiritual eyesight needs the heavenly anointing....In pouring forth an overflow of praise of one whom they do not know,who has not accepted a“Thus saith the Lord”in keeping His commandments,they place themselves where,in the crisis coming upon us,they will have defective discernment as they shall see the good things done by those who will seek to deceive,who will claim to be Christ and prophets sent of God.CW 98.2

Christ says of that time,“If it were possible,they shall deceive the very elect.”And again the question is asked,“When the Son of man cometh,shall He find faith on the earth?”Those who use their pen and voice to give such praise to human beings need to have clearer discernment.How much better would it be if this confidence and faith would be exercised toward those who are striving with pen and voice to do the will of God as obedient children,keeping His commandments,not to praise or glorify

the individual,but to obey the word of God,to love as brethren,to uproot every fiber of the root of bitterness that they are allowing to spring up....CW 98.3

I know how the Lord regards all such productions from those who suppose they are working righteousness,who seem to be neither on one side nor on the other.The message that is given to me for them is:You are in darkness,you know not what you praise.God cannot vindicate a work that has not His stamp upon it,for it is leading others in a way that does not bear the signature of heaven.CW 99.1

Every Sentence to Count—This is a time when every sentence written should mean something definite,should be true,sincere.Not a scratch of the pen should be made in order to become popular or to vindicate that which God condemns.Those who follow such a course have a zeal,a burning desire,to distinguish themselves,but they have not learned their lessons at the feet of Jesus.Self is interwoven with all they do and say.They aim their weapons against their brethren who are doing the work God has appointed them,and they think in their blindness that they are doing God service.CW 99.2

I am commissioned now to say to our brethren,Humble yourselves,and confess your sins,else God will humble you.The message to the Laodicean church comes home to those who do not apply it to themselves.They are neither cold nor hot,but lukewarm.Saith the Lord,“I know thy works,that thou art neither cold nor hot:I would thou wert cold or hot.So then because thou art lukewarm,and neither cold or hot,I will spew thee out of My mouth.Because thou sayest,I am rich,and increased with goods,and have need of nothing;and knowest not that thou art wretched,and miserable,and poor,and blind,and naked:I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire,that thou mayest be rich;and white raiment,that thou mayest be clothed,and that the

shame of thy nakedness do not appear;and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve,that thou mayest see."CW 99.3

Shall any one of us let the shame of our nakedness appear in the use of our God-given faculties of speech,and in the use of our pen?Shall we not consider that Christ's righteousness in His perfect obedience to His Father's commandments was the cause of His crucifixion.By perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah we are to magnify the law and make it honorable.What mean these words placed before the people of God,who,against great obstacles,are trying to fight the good fight of faith,saying,"We will not bow the knee to Baal,or give glory or honor to any who do this"?CW 100.1

Divine blessedness is pronounced upon those who keep the commandments,and a curse He declares against those who transgress His law.And shall the pen or voice stoop to bestow laurels upon those who have been leaders in carrying the banner of Satan,declaring that the institution of the papacy shall receive the honor?The faculties God has given us for His name's glory,have been misappropriated,and been used to bring in rebel sentiments.That human beings should exalt and worship the human agency who has been engaged in a work in direct opposition to the work God has given His people to do in these last days is altogether contrary to His purpose.Why do we see such blindness?The least anyone could do is to show their eloquence before the universe of heaven,before worlds unfallen and a fallen world in keeping silent....CW 100.2

Present Vital Matters—Suppose our teachers and students should have more to teach and write in regard to those things which are now to be fulfilled,and which concern the eternal welfare of souls.Suppose that pen and voice should give meat in due season to the old and the young,to saints and to sinners.Let the many things that might be said

to awaken the church from its slumbers be spoken without losing any more time in dwelling on those things which are not essential,and that have no bearing upon the present necessities of our people or upon the ignorant who know not the truth.Read the first three verses of Revelation,and see what work is especially enjoined upon those who claim to believe the word of God....CW 101.1

A Separating Message—My brethren,the recent productions in the papers reveal a blindness of spiritual discernment.When the eyes have been enlightened with the spiritual eyesight,then we shall see altogether clearly.The things of time and sense that now attract attention will lose their value,for there will be disclosed to men eternal interests.As God made known His will to the Hebrew captives,to those who were most separate from the customs and practices of a world lying in wickedness,so will the Lord communicate light from heaven to all who will appreciate a“Thus saith the Lord.”To them He will express His mind.Those who are least bound up with worldly ideas,are the most separate from display,and vanity,and pride,and love of promotion,who stand forth as His peculiar people,zealous of good works,—to these He will reveal the meaning of His word.The very first exhibition of God's power to the Hebrew captives was in showing the defective wisdom of the great ones of the earth.The wisdom of men is foolishness with God.The magicians revealed their ignorance of the light before the Lord revealed His wisdom as supreme.The wisdom of human agents who had misappropriated their God-given talents,God showed to be foolishness.CW 101.2

“Thus saith the Lord,Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,neither let the mighty man glory in his might,let not the rich man glory in his riches:but let him that glorieth glory in this,that he understandeth and knoweth Me,that I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness,judgment,and

righteousness,in the earth:for in these things I delight,saith the Lord.Behold,the days come,saith the Lord,that I will punish all them which are circumcised with the uncircumcised."CW 102.1

All who shall unite to praise and honor and glorify those who have lifted the banner of Satan are fighting against God.Our work now is to enlighten the world,in the place of bearing a peace-and-safety message.A banner has been placed in our hands,upon which is inscribed,"Here is the patience of the saints:here are they that keep the commandments of God,and the faith of Jesus."This is a distinct,separating message,—a message that is to give no uncertain sound.It is to lead the people away from the broken cisterns that contain no water,to the fountain of living waters.—Letter 60,1898.CW 102.2

The Editor's Health Habits—Strict temperance in eating and drinking is highly essential for the healthy preservation and vigorous exercise of all the functions of the body.Strictly temperate habits,combined with exercise of the muscles as well as of the mind,will preserve both mental and physical vigor,and give power of endurance to those engaged in the ministry,to editors,and to all others whose habits are sedentary.As a people,with all our profession of health reform,we eat too much.Indulgence of appetite is the greatest cause of physical and mental debility,and lies at the foundation of the feebleness which is apparent everywhere.—Testimonies for the Church 3:487(1875).CW 103.1

Importance of Exercise—There are men and women of excellent natural ability who do not accomplish half what they might if they would exercise self-control in the denial of appetite.Many writers and speakers fail here.After eating heartily,they give themselves to sedentary occupations,reading,study,or writing,allowing no time for physical exercise.As a consequence,the free flow of thought

and words is checked.They cannot write or speak with the force and intensity necessary in order to reach the heart;their efforts are tame and fruitless.CW 103.2

Those upon whom rest important responsibilities,those,above all,who are guardians of spiritual interests,should be men of keen feeling and quick perception.More than others,they need to be temperate in eating.Rich and luxurious food should have no place upon their tables.—The Ministry of Healing,308-309(1905).CW 103.3

Simple Meals and Exercise—Here is a suggestion for all whose work is sedentary or chiefly mental;let those who have sufficient moral courage and self-control try it:At each meal take only two or three kinds of simple food,and eat no more than is required to satisfy hunger.Take active exercise every day,and see if you do not receive benefit.—The Ministry of Healing,308-310(1905).CW 104.1

Chapter 13—Our Church Paper

Every Article to Reflect Light—I am instructed to say to those who edit our denominational papers that they are to print all the matter possible dealing with the affirmative side of Bible truth.They are to give the trumpet a certain sound.Let every article that is printed in the *Review and Herald* be of a character that will reflect light amid the moral darkness of this world.Every column is to be filled with the precious truth.CW 105.1

Let not our brethren make use of the precious space in our denominational paper,to record incidents connected with the life of President-----,or his daughter,or any other members of his family.Such items of news will enlighten no one in regard to what is the truth.CW 105.2

Some of the articles,even those treating upon Bible subjects,should be made shorter.—Manuscript 106,1905.CW 105.3

Controversial Questions Not to Appear—I am instructed to say to you,Let there be no questions agitated at this time in the *Review* that will tend to unsettle minds.Let us seek for soul work.Let us as a people humble ourselves before the Lord,and seek Him for true conversion.There is a work to be done in our hearts and in our homes,that but few understand.There is need of much praying,not need of long prayers,but prayers of faith offered in humility of soul.CW 105.4

We have no time now to enter into unnecessary controversy,but we should earnestly consider the need of seeking the Lord for true conversion of heart and life.There should be determined efforts made to secure sanctification of soul and mind.There is a deep and earnest work to be done in every church and in every family.Fathers and mothers have a solemn work to do in bringing their children to understand the necessity of seeking the Lord for salvation from sin.—Letter 226,1908.CW 106.1

Type of Articles Needed—I fear that our ministering brethren are not doing the work that the time demands.Special efforts are being made in the trial volume of the *Review* to present our faith in a condensed form before its readers.Every number of the paper going to so many people should correctly represent our faith.Articles are needed that will place before the readers a comprehensive view of our position.The different points of faith are to be clearly defined.CW 106.2

The publication of this trial volume is an important enterprise.The most should be made of the opportunity to awaken in the minds of the readers of the *Review* an interest in the truths we hold essential and sacred.Many numbers of the trial volume have been published.There are not many

more to be issued.Soon the golden opportunity to present important truths at the right time will have passed.The most should be made of this opportunity.Articles right to the point should be published,clearly and correctly defining our position.Impressions,either favorable or unfavorable,are being made upon the readers.How anxious all should be who contribute to the *Review* to have every article interesting and right to the point....CW 106.3

Too Many Common Articles—We see with pain some of the columns of the *Review* filled with common matter,that may be found in almost any religious paper.Brother-----is doing all that he can,and he should not be so heavily taxed.God is cooperating with him.He needs the co-operation of his brethren.He has responsibilities to bear that they have not.CW 107.1

We need just now articles from the pens of our most experienced brethren,—the best articles that they can produce.If enough of these articles are sent in for publication,there will be less room for common articles,which do not give any instruction regarding our faith.Some of our ministering brethren are doing enough work for two,but they are not working directly to the point.Deep,studied articles,which require considerable time for preparation,will be too late for the present need.CW 107.2

Working as Christ Worked—We may do much in a short time if we will work as Christ worked.We may reflect with profit upon His manner of teaching.He sought to meet the minds of the common people.His style was plain,simple,comprehensive.He took His illustrations from the scenes with which His hearers were most familiar.By the things of nature He illustrated truths of eternal importance,thus connecting heaven and earth.CW 107.3

If we had firm faith in God,if we appropriated His promises to ourselves,mingling faith with our prayers and efforts,we

would surely see the salvation of God.“All things are possible to him that believeth.”CW 108.1

In the work for this time,it is not money or talent or learning or eloquence that is needed so much as faith graced with humility.No opposition can prevail against truth presented in faith and humility,by workers who willingly bear toil and sacrifice and reproach for the Master's sake.We must be co-workers with Christ if we would see our efforts crowned with success.We must weep as He wept for those who will not weep for themselves,and plead as He pleaded for those who will not plead for themselves.—Manuscript 24,1903.CW 108.2

Live,Spirited Articles—The *Review* is our church paper,and strength and vitality should be put into it.There is need of all the sharpened talent that the younger helpers can give.Impress upon the contributors the necessity of writing live,spirited articles.—Letter 54,1902.CW 108.3

Articles on Marriage.—Your letter of June 1 has been read by me today.It was put into my hand this noon.I am pleased with the sentiments you express,and I know that every word is truth.Much more should appear in our publications on the subject of marriage.I think that your article is excellent for the *Review*.I will try to prepare some short articles for the *Review* on this subject,besides the one that I furnish each week.Although I have not published much on this point,I have done a great deal of personal labor along this line.—Letter 110,1902.CW 108.4

To Defend the Right—The local editor of the *Review and Herald* will have occasion to speak with earnestness and firmness.He should stand in defense of the right,exerting all the influence his position grants him.—Testimonies for the Church 4:456(1880).CW 109.1

Good Food for the Flock—At my door,I found the latest number of the *Review and Herald*,and I read this for a

while.It is full of good food for the flock of God.The truth,plain,positive truth,is set forth just as it should be.The experiences that it relates of the workers in mission fields,are very interesting.CW 109.2

In these last days the one who was once an exalted angel in the heavenly courts is to take the philosophy of men under his training.The people of God are to guard carefully against the seductive influence of the deceiver.They are to hold firmly to the truths which called them out from the world,and led them to stand as God's denominated people.CW 109.3

It makes me very sad to think of how many will fall short of the Bible standard.If we knew that in just one year from now,the Lord would come in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory,what a feeling of solemnity would rest upon us!How earnestly we should strive to prepare for His coming,that,clothed in the wedding garment,we might go in unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.—Manuscript 12,1904.CW 109.4

Chapter 14—The Missionary Periodicals

Value of a Missionary Paper—The *Signs of the Times* is our missionary paper;it is doing its work everywhere,and is opening the way for the truth to be more fully presented.This paper has been made a blessing to very many souls.All should feel the deepest interest to have it a spiritual messenger,full of life and plain,practical truth.In the Christian world there are many starving for the bread of life.The *Signs of the Times*,laden with rich food,is a feast to many of these who are not of our faith.CW 110.1

This paper should not contain many long articles,but the truth should be prepared with great care and made as attractive as possible.Articles which make sharp thrusts upon other churches are out of place in this paper,for they create prejudice.The truth should be presented in its simplicity,in the meekness of wisdom,having an influence to persuade.The matter should be the very choicest;the language should be chaste,elevating,every word breathing the spirit of Christ.The argumentative and practical combined will make a paper beaming with light,to go forth as a lamp that burneth,as a messenger indeed from heaven.CW 110.2

To Be Intensely Interesting—Our brethren do not all see and realize the importance of this paper;if they did they would feel greater personal interest to make it intensely interesting,and then to circulate it everywhere.All who have a part to act in the preparation of matter for this pioneer sheet are engaged in a sacred work,and they should be connected with God;they should be pure in heart and life.God can work with them and give them wisdom that they may become intelligent in the knowledge of the truth.God sees the motive of each worker,and will impart His grace in rich measure in accordance with the spirit in which the labor is done.The silent preacher,enriched with precious matter,should go forth on the wings of prayer,mingled with faith,that it may do its appointed work in shedding the light of truth upon those who are in the darkness of error.CW 110.3

Calls are coming in from all directions,not only from persons of our faith,but from those who have become interested by reading our publications;they say,Send us a minister to preach to us the truth.But there is a great want of laborers.We have to answer,There is no man to send among you.Many are obliged to be content with the silent preacher until God shall send them the living messenger.Let all our brethren take this to heart,and by personal effort in faith and

hope contribute to the *Signs of the Times*;for in sending matter that is alive,in speaking by the pen words bearing the holy unction,they are preaching to thousands.Long,dry articles are not wanted for this paper.The great lack of men to go from place to place and preach the word may be in a great degree supplied by tracts and papers,and by intelligent correspondence.CW 111.1

The many scattered all over the land who can seldom have the living preacher,may make their meetings very interesting and profitable by selecting a good reader to read appropriate discourses published in our papers and books.You have a large variety to choose from,both doctrinal and practical.You can form a Bible class and search the Scriptures for yourselves,with the aid of our publications,and in this way learn much of present truth.You may present the reasons of our faith to those who shall inquire for them.All should be making the most of the opportunities granted them to become intelligent in the Scriptures.—The Signs of the Times,January 2,1879.CW 112.1

Meat in Due Season—Permit me to express my mind,and yet not my mind,but the word of the Lord.I am troubled in regard to the *Signs of the Times*.There are plenty of newspapers and magazines that publish many of the things which are put into the *Signs*.The name of this paper was selected because it expressed the character of the matter to be presented in its pages.You should not have so much matter in long articles that have no reference to the signs of the near coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.I think if the editor of this paper could discern the necessity of being a faithful householder,he would give meat in due season to the flock of God.There is too much common matter and not enough of the sacred;there is too much dependence upon pictures and other things that do not relate to the vital issues for this

time.There is danger of following in the track of Nadab and Abihu,using common in the place of sacred fire.Concerning many of the matters that are so fluently presented,many other papers can give all the information essential for any of us.But the name *Signs of the Times* means that in this paper a class of literature will be found that will give the trumpet a certain sound.Let there be fewer pictures,and more real,solid,spiritual food....CW 112.2

Guard the Paper.—Present truth.Guard the paper,lest there shall be introduced into it articles that are not suitable for this time.God help you,my dear fellow laborers,to work as if you were in full view of the whole universe of heaven.Important issues must soon be met,and we wish to be hid in the cleft of the rock,that we may see Jesus,and be quickened by His Holy Spirit.We have no time to lose,not a moment.CW 113.1

"Hear,ye that are far off,what I have done;and,ye that are near,acknowledge My might.The sinners in Zion are afraid;fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites.Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire?who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?He that walketh righteously,and speaketh uprightly;he that despiseth the gain of oppressions,that shaketh his hands from holding of bribes,that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood,and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil;he shall dwell on high:his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks:bread shall be given him;his waters shall be sure.Thine eyes shall see the King in His beauty:they shall behold the land that is very far off."CW 113.2

In constantly dealing with matter for the papers,many seem to lose their discrimination.May the Lord not only anoint your eyes that they may see,but pour into your heart the holy oil that from the two olive trees flows through the two golden pipes into the golden bowl which feeds the lamp for the sanctuary."And he answered me and said,Knowest

thou not what these be?And I said,No,my lord.Then said he,These are the two anointed ones,that stand by the Lord of the whole earth."Unless we are wide awake,we are not able to discern spiritual things.We lose the sense of the power of the truth,and handle sacred things as we handle the common things.The result is weakness and uncertainty,and we are not safe counselors or guides.Wake up,brethren;for Christ's sake,wake up.—Letter 89,1899.CW 113.3

The *Watchman*—*The Southern Watchman*** is an excellent paper,and one way in which you can help is by getting subscriptions for it.I urge our church members to take this paper,and to ask others to take it.It contains reading matter that is just what is needed by those not of our faith.Show this paper to your friends and neighbors.Many will subscribe for it if it is brought to their notice.It will be to them as a messenger of the gospel.Are there not children who will try to get subscribers for the *Watchman*?—Manuscript 138,1903.CW 114.1

Short Articles—Let those who contribute to the *Watchman* do their best.And let the editors of the *Review*,the *Signs*,and the *Watchman* remember that long articles hurt their papers.Let the articles be short,and let them be full of moisture and nourishment.Bright accounts of the blessing found in missionary effort will be a great help.—Letter 351,1904.CW 114.2

Chapter 15—The Educational Journal

Exalt the Greatest Teacher—The editors of the *Christian Educator*[our initial educational journal,published at Battle Creek,Michigan,from July,1897,to the summer of 1899.]should carefully consider the character of the subjects which they place before their readers.Why has

the *Christian Educator* presented to its large list of readers the pictures and the works of men?The exaltation of these supposedly learned men,in the *Educator* and the *Instructor*,[reference is here made to the *Youth's Instructor*.]does not reflect glory to God.Is it the purpose of your papers to recommend the men,the methods,and the books to which you refer?If so,what has this to do with Christian education?The subject which should be kept before the people is not the lives and the achievements of men engaged in educational work,but it is the education which comes from the greatest Teacher that the world ever knew,and which is found in the word of God.CW 115.1

With this instruction before us,so unlike the teaching of the popular schools of today,we have no need to hold up before the people the names of educators who are not conversant with,and obedient to,the word of the living God.These men may suppose that they are teaching the principles of Christianity,but have we not unquestionable evidence that they are teaching for doctrine the commandments of men?Are they not far behind in the education most important for this time?Has the Lord given to us the work of presenting in our periodicals the pictures of these men,and their history?CW 115.2

The True Authorities—The true higher education is but dimly understood by those who have charge of the *Christian Educator*.I see no light in calling for money to sustain this paper.We have higher authorities to study.There is One who has written excellent things in regard to the principles underlying education.The apostle Peter says,“We have not followed cunningly devised fables,when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,but were eyewitnesses of His majesty;for He received from God the Father honor and glory,when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory,This is My beloved Son,in whom I am well pleased.And this voice which came from

heaven we heard,when we were with Him in the holy mount.We have also a more sure word of prophecy;whereunto ye do well that ye take heed,as unto a light that shineth in a dark place,until the day dawn,and the Daystar arise in your hearts:knowing this first,that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man:but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."CW 116.1

Misleading Guideposts—The Lord has called out a people from among men,and has given them great light and knowledge in regard to His word.InExodus 31:12-18He declares the relation which they are to sustain to Him.God has not authorized us to exalt men,and keep the minds of students directed toward those who evidently do not bear the signature which He has placed upon His chosen people."Verily My Sabbaths ye shall keep:for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations;that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you."Those who refuse to stand as God's chosen people,sanctified and made holy through doing His word,are as guideposts pointing in the wrong direction.So also are they who would encourage the youth to study as a pattern the so-called wise men,who have not been wise enough to know God and do His commandments.CW 116.2

Let not the editors of the *Educator* and the *Instructor* divert minds from God to man,and encourage the study of books written by men who have been disloyal to the God of heaven.The Lord will not be pleased by any turning aside of those whom He has made depositaries of sacred truth,to inquire of the gods of Ekron.Let us seek that God shall be honored,and His name glorified in all that appears in our periodicals.Let them not be devoted to the publication of the ideas of education held by the wise men of the world.Our work is to educate those who shall carry

the light of truth to men,seeking to prepare a people for the second appearing of Christ in the clouds of heaven.CW 117.1

Instead of the constant reference to authors in our papers,instead of the publication of the lives of men,and what they have done or are doing,let a decided message to the world come from the pens of men whose writings reveal that they are under the influence of the Holy Spirit,who understand and heed the admonition of Paul to Timothy,“Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of,knowing of whom thou hast learned them.”Those who work under the direction of the Holy Spirit will keep the educational forces turned toward Him who is too wise to err,too good to be unjust.CW 117.2

Not to Exalt Men's Ideas—Man's ideas of education are not to be exalted.Greater heights than these are to be kept before God's people.The Lord is waiting to bestow His Holy Spirit upon all who will hunger and thirst after righteousness.The inclination that is manifested by those who claim to be educators,to exalt and extol learned men,is foolishness in the sight of God.Paul declares,“The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.For it is written,I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.Where is the wise?where is the scribe?where is the disputer of this world?hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God,it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.For the Jews require a sign,and the Greeks seek after wisdom:but we preach Christ crucified,unto the Jews a stumbling-block,and unto the Greeks foolishness;but unto them which are called,both Jews and Greeks,Christ the power of God,and the wisdom of God.Because the

foolishness of God is wiser than men;and the weakness of God is stronger than men.For ye see your calling,brethren,how that not many wise men after the flesh,not many mighty,not many noble,are called:but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise;and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;and base things of the world,and things which are despised,hath God chosen,yea,and things which are not,to bring to nought things that are:that no flesh should glory in His presence."CW 118.1

Again the Lord says,"Thus saith the Lord,Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,neither let the mighty man glory in his might,let not the rich man glory in his riches:but let him that glorieth glory in this,that he understandeth and knoweth Me,that I am the Lord which exercise loving-kindness,judgment,and righteousness,in the earth:for in these things I delight...."CW 119.1

Dishonoring the Creator—Why does the Lord speak so plainly on this matter?It is because so many of the men who are exalted before the people are disloyal to Him,and therefore those who are exalting them are dishonoring their Creator.The men who use their time and talents in this work,while they claim to be working for the word and cause of God,show that they need to learn of the great Teacher,for as educators they must have the spirit of the Master of education.They are making no difference between the circumcised and the uncircumcised,but are placing all upon the same level.If their perceptive faculties are not sanctified and quickened,that they may distinguish between the sacred and the common,they will go on placing man where God should be.Failing to distinguish between obedience and disobedience,they will give the trumpet an uncertain sound,and men will be unprepared for the battle of the great day of God.CW 119.2

The Lord makes every difference between the obedient and the disobedient.“Thus saith the Lord,thy Redeemer,the Holy One of Israel;I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit,which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldst go.O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments!Then had thy peace been as a river,and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea.”“But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus,who of God is made unto us wisdom,and righteousness,and sanctification,and redemption:that,according as it is written,He that glorieth,let him glory in the Lord.”CW 120.1

How important it is that the men to whom students look for instruction shall diligently search the Scriptures,that they may know the way,the truth,and the life.In thesixth chapter of Johnthere is instruction of great importance to those who would be teachers.Let it be carefully studied by our teachers,that they may be able to give their students meat in due season.“It is written in the prophets,”said Christ,“And they shall be all taught of God.Every man therefore that hath heard,and hath learned of the Father,cometh unto Me.Not that any man hath seen the Father,save He which is of God,He hath seen the Father.Verily,verily,I say unto you,He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life.I am that bread of life.Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness,and are dead.This is the bread which cometh down from heaven,that a man may eat thereof,and not die.I am the living bread which came down from heaven:if any man eat of this bread,he shall live forever:and the bread that I will give is My flesh,which I will give for the life of the world....CW 120.2

“Verily,verily,I say unto you,Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man,and drink His blood,ye have no life in you.Whoso eateth My flesh,and drinketh My blood,hath eternal life;and I will raise him up at the last day.For My flesh is meat indeed,and My blood is drink indeed.He that eateth My flesh,and drinketh My blood,dwelleth in Me,and I in him.As

the living Father hath sent Me,and I live by the Father:so he that eateth Me,even he shall live by Me.This is that bread which came down from heaven:not as your fathers did eat manna,and are dead:he that eateth of this bread shall live forever....It is the spirit that quickeneth;the flesh profiteth nothing:the words that I speak unto you,they are spirit,and they are life."CW 121.1

If these words were studied and clearly understood,they would bring joy and light,but there are some who will never see their beauty or importance."The words that I speak unto you,"said Jesus,"they are spirit,and they are life."Perfect excellence is found only in the word of the living God.Educators of the youth may freely feed upon this with safety,but they should know that there is danger in feeding upon other books,though there may be many excellent things in them.CW 121.2

Distinguished From the World—Let the editors of all our papers seek to attract the attention of their readers to the Book of books,and to those books and periodicals which present the word of God in its true bearings.As the Holy Spirit controls the writers for our papers,more of God's word and less of man's ideas will be presented.As our editors sit at the feet of Jesus,and learn from Him who is infinite in wisdom,they will understand by living spiritual experience what it is to eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God.All who teach the word must have this experience.CW 122.1

To those who make the word of God their study book,some will say,You are too narrow in your ideas.You would have us separate so completely from the world that we can do it no good.This is a mistake.The evil feared will not be realized:but God would have His people distinguished from the world in all things,or they will become confused,as were the disciples who turned back and walked no more with Christ.CW 122.2

Christ does not ask from men the glorification of their fellow men.He does not ask of men that they shall praise His beauty of countenance.He did not plan that the attention of men should be centered upon His beauty of form or feature.His design was to draw the attention of men to His virtue of character,His perfect obedience,that by beholding,His people may become changed into the same glorious image,and represent His goodness,His mercy,and His love to the world.—Letter 85,1899.CW 122.3

Chapter 16—Our Health Journals

Our Health Books and Journals Needed—The people are in sad need of the light shining from the pages of our health books and journals.God desires to use these books and journals as mediums through which flashes of light shall arrest the attention of the people,and cause them to heed the warning of the message of the third angel.Our health journals are instrumentalities in the field to do a special work in disseminating the light that the inhabitants of the world must have in this day of God's preparation.They wield an untold influence in the interests of health and temperance and social-purity reform,and will accomplish great good in presenting these subjects in a proper manner and in their true light to the people.—Testimonies for the Church 7:136(1902).CW 123.1

Importance of Our Health Literature—Publications upon health reform will reach many who will not see or read anything upon important Bible subjects.The gratification of every perverted appetite is doing its work of death.Intemperance must be met.With united,intelligent effort make known the evils of beclouding the powers that God has given,with wine and strong drinks.The truth must come to the people upon health reform.This is essential in

order to arrest the attention in regard to Bible truth.CW 123.2

God requires that His people shall be temperate in all things.Unless they practice temperance,they will not,cannot,be sanctified through the truth.Their very thoughts and minds become depraved.CW 124.1

Meet the People Where They Are—Many of those looked upon as hopelessly depraved,will,if properly instructed in regard to their unhealthful practices,be arrested with the truth.Then they may be elevated,ennobled,sanctified,fit vessels for the Master's use.Go with your hands full of proper reading matter,and your heart full of the love of Christ for their souls,reaching them where they are.Many are being drawn by the Lord Jesus Christ who will respond.They are disgusted with the dry formalism which exists in the Christian world.Many are becoming infidels because of the absence of true piety in professed Christians.A good work could be done in preparing the way for the introduction of the truth,if decided testimony were borne upon this branch of the work....CW 124.2

I have been shown that in giving attention to this branch of the work you remove a large amount of prejudice from many minds,that has barred the way to their receiving the truth and reading the publications setting forth the truth which we believe.This matter must not be passed over as nonessential;for nearly every family needs to be stirred up on this question,and their consciences aroused to be doers of the word of God in practicing self-denial of appetite.When you make the people intelligent on the question of health reform,you have prepared the way for them to give attention to the present truth for these last days.Said my guide,“Educate,educate,educate.”The mind must be enlightened;for the understanding is darkened just as Satan would have it to be,because he can find access through perverted appetite,to debase the soul.CW 124.3

One reason that there is not more sincere piety and religious fervor,is because the mind is occupied with unimportant things and there is no time to meditate,search the Scriptures,or pray.If the consciences can be aroused to see the errors in the preparation of the food,and the influence upon the moral tendencies of our nature,there would be in every family decided reforms.Intemperance in desire resulted to our first parents in the loss of Eden.We generally find,even among Seventh-day Adventists,that inclination;habit;delicate,unhealthful preparations in cooking;and unhealthful habits of dress are weakening physical,mental,and moral efficiency,and making it impossible to overcome temptation.Now what shall we do?This subject is a sadly neglected matter....CW 125.1

Our Duty to Teach Health Reform—I am pained over the existing state of things.I am informed by my guide,"All who believe and proclaim the truth should not only practice health reform,but teach it diligently to others."This will be a strong agency in calling the attention of the unbelieving to consider that if we are intelligent upon this subject in regard to healthful diet and practices,we would be sound on the subjects of Bible doctrine.If we backslide on this point,we lose much influence with the outside world.CW 125.2

Short,Interesting Articles—When at our large gatherings,make all the discourses highly reformative.Arouse the intellect.Bring up the talents possible into the efforts made,and then follow up the effort with tracts and pamphlets,with articles written in simple form,to make the subjects brought before them distinctly stated,that the word spoken may be repeated by the silent agent.Short,interesting articles should be arranged in cheap style,and scattered everywhere.They should be at hand upon every occasion where the truth is brought before the minds of those to whom it is new and strange.CW 126.1

Here is a branch of work in the Lord's vineyard that has not received due attention.I have been shown in these very matters where these things have been neglected much has been lost.There should be more wise generalship manifested in doing the Lord's word.Minds must be arrested and held to the point,else Satan will steal away the seed sown.There will be but a small number in comparison with the rejectors of truth,that will receive it;but one soul is of highest value.The value of all the world sinks into insignificance in comparison to the value of one human soul.—Manuscript 1,1875.CW 126.2

The Best in the Country—The people are perishing for want of knowledge.Says the apostle,"Add to your faith virtue,and to virtue knowledge."After receiving the faith of the gospel,our first work is to seek to add virtuous and pure principles,and thus cleanse the mind and heart for the reception of true knowledge.Disease of almost every description is pressing upon the people;yet they seem willing to remain in ignorance of the means of relief,and the course to pursue to avoid disease.CW 126.3

In the establishment of the Health Institute it was the design of God not only that knowledge might be imparted to the comparatively few who should visit it,but that the many might be instructed as to home treatment.The *Health Reformer*[our pioneer health journal,published under this title from 1866 to 1878.Subsequently it was known as *Good Health*.]is the medium through which rays of light are to shine upon the people.It should be the very best health journal in our country.It must be adapted to the wants of the common people,ready to answer all proper questions,and fully explain the first principles of the laws of life,and how to obey them and preserve health.The great object to be kept in view by the publication of such a journal should be the good of the suffering people of God.The common people,especially those too poor to attend the Institute,must

be reached and instructed by the *Health Reformer*.—Testimonies for the Church 1:552,553.CW 127.1

Placing the Crib Too High—I learned that Elder-----had recommended that the *Pacific Health Journal*[The *Pacific Health Journal*,sponsored by the Rural Health Retreat at St.Helena was launched in California in 1885.In the summer of 1904,with the change of place of publication to Washington,D.C.,the name was changed to *Life and Health*.]published in the interest of the Health Retreat,be discontinued and the *Good Health*[In 1879 our pioneer health journal,*The Health Reformer*,became *Good Health*,with no change in publishers.]take its place.I hastened to respond,and said to Elder Loughborough,No,No,there must be a coming up from the simple beginning.The *Good Health* is a journal that will do its work east of the Rocky Mountains,but will not do the work demanded in the interest of the Health Retreat and on the Pacific Coast in its present infancy.They must have matter that the *Health Reformer* started out on,and just as much better ability as we can put into the work,but it must be monthly instead of quarterly ere long.CW 127.2

The *Good Health* places the crib too high to meet the demands of uninformed men and women.There must be greater simplicity and we must make that journal a living thing,full of interesting matter to do its work on the Pacific Coast....The Lord would have the journal live and it shall live;because Elder-----has ceased to edit it it shall not die.He may criticize it as much as he pleases,as Trall criticized the *Health Reformer*,nevertheless,it shall live.—Letter 10,1887.CW 128.1

Spicy,Not Prosy—While working for the *Herald of Health*[published in Australia commencing January,1898.Later known respectively as Australasian *Good Health* and *Life and Health*.]believe in the Lord Jesus,and seek to make the paper a success.Please

make your sentences short,for then your articles will be much more interesting....CW 128.2

I hope and pray that you may make the *Herald of Health* a living,speaking,vital agency for good.Do not let it get prosy.Let it be spicy with the fragrance of pure truth.This is a savor of life unto life.—Letter 137,1900.CW 128.3

Recipes for Health Journals—Recipes that are formed on the old plan of preparing food are gathered up and put into our health papers.This is not right.Only recipes for the plainest,simplest,and most wholesome food should be put into our health journals.We must not expect that those who all their life have indulged appetite will understand how to prepare food that will be at once wholesome,simple,and appetizing.This is the science that every sanitarium and health restaurant is to teach.CW 129.1

We are to teach the people how to prepare dishes that are not expensive,but wholesome and palatable.And never is a recipe to appear in our health journals that will injure our reputation as health reformers.—Letter 201,1902.CW 129.2

Keep Close to the People—We must go no faster than we can take those with us whose consciences and intellects are convinced of the truths we advocate.We must meet the people where they are.Some of us have been many years in arriving at our present position in health reform.It is slow work to obtain a reform in diet.We have powerful appetites to meet;for the world is given to gluttony.If we should allow the people as much time as we have required to come up to the present advanced state in reform,we would be very patient with them,and allow them to advance step by step,as we have done,until their feet are firmly established upon the health-reform platform.But we should be very cautious not to advance too fast,lest we be obliged to retrace our steps.In reforms,we would better come one step short of the mark than to go one step beyond it.And if there is error at all,let it be on the side next to the people.CW 129.3

Above all things,we should not with our pens advocate positions that we do not put to a practical test in our own families,upon our own tables.This is dissimulation,a species of hypocrisy.—Testimonies for the Church 3:20-21(1872).CW 130.1

Chapter 17—Periodical Circulation

Review and Herald **and** ***Signs of the Times***—Mistakes have been made in putting down prices of publications to meet certain difficulties.These efforts must change.Those who have made this move were sincere.They thought their liberality would provoke ministers and people to labor to greatly increase the demand for the publications.CW 131.1

Ministers and people should act nobly and liberally in dealing with our publishing houses.Instead of studying and contriving how they can obtain periodicals,tracts,and books at the lowest figure,they should seek to bring the minds of the people to see the true value of the publications.All these pennies taken from thousands of publications have caused a loss of thousands of dollars to our offices,when a few pennies more from each individual would scarcely have been felt.CW 131.2

The *Review and Herald* and the *Signs of the Times* are cheap papers at the full price.The *Review* is a valuable paper;it contains matters of great interest to the church,and should be placed in every family of believers.If any are too poor to take it,the church should,by subscription,raise the amount of the full price of the paper,and supply the destitute families.How much better would this plan be than throwing the poor upon the mercies of the publishing house or the tract and missionary society.CW 131.3

The same course should be pursued toward the *Signs*.With slight variations,this paper has been increasing in interest and in moral worth as a pioneer sheet since its establishment.These periodicals are one in interest.They are two instrumentalities in the great field to do their specific work in disseminating light in this day of God's preparation.All should engage just as earnestly to build up the one as the other....CW 132.1

Extend the Circulation—Our people should make greater efforts to extend the circulation of the *Review*.If our brethren and sisters would only manifest greater earnestness and put forth more persevering efforts to accomplish this,it would be done.Every family should have this paper.And if they would deny themselves their darling luxuries,tea and coffee,many who do not now have its weekly visits might pay for the messenger of light to come into their household.Almost every family takes one or more secular papers,and these frequently contain love stories and exciting tales of villainy and murder which injure the minds of all who read them.Those who consent to do without the *Review and Herald* lose much.Through its pages,Christ may speak to them in warnings,in reproofs and counsel,which would change the current of their thoughts,and be to them as the bread of life.CW 132.2

Content of Our Periodicals—Our papers should not be filled with long discussions or long doctrinal arguments,which would weary the reader;but they should contain short and interesting doctrinal and practical articles.The price of our papers should not be made so low that no margin is left to work upon.The same interest which has been manifested to circulate the *Signs of the Times* should be shown in extending the circulation of the *Review*.If this is done,success will attend the effort.CW 132.3

We are upon the enchanted ground,and Satan is continually at work to rock our people to sleep in the cradle of carnal security.There is an indifference,a lack of zeal,that paralyzes all our efforts.Jesus was a zealous worker;and when His followers shall lean on Him,and work as He worked,they will see and realize corresponding results.An effort must be made to place a proper value on our publications,and bring them back gradually to a proper basis.We should not be affected by the cry of speculation,money-making!We should press steadily forward,unmoved by censure,uncorrupted by applause.It will be a greater task to work back upon a proper basis than many suppose;but it must be done in order to save our institutions from embarrassment.—Testimonies for the Church 4:598-600(1881).CW 133.1

On Our Library Tables—Many Sabbathkeepers neglect to take the *Review*,and some have neither the *Review* nor the *Signs*.They plead as an excuse that they cannot afford to take these papers which it is so important for them to have.But in many cases several secular papers will be found upon their tables for their children to peruse.The influence of most of the periodicals of the day is such as to render the word of God distasteful,and to destroy a relish for all useful and instructive reading.The mind assimilates to that which it feeds upon.The secular papers are filled with accounts of murders,robberies,and other revolting crimes,and the mind of the reader dwells on the scenes of vice therein depicted.By indulgence,the reading of sensational or demoralizing literature becomes a habit,like the use of opium or other baleful drugs,and as a result,the minds of thousands are enfeebled,debased,and even crazed.Satan is doing more through the productions of the press to weaken the minds and corrupt the morals of the youth than by any other means.CW 133.2

Let all reading of this character be banished from your houses,let books that are useful,instructive,and elevating,be placed in your libraries and upon our tables,with the *Review and Herald*,our church paper,and the *Signs of the Times*,our missionary paper,and the effect upon both parents and children will be good.During these long winter evenings,let parents see that all their children are at home,and then let the time be devoted to the reading of the Scriptures and other interesting books that will impart knowledge and inculcate right principles.Let the best reader be selected to read aloud,while other members of the family are engaged in useful occupations.Thus these evenings at home may be made both pleasant and profitable.Pure,healthful reading will be to the mind what healthful food is to the body.You will thus become stronger to resist temptation,to form right habits,and to act upon right principles.—The Review and Herald,December 26,1882.CW 134.1

I have been reading the *Review* this morning.It is full of precious matter.This paper should be in every family of our people,not only in America,but in every country.It is our church paper for the world.I shall endeavor to obtain subscribers for it in America and Australia.I do not disparage the *Signs of the Times*.Both the *Review* and the *Signs* should be widely circulated.And I hope the subscription list of the *Watchman* may be greatly increased.I hope you will endeavor to obtain subscriptions for the *Watchman* and for the *Review*,for these papers contain important matter for this time.—Letter 93,1905.CW 135.1

Promoting the *Watchman*—The question has been asked,Should the *Watchman* occupy territory outside the Southern States?One night I seemed to be in a meeting where this question was being discussed.Some argued that it would not be wise for an effort to be made to push the circulation of the *Watchman* in all parts of the field.They

said that the *Review and Herald* and the *Signs of the Times* should be given the right of way,and that the *Watchman* should not be allowed to interfere with the circulation of these two papers which have been so long in the field.They thought that our work with the *Watchman* should be confined to the Southern States.CW 135.2

Some were greatly astonished at these propositions.One of authority arose and said,The Lord God of Israel sees the selfishness of the human heart.Let those who are interested in our two elder papers beware of allowing selfish plans to find a place in their work.The *Watchman* is to have a place in the field at large.It bears the message of truth as verily as do the *Review* and the *Signs of the Times*.You are to be careful not to hinder the *Watchman* in its work....CW 135.3

A Work to do—Let those who have had success in the circulation of the *Signs* and *Review* remember that the *Watchman* also has a work to do.It will accomplish much good if it is given an opportunity to do its appointed work in all parts of the world.Its field is wherever subscribers can be found for it.—Letter 351,1904.CW 136.1

Our Health Journals—The circulation of our health publications is a most important work.It is a work in which all who believe the special truths for this time should have a living interest.God desires that now,as never before,the minds of the people shall be deeply stirred to investigate the great temperance question and the principles underlying true health reform.The physical life is to be carefully educated,cultivated,and developed,that through men and women the divine nature may be revealed in its fullness.Both the physical and the mental powers,with the affections,are to be so trained that they can reach the highest efficiency.CW 136.2

Reform,continual reform,must be kept before the people,and by our example we must enforce our

teachings.True religion and the laws of health go hand in hand.It is impossible to work for the salvation of men and women without presenting to them the need of breaking away from sinful gratifications,which destroy the health,debase the soul,and prevent divine truth from impressing the mind.Men and women must be taught to take a careful review of every habit and every practice,and at once put away those things that cause an unhealthy condition of the body,and thus cast a dark shadow over the mind.CW 136.3

God desires His people to be light bearers to a world lying in midnight darkness.But if they refuse to go forward in the light which He causes to shine on their pathway,the light will finally become to them darkness;and instead of being light bearers to the world,they themselves will be lost in the blackness that surrounds them.God desires His light bearers ever to keep a high standard before them.By precept and example they must hold this perfect standard high above Satan's false standard,which,if followed,will lead to misery,degradation,disease,and death for both body and soul.CW 137.1

Those who act as teachers are to be intelligent in regard to disease and its causes,understanding that every action of the human agent should be in perfect harmony with the laws of life.The light God has given on health reform is for our salvation and the salvation of the world.Men and women should be informed in regard to the human habitation fitted up by our Creator as His dwelling place,and over which He desires us to be faithful stewards.These grand truths must be given to the world.We must reach the people where they are,and by example and precept lead them to see the beauties of the better way.CW 137.2

Our Duty to the World—The world is in sad need of instruction along these lines.The time has come when each soul must be stanch and true to every ray of light God has

given,and begin in earnest to give this gospel of health to the people.We shall have strength and power to do this,if we practice these truths in our own lives.If we all followed the light we have received,the blessing of God would rest upon us,and we should be anxious to place these truths before those who know them not....CW 137.3

In all our work caution should be used that no one branch be made a specialty,while other interests are left to suffer.There has not been that interest taken in the circulation of our health journals that there should be.The circulation of these journals must not be neglected,or the people will suffer great loss.CW 138.1

Let none think that the circulation of the health journals is a minor matter.All should take hold of this work with more interest,and make greater efforts in this direction.God will greatly bless those who take hold of it in earnest;for it is a work that should receive attention at this time.CW 138.2

Ministers can and should do much to urge the circulation of the health journals.Every member of the church should work as earnestly for these journals as for our other periodicals.There should be no friction between the two.Both are essential,and both should occupy the field at the same time.Each is the complement of the other,and can in no wise take its place.The circulation of the health journals will be a powerful agency in preparing the people to accept those special truths that are to fit them for the soon coming of the Son of man.—Counsels on Health,445-447(1901).CW 138.3

A Balanced Program—You feel a deep interest in the circulation of the health publications,and this is right;but that special branch is not to be made all-absorbing.The health reform is as closely related to the third angel's message as the arm to the body;but the arm cannot take the place of the body.The proclamation of the third angel's message,the commandments of God,and the testimony of

Jesus is the great burden of our work.The message is to be proclaimed with a loud cry,and is to go to the whole world.The presentation of health principles must be united with this message,but must not in any case be independent of it,or in any way take the place of it.—Letter 57,1896.CW 139.1

Chapter 18—Newspaper Publicity

Publishing Discourses—The truth presented by the living preacher should be published in as compact a form as possible,and circulated widely.As far as practicable,let the important discourses given at our camp meetings be published in the newspapers.Thus the truth which was placed before a limited number may find access to many minds.And where the truth has been misrepresented,the people will have an opportunity of knowing just what the minister said.—Testimonies for the Church 6:37(1900).CW 140.1

Awaken Souls Through the Press—There are many who desire to know the truth.The angels of heaven are moving upon human minds to arouse investigation in the themes of the Bible.A far greater work will be done than has yet been done,and none of the glory of it will flow to men;for angels that minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation are working night and day.All who will be saved must cooperate with the agencies of heaven to arouse the inhabitants of the earth to the solemn truths for this time....CW 140.2

The third angel's message means far more than we take it to mean.We should search to find out all that is possible concerning this solemn message.The earth is to be lightened with its glory.The angels of God will even now go through our land to arouse the minds of the people if we will co-operate with them;but sad indeed is the fact that we are far behind the providences of God,and the work that ought

to be done to send the rays of truth to those who sit in darkness is undone....CW 140.3

Men will misrepresent the doctrines we believe and teach as Bible truth,and it is necessary that wise plans should be laid to secure the privilege of inserting articles into the secular paper;for this will be a means of awakening souls to see the truth.God will raise up men who will be qualified to sow beside all waters.God has given great light upon important truths,and it must come to the world.—Letter 1,1875.CW 141.1

Chapter 19—Kind of Books Needed

To Strengthen the Pillars of the Faith—The work of bookmaking is a grand and good work;but it has not always stood in the high and holy position that God designed it should occupy,because self has been interwoven with the work of some who have engaged in it.The book work should be the means of quickly giving the sacred light of present truth to the world.The publications that come forth from our presses today are to be of such a character as to strengthen every pin and pillar of the faith that was established by the word of God and by the revelations of His Spirit.CW 142.1

The truth that God has given for His people in these last days,should keep them firm when there come into the church those who present false theories.The truth that has stood firm against the attacks of the enemy for more than half a century must still be the confidence and comfort of God's people.CW 142.2

Our evidence to nonprofessors that we have the truth of the word of God will be given in a life of strict self-denial.We

must not make a mockery of our faith,but ever keep before us the example of Him,who,though He was the Prince of heaven,stooped to a life of self-denial and sacrifice to vindicate the righteousness of His Father's word.Let us each resolve to do our best,that the light of our good works may shine forth to the world.CW 142.3

Unity and Progress—Perfect agreement should exist in the plans laid for the publication of our books and periodicals,that the light which they contain may be quickly carried everywhere,to the nominal churches and to the world.Much more should have been accomplished in the sale of our books than we see accomplished today.CW 143.1

Our ministers should call upon the church members to let the truth triumph."Arise,shine;for thy light is come,and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.For,behold,the darkness shall cover the earth,and gross darkness the people:but the Lord shall arise upon thee,and His glory shall be seen upon thee.And the Gentiles shall come to thy light,and kings to the brightness of thy rising."Isaiah 60:1-3.Unity and love will accomplish wonderful things for the believers.Will not our churches arouse,and give the last warning message to the world?—Testimonies for the Church 9:69-70(1909).CW 143.2

With a Timely Message—After a while I fell asleep again.This time I seemed to be in a council meeting where our book work was being discussed.There were a number of our brethren present,leaders in our work,and Elder Haskell and his wife were there consulting together and with the brethren about the circulation of our books,tracts,and periodicals.CW 143.3

Elder Haskell was presenting strong reasons why the books which contain the knowledge that has been communicated to Sister White,—the books containing the special message to come to the world at this present

time,—should be more freely circulated.“Why,”he inquired,“do not our people appreciate and circulate more widely the books bearing the divine credentials?Why is not a specialty made of the books containing the warnings regarding Satan's work?Why do we not give greater effort to circulating the books that point out Satan's plans to counterwork the work of God,that uncover his plans and point out his deceptions?The moral evils of his deceptions are to be removed by opening the eyes of the people so that they shall discern the situation and the dangers of our times;so that they shall make diligent effort to lay hold by faith upon Christ and His righteousness.”CW 143.4

A messenger from heaven stood in our midst,and he spoke words of warning and instruction.He made us clearly understand that the gospel of the kingdom is the message for which the world is perishing,and that this message,as contained in our publications already in print,and those yet to be issued,should be circulated among the people who are nigh and afar off.—Testimonies for the Church 9:66-67(1909).CW 144.1

That Prepare the People to Stand—The larger books...contain present truth for this time,—truth that is to be proclaimed in all parts of the world.Our canvassers are to circulate the books that give definite instruction regarding the testing messages that are to prepare a people to stand on the platform of eternal truth,holding aloft the banner on which is inscribed,“The commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”—Manuscript 136,1903.CW 144.2

Rehearse God's Leadings—I feel deeply over our present situation.We must now do a work that should have been done long ago.We must do as the Lord directed Moses to do,when the children of Israel,having crossed the desert,were encamped on the borders of Jordan.Moses was bidden to rehearse to them all the dealings of the Lord to them during their journeyings through the wilderness.The

record of this rehearsal is found in the book of Deuteronomy.CW 145.1

The record of the experience through which the people of God passed in the early history of our work must be republished.Many of those who have since come into the truth are ignorant of the way in which the Lord wrought.The experience of William Miller and his associates,of Captain Joseph Bates,and of other pioneers in the advent message,should be kept before our people.Elder Loughborough's book should receive attention.Our leading men should see what can be done for the circulation of this book.CW 145.2

We must study to find out the best way in which to take up the review of our experiences from the beginning of our work,when we separated from the churches,and went forward step by step in the light that God gave us.We then took the position that the Bible,and the Bible only,was to be our guide;and we are never to depart from this position.We were given wonderful manifestations of the power of God.Miracles were wrought.Again and again,when we were brought into strait places,the power of God was displayed in our behalf.—Letter 105,1903.CW 145.3

Compilations of E.G.White Articles—The matter that has been brought before the people must be brought before them over and over again.The articles that are printed in our papers are soon forgotten by the readers.They must be brought together,reprinted in book form,and placed before believers and unbelievers.—Letter 71,1903.CW 145.4

Literature for the Southern Field—Special literature should be prepared expressly for the Southern field.Publishing is to be done in the South,to prepare the style of books essential for this field.—Manuscript 5,1903.CW 146.1

Meet the Needs of the Colored People—I understand that you intend that the colored work in the South will be your

first interest.Well,work away.But you must get out a class of books with many object lessons,for the colored people must see a thing before they understand it.Small books must be distributed freely....CW 146.2

The publishing at Nashville will have to be done in a way to meet the needs of the very ones for whom you are laboring.Everything must be plain,simple,and illustrated.Inexpensive illustrations are as good for this field as the more expensive work.Cheap,simple books must be issued....CW 146.3

The South is a world of its own,and publishing should be done in the field.Without proper books to put into the hands of the people,talking and preaching will lose the hold on the mind.But if proper reading matter can be placed in their hands,so that they can read the truth and see the pictures accompanying the reading matter,it will stay in the mind and have convincing power.Then other and larger books should be issued to meet the needs of the better educated classes.—Manuscript 28,1903.CW 146.4

Books Essential for This Time—Letters have come to me with inquiries regarding the publication of books,asking whether there was not danger of placing before the people many things which do not relate to the truths so important to us as a people.I have been instructed that the common stories put into book form are not essential to our well-being.The world is flooded with this class of literature,and the fact that such books find a ready sale is by no means evidence that they are the books which should be circulated.The passion of stories is bringing into existence many thousands of worthless books,which are as hay,wood,and stubble.These books are written by those whose minds have been educated to run in a channel of romance.Everything that the imaginative mind can think of is woven into the book,and presented to the world as mental food.But very often it has no food value.“What is the chaff to

the wheat?”We do not need novels;for we are dealing with the stern realities of life.CW 147.1

Cheap,worthless romances are not to be advertised or sold by our publishing houses.Many of the books now offered for sale are not after God's order.There might have been a time when the sale of these books would have been more seemly,but we are now altogether too near the close of this earth's history to keep before the attention of the people a class of books which do not contain the message which our people need.Draw their attention to books treating on practical faith and godliness.Cleanse and sanctify the camp.There is an abundance of books which will give light to the world.CW 147.2

I cannot understand why our papers should contain so many notices of books unessential for this time.Plenty of such books can be obtained in all bookstores.Why not draw the minds of the people to subjects relating to the words of eternal life.Why not make an effort to obtain communications simple,real,and true,from our workers in all parts of the world.God calls for this class of reading.We have no time to devote to commonplace things,no time to waste on books which only amuse.—Manuscript 80,1899.CW 148.1

Danger of Inferior Books—Unless care is taken,the market will be flooded with books of a cheap order,and the people will be deprived of the light and truth which it is essential they should have to prepare the way of the Lord.This has been done and will be done again unless right principles control in the publishing work.—Letter 43,1899.CW 148.2

Chapter 20—Duplicating Books,and New Editions

Duplication of Books—In the future there will be manifested the same blindness that is now manifested in regard to the publication of important matters.Men will go over the same ground that is now being gone over.The principles underlying the plans being followed are faulty.When a book comes from the press to fill a certain want in the world,the interests of that book must be guarded by the men who have received pay for publishing it,even if the matter contained in the book is not of sufficient importance to demand a large circulation without delay.CW 149.1

I have been shown some things that will be done in the future.One man will prepare a book for publication,and after it is in circulation,someone else will think that he can publish a book similar in appearance and covering nearly the same ground as the first book placed on the market.The writer of this second book will use different words,but will treat of the same subjects that are treated of in the other book.Thus two different books will be in existence when one would have been all-sufficient.There will be instances when even before the author writes the book that he contemplates publishing,someone else will write on the very same subjects,in order to forestall the one who has expressed his purpose to write on certain subjects.The second book published diminishes the sale of the first one,and he who takes advantage of his neighbor in this way does not treat him fairly.His book largely takes the place and the patronage of the first book in the field.He has worked contrary to the principles of righteousness;for he has robbed his neighbor.—Manuscript 23,1891.CW 149.2

An Unfair Work—Both authors and publishers should have foresight,and carefully weigh the results upon other books and other enterprises,before bringing out new works.These things are not regarded as they should be.Greater discretion is required in the management of these matters,if our work

shall redound to the glory of God.Those appointed to responsible positions in the publishing work must now give careful consideration to these important matters.They must carefully discriminate between right and wrong,justice and injustice,that they may discern what is equality and fair dealing....CW 150.1

There is danger of a recklessness coming into the publishing work,which will place it where it requires readjustment.The rule should be followed that a second book on any subject is not to be crowded into the market till the one preceding it has had a fair chance.I now leave with you these words of admonition and caution.—Letter 225,1899.CW 150.2

Equity in Publishing New Editions—When several parties have on hand large stock of certain books,nothing should be done in bringing out of new editions by one office,without consulting with those who already have quantities of the old edition on hand.In every action care must be exercised not to take a course that will bring loss upon our institutions.We must deal in all things with equity and with sanctified judgment.—Letter 229,1903.CW 150.3

Revision of Standard Books—The work that the Lord has given us at this time is to present to the people the true light in regard to the testing questions of obedience and salvation,—the commandments of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.CW 151.1

In some of our important books that have been in print for years,and which have brought many to a knowledge of the truth,there may be found matters of minor importance that call for careful study and correction.Let such matters be considered by those regularly appointed to have the oversight of our publications.Let not these brethren,nor our canvassers,nor our ministers,magnify these matters in such a way as to lessen the influence of these good soul-saving books.Should we take up the work of discrediting our

literature,we would place weapons in the hands of those who have departed from the faith,and confuse the minds of those who have newly embraced the message.The less that is done unnecessarily to change our publications,the better it will be.—Preach the Word,p.7(1910).CW 151.2

Chapter 21—Independent Publishing

Danger of Independent Work—It is necessary that something should be done to guard the interests of those who believe the truth for this time.Christ has given many warnings to the effect that false doctrines,false prophets,and false christs would arise and deceive many.From the light that God has been pleased to give me,His humble servant,I know that these prophecies have been fulfilling,and testimonies have not been few that have been given to meet these things as they have come up all along through our religious experience.Great delusions will arise,and even“of your own selves shall men arise,speaking perverse things,to draw away disciples after them.”Even Satan will disguise himself,and appear as Christ.CW 152.1

I can see plainly that should everyone who thinks he is qualified to write books,follow his imagination and have his productions published,insisting that they be recommended by our publishing houses,there would be plenty of tares sown broadcast in our world.CW 152.2

Indiscriminate Use of the Testimonies—Many from among our own people are writing to me,asking with earnest determination the privilege of using my writings to give force to certain subjects that they wish to present to the people in such a way as to leave a deep impression upon them.It is true that there is a reason why some of their

matters should be presented:but I would not venture to give my approval in using the testimonies in this way,or to sanction the placing of matter which is good in itself in the way which they propose.The persons who make these propositions,for aught I know,may be able to conduct the enterprise of which they write,in a wise manner;but nevertheless I dare not give the least license for using my writings in the manner which they propose.In taking account of such an enterprise,there are many things that must come into consideration;for in using the testimonies to bolster up some subject which may impress the mind of the author,the extracts may give a different impression than that which they would were they read in their original connection.CW 152.3

I am also receiving printed matter,tracts and leaflets,from one and another,which present a large array of Scriptures,put together in a way that would seem to prove certain theories;but they only prove the theories in the estimation of their authors;for truth set in a framework of error,diverts the mind from the real subject which should take the attention,and aids error in calling the minds of men away from the present truth which is essential for this time.These persons bring certain Scriptures together,and interpret passages of the Bible,so as to give coloring to their views;but they are wresting the Scriptures to make them appear to say that which they do not say.False theories will thus be propagated in the world to the very end,and as long as there are printing presses and publishing houses,erroneous matter will be presented for publication,and books will be prepared for public circulation.CW 153.1

Guard Our Publishing Houses—Should there be no guard against the publication of erroneous theories,our own publishing houses would become the agents for disseminating false theories.Writers make a world of one or

two items of theory,which others cannot regard as important,and then the writer thinks his ideas are greatly belittled.CW 154.1

Two or three days ago I received a chart from one who professes to be a Sabbathkeeper in California,and he feels very sore over the fact that the Pacific Press does not pay respect to his productions,and accept the light he would present to the world.There will be gods many and lords many that will be struggling for recognition;but should the persons that feel such a burden to pour out something original upon the world,walk humbly with God in meekness and contrition of spirit,the Lord would recognize them and give them the grace of His Holy Spirit,in order that they might do the very work,according to their ability,which God would have them do.CW 154.2

You may say,What does Sister White mean?Is she classing me with these erratic workers whom she has mentioned?No,I do not;but I would present the difficulties that should make our publishing houses cautious,in order that you may see the necessity of measures being taken at our office of publication,to discourage the infatuation with which many are taken,in thinking that the Lord has laid upon them a burden to write and to publish a variety of matter that would not only not be for the benefit of the churches at this time,but would be to the injury of the one who engages in the enterprise.I wish you to see that something must be done to guard the people from impostors,and that there was need to make resolutions that should discourage the determination of men to put their imaginary theories into print.CW 154.3

You know how it was with Brother-----.He wrote much,and he thought that what he wrote should be published.Then the Lord wrought upon his mind,and he gave up the idea,and burned up his manuscript.But he could not let it be,he reproduced his theories,and upon his death he left money

and charged his wife that she should have his manuscript published.She did not think it so essential that the matter should be published as he did,and after she had given the manuscript into the hands of the proper persons for publication,she withdrew it and gave up all the burden of its publication.Brother-----'s production was never printed.He was a good man,beloved of all who knew him;but the matter which he had brought together was not the subject that should appear,not meat in due season for the flock of God.It was of a character that would start into life erroneous theories that would be nourished by human agents,and would bear fruit in dissension and discord.CW 155.1

The Need of a Book Committee—We found it necessary to take steps in the formation of a book committee,whose duty it should be to look into the matter offered for publication,and to decide as to whether or not the matter was worthy of publication.If the men on the book committee are in touch with Christ,if their eyes are anointed with the eyesalve which Jesus recommends them to buy of Him,then,and only then,can they be proper judges as to what will be profitable matter for publication.CW 155.2

It is highly proper that manuscripts shall be carefully examined before receiving the endorsement of the Review and Herald,and having the benefits of the influence of the office.CW 156.1

Your writings,I presume,are just as they should be;yet it may be necessary that they should go through the process of being examined carefully and critically.If no fault can be found with them,they should receive the notice and the commendation that is due to such class of work.You are dealing strong blows against tradition and errors that lie at the foundation of a heresy that will destroy the souls of those who receive it.A wide door to destruction is open to all those who believe in the immortality of the soul,and do not believe that Christ alone brings life and immortality to light.I

believe the book you have written will do good in enlightening many who are in darkness;but for all this,my brother,you surely can see that barriers have to be erected in our publishing houses concerning this bookmaking business.You can see that if no measures were taken to bind about this line of work,very singular productions would be poured upon the world under the endorsement of our offices of publication....CW 156.2

Do not understand me as approving of the recent action of the General Conference Association,of which you write;but in regard to that matter it is right that I should speak to them.They have many difficulties to meet,and if they err in their action,the Lord knows it all,and can overrule all for the good of those who trust in Him.I sympathize with you in your difficulties and perplexities,but I must advise you to wait,patiently wait.These delays may seem to you to be very tedious,and to be working you personal injury;but please do not take this view of the matter.If you will put your trust in God,and wait patiently a short time,I trust that everything will be adjusted satisfactorily....You may have to wait awhile for the adjustment of the matters that trouble you;but do not get yourself into worse temptations by feverish frettings,or by seeking to obtain relief by any means contrary to the will of God.CW 156.3

You speak of humbling yourself by having to wait for the sanction of the board upon your book.Some things have passed into history very recently that have sharpened up the vigilance of the book committee.Advantages have been taken in the publishing line which has hurt the offices and will continue to hurt them because a heavy debt has been incurred through the publication of matter that never came before the book committee for their consent,and of which they had no knowledge until the office was involved to the amount of$5,000.—Letter 49,1894.CW 157.1

Close Criticism of All Writings—The Lord did not lead in the production of some of the statements that are made in this book[*Living Temple*].He has given us His word,and this word is to be the man of our counsel.It seemed to me passing strange that men who have been long in the work cannot discern the character of this book.A great deal of scripture is used,but it is woven in and brought together in such a way that to many minds error is made to appear as truth.Erroneous theories are so presented that those who receive them will certainly be misled,and led on step by step by the enemy.CW 157.2

If ever there was a time when the writings of every one connected with our work should be closely criticized,it is now.The Lord has made known to me that His word is to be studied,and as no such representations as those made in *Living Temple* are made in the word,we are to reject them.We are to take the word as God has given it to us.If Christ had thought it essential for such theories to be presented to human minds,He would have included them in His teachings.As our Owner and Redeemer,He has put in His word all the instruction that is necessary for our salvation.—Manuscript 127,1905.CW 158.1

Chapter 22—The Book Committee

Selection of the Book Committee—Great care should be exercised in selecting the members of the book committee.The men who are to pass judgment on the books offered for publication should be few and well chosen.Only such as have an experimental knowledge of authorship are qualified to act in this capacity.Only those should be chosen whose hearts are under the control of the Spirit of God.They should be men of prayer,men who do not exalt self,but who love and fear God,and respect their brethren.Only such as,in

distrust of self,are led by divine wisdom,are competent to fill this important position.—Testimonies for the Church 7:160.CW 159.1

Men of Experience to Serve—Manuscripts have been placed in the hands of men for criticism when the eyes of their understanding were so blinded that they could not discern the spiritual import of the subject with which they were dealing.More than this,they had no real knowledge of bookmaking.They had had neither study nor practice in the line of literary productions.Men have sat in judgment upon books and manuscripts,unwisely placed in their hands,when they should have declined to serve in any such capacity.It would have been only honest for them to say,“I have had no experience in this line of work,and should certainly do injustice to myself and to others in giving my opinion.Excuse me,brethren;instead of instructing others,I need that someone should teach me.”But this was far from their thoughts.They expressed themselves freely in regard to subjects of which they knew nothing.Conclusions have been accepted as the opinions of wise men,when they were simply the opinions of novices.—Manuscript 14,1896.CW 159.2

Counsel to the Book Committee—I have some things to say in reference to the making of books.There are dangers which our book committee needs to guard against.Men who have any part to act in the service of God should be careful,lest they use the common fire in the place of the sacred.They should watch and pray,and be careful that their own hearts are under the control of the Spirit of God.If,like Daniel,they are men of earnest prayer,they will be careful of their words and deportment.They will not exalt self,but they will love and fear God,and respect their brethren.They will pray for grace to keep themselves faithful and true and untainted with selfishness in their connection with the work of God.No neglect will be seen,no complaints will be

heard,no unjust course will be taken toward any man whom God has used in His work....CW 160.1

The men who are placed in the position to judge if books are worthy of publication should be few and well chosen.Men who have never written a book themselves,or had any experience in this line,cannot be expected to have clear perceptions in these matters,and they should never be placed on a committee to pass their judgment or estimate the value of a book.They may speak of these matters as though they were competent to judge,but they are ignorant of the subject brought before them....CW 160.2

Many books have been issued,not for the glory of God,but simply because the authors desired to make a book.Men have considered it their right to put books into circulation which were not at all needed,that they might make a little money for themselves.Other persons feel that their productions are needed,and are greatly offended when they are not recognized as authors....CW 161.1

The Lord would have men of solid judgment in connection with His work,else the world will be flooded with a class of literature that it might better be without.And His people are to learn to deal justly,to love mercy,and to walk humbly with their God.—Letter 208,1899.CW 161.2

Chapter 23—The Author's Stewardship

The Brain Worker's Capital—Brain workers have a God-given capital.The result of their study belongs to God,not to man.If the worker faithfully gives to his employer the time for which he receives his pay,then his employer has no further claim upon him.And if by diligent and close economy of moments,he prepares other matter valuable for

publication,it is his to use as he thinks will best serve the cause of God.If he gives up all but a small royalty,he has done a good work for those who handle the book,and he should not be asked to do more.—Testimonies for the Church 5:563(1889).CW 162.1

The Author's Interest—God desires to bring men into direct relation with Himself.In all His dealings with human beings He recognizes the principle of personal responsibility.He seeks to encourage a sense of personal dependence,and to impress the need of personal guidance.His gifts are committed to men as individuals.Every man has been made a steward of sacred trusts;each is to discharge his trust according to the direction of the Giver;and by each an account of his stewardship must be rendered to God....CW 162.2

In all our dealing with one another,God desires us carefully to guard the principle of personal responsibility to and dependence upon Him.It is a principle that should be especially kept in view by our publishing houses in their dealing with authors.CW 163.1

It has been urged by some that authors have no right to hold the stewardship of their own works;that they should give their works over to the control of the publishing house or of the conference;and that,beyond the expense involved in the production of the manuscript,they should claim no share of the profit;that this should be left with the conference or the publishing house,to be appropriated,as their judgment shall direct,to the various needs of the work.Thus the author's stewardship of his work would be wholly transferred from himself to others.CW 163.2

Accountability to God—But not so does God regard the matter.The ability to write a book is,like every other talent,a gift from Him,for the improvement of which the possessor is accountable to God;and he is to invest the returns under His direction.Let it be borne in mind that it is not our own

property which is entrusted to us for investment.If it were,we might claim discretionary power;we might shift our responsibility upon others,and leave our stewardship with them.But this cannot be,because the Lord has made us individually His stewards.We are responsible to invest this means ourselves.Our own hearts are to be sanctified;our hands are to have something to impart,as occasion demands,of the income that God entrusts to us.CW 163.3

It would be just as reasonable for the conference or the publishing house to assume control of the income which a brother receives from his houses or lands as to appropriate that which comes from the working of his brain.CW 163.4

The Writer's Spare Time Productions—Nor is there justice in the claim that,because a worker in the publishing house receives wages for his labor,his powers of body,mind,and soul belong wholly to the institution,and it has a right to all the productions of his pen.Outside the period of labor in the institution,the worker's time is under his own control,to use as he sees fit,so long as this use does not conflict with his duty to the institution.For that which he may produce in these hours,he is responsible to his own conscience and to God.CW 164.1

No greater dishonor can be shown to God than for one man to bring another man's talents under his absolute control.The evil is not obviated by the fact that the profits of the transaction are to be devoted to the cause of God.In such arrangements the man who allows his mind to be ruled by the mind of another is thus separated from God and exposed to temptation.In shifting the responsibility of his stewardship upon other men,and depending on their wisdom,he is placing man where God should be.Those who are seeking to bring about this shifting of responsibility are blinded as to the result of their action;but God has plainly set it before us.He says,“Cursed be the man that trusteth in man,and maketh flesh his arm.”Jeremiah 17:5.CW 164.2

A Just Share of the Profits—Let not authors be urged either to give away or to sell their right to the books they have written.Let them receive a just share of the profits of their work;then let them regard their means as a trust from God,to be administered according to the wisdom that He shall impart.—Testimonies for the Church 7:176-178(1902).CW 164.3

A Reasonable Sum for the Authors—The publishing house should receive their share of the profits from the books published.This should be proportionate to the work they do in getting out notices,etc.But let the publishers be careful not to claim that they are the ones who do the greatest amount of work in preparing these books for the market.Let the authors take a reasonable sum for their work,but they are not to sell their right to any institution.This will not be a blessing to the institution.—Special Instruction Regarding Royalties,13(1899).CW 165.1

A Difference in Books—I received your statement in reference to the royalties on books....CW 165.2

There is,and ever will be,a flood of books issued if a large remuneration is given to authors.The little story books written are not a great tax on the writers,neither are books of this character of vital consequence to the world.A difference must be made in the books written.They cannot be classed together.—Special Instruction Regarding Royalties,3-4(1899).CW 165.3

Use the Pen to Bless the Cause—Let men and women who have a burden to produce books,work to bless the cause of God by the use of their pens.Let them work,and if they have an income from their work,let them make use of that income to do their part in uplifting the standard of truth where God shall direct.Let them seek counsel from God.Let them believe the promise of Christ that He will send the Comforter to teach them all things and bring all things to

their remembrance.—Special Instruction Regarding Royalties,18(1899).CW 165.4

Chapter 24—Illustrating Our Literature

Purpose of Pictures—The Lord desires His people to move understandingly and intelligently.They are not to create large expenses;yet everything is to be done in perfect order.Our books should be bound with good,durable covers.The sewing should be firm and strong.This should always be.But care should be exercised in the matter of illustrating.Much money should not be invested in this line.When there are lessons in the pictures which lead to a study of the book itself,it is well;but when the pictures draw the attention from the truth contained in the book to themselves,the effort to help the book by illustrations is a failure.—Letter 75,1900.CW 167.1

Good Taste in Their Choice—Pictures to represent Bible scenes must be no cheap designs.True science of all kinds is distinction and power.He who by painstaking effort ascends step by step the ladder of human progress,must fix his eyes on the One above the ladder.The knowledge which God imparts is not of a character to belittle our ideas of sacred things.The glory of God must be kept before the mind's eye,not the cheap,earthly representations that imprint in the memory scenes which give a false conception of Christ and heavenly things.A proper illustration of Bible scenes requires talent of a superior quality.With these cheap,common productions,the sacred lessons of the Bible disdain comparison....God forbid that we should please the devil by lowering the standard of eternal truth by using illustrations that men,women,and children will make sport of.—Manuscript 23,1896.CW 167.2

A Temptation to Over-illustrate—I am much burdened in regard to some things urged upon my mind.I have written something in regard to the matter of picture making,especially for our books.The large investment of means for this purpose has been decidedly wrong.It is not pictures that we should feel a burden to present to the people;it is the truth,the subject matter,that they need.The work of illustrating is a constant temptation to tie up money.The very ones who need the books and would appreciate them,cannot obtain them because of their high price....CW 168.1

Do not accept the temptations which will come to you with peculiar force to get out books which involve a large investment of money.The Lord is not in this matter.The thousands of dollars expended in illustrations could be invested in getting out books and selling them cheaply.As ministers attend tent meetings,they should have the privilege of taking these books with them,and selling them as cheaply as possible.With the money they receive above what the books have cost them,they should buy books to present to those of our people who cannot afford to purchase them,or to unbelievers,who may thus be brought to a knowledge of the truth....CW 168.2

It is too late,altogether too late,to depend upon the expensive covers of a book,or its abundant illustrations,for its sale....The books that the people need should be issued free from all display.The saving of the thousands of dollars expended in illustrations would make it possible for the books to be sold at a price that would enable many to obtain them.The Lord has not inspired this enthusiasm.It is a part of the work that has led away from the simplicity of the faith,which should characterize Seventh-day Adventists as a chosen generation,a peculiar people zealous of good works.Canvassers and artists have had much influence in deciding this subject of illustrations.CW 169.1

I have been surprised as the increased expense caused by illustrations has been laid before me.—Letter 133,1899.CW 169.2

Extravagance in Illustrating—I have been shown that the abundant picture making for our periodicals and books is growing into an unsanctified ambition;and the dangers of rivalry are increasing to an alarming extent.The books we are sending out to the world are costing too much.Extravagance in illustrations costs time and money and creates worries which can and should be avoided.The Lord would have us keep the eye single to the glory of God.This infatuation for so abundant illustrations is not in God's order;it is the pulse of the world,and this is beating strongly in God's people at the present time.CW 169.3

In every line of the work economy must be practiced.All unnecessary expenditure must be avoided;for God is testing His people.There are missions to be opened in new fields.Men of God's appointment are to be raised up to step in their lot and place,and sound the grand testing message for this time.The word of the Lord must come to the people.The trumpet must give a certain sound.This is a life-and-death message,and it must not come uncertainly from the watchmen who stand on the walls of Zion.—Letter 147,1899.CW 169.4

With Taste and Simplicity—In order to reach unbelievers,a manifestation of outward display is seen among our people;but this display will not accomplish the good that is represented.Our books are being filled with expensive pictures,and this makes them too costly to give away,and too costly for those persons to buy who need them most.The matter of illustrating is being carried to extremes.The extra money put into the cover of a book,or into pictures,will not convert the soul to the truths that are contained in the book.That so much space should be occupied with pictures is not in the order of God.There have

been long delays in the publication of our works waiting for illustrations,—delays that could be ill-afforded,and which have kept from the people the truths which they should have had....CW 170.1

Our books can be tastefully prepared,as all books should be;but our publishing houses are making a mistake in departing from the simplicity of the gospel.We are using the Lord's talent of means,and we must handle it wisely.The returns from this work of illustrating do not warrant such a large outlay of means.The income is not proportionate to the time and means spent in securing the cuts.—Manuscript 131,1899.CW 170.2

Count the Cost—In the production of books containing valuable truth,men have failed to count the cost.They have failed to find out whether the illustrations provided under the representation of larger sales,were absorbing all the means,limiting the power to accomplish the work in other lines,work which needs to be done at once.Close examination should be made of the influence of this work upon the church and the world.—Letter 133,1899.CW 171.1

Correctness Important—Should we not make investigation in regard to the matter of illustrating our books so largely?Would not the mind have clearer,more perfect ideas of angels,of Christ,of all spiritual things,if no pictures were made to represent heavenly things?Many of the pictures made are grossly false as far as truth is concerned.Do not pictures so far removed from the truth give voice to falsehoods?We want to be true in all our representations of Jesus Christ.But many of the miserable daubs put into our books and papers are an imposition on the public.—Letter 145,1899.CW 171.2

Suitable Illustrations—The ideas of many in reference to the matters pertaining to God's work are too cheap.In the selection of pictures to illustrate holy things,a deficiency of

wisdom has been shown that God cannot approve.—Letter 39,1899.CW 171.3

An Instance of Poor Illustration—"The Ark Standing in the Midst of Jordan:"see the cherubim on either end of the ark.What a misrepresentation of the heavenly angels looking with reverence upon the mercy seat,the cover of the ark.A child might take the representation as a bird hunched up.But when the ark was removed from the sanctuary,the cherubim were never exposed to view.That sacred ark,which represented Jehovah amid His people,was always covered,that no curious eye might look upon it.Let it ever be covered.—Letter 28a,1897.CW 171.4

No Scenes of Horror—Keep out of the books illustrations of auto-da-fe,Catholic pictures of persecution and burning.It is enough to read of these wicked deeds,without trying to bring them in all their terrible details before the eyes.—Letter 28a,1897.CW 172.1

Choice Rather than Numerous—I am troubled in regard to the use of pictures in our publications.Some of our papers seem bent on using them in season and out of season.And some of the cuts used are very inferior,and poorly illustrate the subjects represented.I hope our publications will not come to resemble a comic almanac.I would not altogether condemn the use of pictures,but let fewer be used,and only such as are good illustrations of the subject...If you choose to have a few pictures and good ones,I do not object.Let illustrations be choice rather than numerous.—Letter 28a,1897.CW 172.2

Inappropriate Periodical Illustration—I was greatly pained to see on the first page of a recent issue of the *Signs* a picture of the birthplace of Shakespeare,accompanied by an article on Shakespeare.May the Lord pity our discernment if we have no better food than this to give the flock of God.It greatly distresses me to see those in positions of trust,who

should daily be gaining a rich experience,placing such matter before the people.CW 172.3

Behold,the tabernacle of God is with men,and He graciously condescends to dwell among them.Let those who are representing the truth for this time pray earnestly for clear spiritual discernment.Let them be sincerely jealous for the honor of the Lord God of hosts.Let them see the sinfulness of exalting such men as Shakespeare,calling the attention of people to those who did not in their lives honor God or represent Christ.CW 173.1

The men in responsible positions in God's work need to be renewed in the spirit of their mind.Let them lift their voices against the worship of human beings,giving honor to whom honor is due.The men who edit our papers need the divine touch.They need the unction of the Holy Spirit.CW 173.2

"What Do These Things Mean?"—I felt grieved and heartsick as I looked at the representation on the first page of the *Signs* to which I have referred.I asked myself,"What do these things mean?"I was so distressed in mind that I became sick in body.I went to bed at eight o'clock,and slept for a short time,about an hour,I think.Then I seemed to be standing before those in responsible positions in the Pacific Press,bearing them a message.The Spirit of God came upon me,and I could not forbear speaking.I cannot now write all that I said.I asked,"Where is your spiritual discernment or your good judgment,that you should thus sow tares among the wheat?Nothing is to appear in our literature that does not represent truth and righteousness."CW 173.3

We have put forth earnest efforts to direct the minds of our young people in Oakland into right channels.At times they have been severely rebuked for yielding to pleasure loving,departing from the straightforward course of action that Heaven approves.But what can I say when our papers pass such encomiums on men who did not glorify God in life

or character?Think you that such representations will help the youth to walk in the narrow path of holiness?CW 174.1

I do not see how a representation such as this,or such as that on the first page of a recent *Review and Herald*—the picture of an idolatrous shrine—can be any spiritual help to our people.CW 174.2

I feel intensely desirous that every word that is published by our people shall reflect light that will pierce through the dark shadow of Satan.Put in our papers the encouraging experiences that show the goodness and love of God in His dealings with His people.This will strengthen and cheer them.Make straight paths for your feet,lest the lame be turned out of the way.Keep the warning message of truth before the people;for the end is at hand.We are to cry aloud and spare not.Some will pay no heed,but others will repent and be converted.CW 174.3

Some things of great importance have been presented to me,but I have not the strength to write them this morning.When I attempt to do this,such an intensity of feeling comes over me that I am obliged to stop.CW 174.4

Spiritual Eyesight Needed—We need,O so greatly,keen discernment,clear spiritual eyesight.Our eyes need to be anointed with the heavenly eyesalve,that we may see all things clearly.The great and solemn truths for this time are to be proclaimed through our papers,and into these papers we are to bring all the spiritual power that we can.CW 174.5

Our lesson for the present time is,How may we most clearly comprehend and present the gospel that Christ came in person to present to John on the Isle of Patmos,—the gospel that is termed,“The Revelation of Jesus Christ,which God gave unto Him,to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass.”“Blessed is he that readeth,and they that hear the words of this prophecy,...for the time is at hand.”CW 175.1

We are to proclaim to the world the great and solemn truths of Revelation.Into the very designs and principles of the church of God these truths are to enter....CW 175.2

We have a most important work to do,—the work of proclaiming the third angel's message.We are facing the most important issues that men have ever been called to meet.All should understand the truths contained in the three messages;for they are essential to salvation.CW 175.3

My brethren,will you not give the flock of God bread,and not a stone?Never print in our papers a word that will lower the standard that God expects His people to meet.Call no man brilliant who has not the wisdom to choose the Lord Jesus Christ—the light and life of the world.The excellence of a man is determined by his possession of the virtues of Christ.Let us not look away from Christ to sinful human beings.The truth must be kept before the people.The standard of purity,temperance,and holiness must be uplifted.CW 175.4

It is impossible to say to what lengths the printing of such illustrations and articles would carry you.The paper would do as much and more good if less room were given to illustrations.CW 176.1

I was instructed to say that you could give a glowing description of Satan.You could speak of the greatness of his intelligence and power.You could charm the sense of those who read the *Signs* with this subject.But we know that it would not be right to do this.CW 176.2

I desire to place this matter before you as soon as possible,therefore I cannot take time to write fully on the matter.I am instructed to say that you have dishonored God.You did not mean to do this,but you have done it.—Letter 106,1902.CW 176.3

Chapter 25—Literature in the Closing Work

The End of All Things at Hand—The great and wonderful work of the last gospel message is to be carried on now as it has never been before.The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelizing ministry of the Word in our books and periodicals.Our publications are to show that the end of all things is at hand.I am bidden to say to our publishing houses:"Lift up the standard;lift it up higher.Proclaim the third angel's message,that it may be heard by all the world.Let it be seen that'here are they that keep the commandments of God,and the faith of Jesus.'Revelation 14:12.Let our literature give the message as a witness to all the world."CW 177.1

Our workers should now be encouraged to give their first attention to books that deal with the evidences of our faith,—books that teach the doctrines of the Bible,and that will prepare a people to stand in the trying times before us.—Testimonies for the Church 9:61(1909).CW 177.2

Enlightening the Earth—In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power,and who lightens the earth with his glory.—Testimonies for the Church 7:140(1902).CW 177.3

Specific Objectives of Our Literature—Our publishing work was established by the direction of God and under His special supervision.It was designed to accomplish a specific purpose.Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people,separate from the world.By the great cleaver of truth He has cut them out from the quarry of the world,and brought them into connection with Himself.He has made them His representatives,and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation.The

greatest wealth of truth ever entrusted to mortals,the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man,have been committed to them to be given to the world;and in the accomplishment of this work our publishing houses are among the most effective agencies....CW 178.1

Startling Messages—The publications sent forth from our printing houses are to prepare a people to meet God.Throughout the world they are to do the same work that was done by John the Baptist for the Jewish nation.By startling messages of warning,God's prophet awakened men from worldly dreaming.Through him God called backsliding Israel to repentance.By his presentation of truth he exposed popular delusions.In contrast with the false theories of his time,truth in his teaching stood forth as an eternal certainty.“Repent ye;for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,”was John's message.This same message,through the publications from our printing houses,is to be given to the world today.The prophecy that John's mission fulfilled outlines our work,—“Prepare ye the way of the Lord,make His paths straight.”Matthew 3:2,3.As John prepared the way for the first,so we are to prepare the way for the second,advent of the Saviour.CW 178.2

Exalt the Sabbath—Our publishing institutions are to exalt the claims of God's downtrodden law.Standing before the world as reformers,they are to show that the law of God is the foundation of all enduring reform.In clear,distinct lines they are to present the necessity of obedience to all His commandments.Constrained by the love of Christ,they are to co-operate with Him in building up the old waste places,raising up the foundations of many generations.They are to stand as repairers of the breach,restorers of paths to dwell in.Through their testimony the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is to stand as a witness,a constant reminder of God,to attract notice and arouse investigation that shall direct the minds of men to their Creator.CW 179.1

Herald the Three Angels'Messages—Let it never be forgotten that these institutions are to cooperate with the ministry of the delegates of heaven.They are among the agencies represented by the angel flying"in the midst of heaven,having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth,and to every nation,and kindred,and tongue,and people,saying with a loud voice,Fear God,and give glory to Him;for the hour of His judgment is come."Revelation 14:6,7.CW 179.2

From them is to go forth the terrible denunciation,"Babylon is fallen,is fallen,that great city,because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."Revelation 14:8.CW 179.3

They are represented by the third angel that followed,"saying with a loud voice,If any man worship the beast and his image,and receive his mark in his forehead,or in his hand,the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God."Revelation 14:9,10.—Testimonies for the Church 7:138-140(1902).CW 180.1

Strengthening Every Pin and Pillar—The book work should be the means of quickly giving the sacred light of present truth to the world.The publications that come forth from our presses today are to be of such a character as to strengthen every pin and pillar of the faith that was established by the word of God and by the revelations of His Spirit.—Testimonies for the Church 9:69(1909).CW 180.2

Power of the Pen Around the World—The pen is a power in the hands of men who feel the truth burning upon the altar of their hearts,and who have an intelligent zeal for God,balanced with sound judgment.The pen,dipped in the fountain of pure truth,can send the beams of light to dark corners of the earth,which will reflect its rays back,adding new power,and giving increased light to be scattered everywhere.CW 180.3

I have been shown that the publications already have been doing a work upon some minds in other countries,in breaking down the walls of prejudice and superstition.I was shown men and women studying with intense interest papers and a few pages of tracts upon present truth.They would read the evidences so wonderful and new to them,and would open their Bibles with a deep and new interest,as subjects of truth that had been dark to them were made plain,especially the light in regard to the Sabbath of the fourth commandment.As they searched the Scriptures to see if these things were so,a new light shone upon their understanding,for angels were hovering over them,and impressing their minds with the truths contained in the publications they had been reading.CW 180.4

A Harvest of Precious Souls—I saw them holding papers and tracts in one hand,and the Bible in the other,while their cheeks were wet with tears;and bowing before God in earnest,humble prayer,to be guided into all truth,—the very thing He was doing for them before they called upon Him.And when the truth was received in their hearts,and they saw the harmonious chain of truth,the Bible was to them a new book;they hugged it to their hearts with grateful joy,while their countenances were all aglow with happiness and holy joy.These were not satisfied with merely enjoying the light themselves,and they began to work for others.Some made great sacrifices for the truth's sake and to help those of the brethren who were in darkness.—Life Sketches,214-215(1915).CW 181.1

Seed for the Pentecostal Harvest—God will soon do great things for us,if we lie humble and believing at His feet....More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day,most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications.—The Review and Herald,November 10,1885.CW 181.2