

Port Gibson, New York

August 26, 1848

My Dear Brother and Sister Hastings:

Yours of August 5 was received August 12 and I now answer it. I love the bold, encouraging spirit of your welcome letter. The only fault, it is too short. But I expect you had not time then to write much. When you get this I shall expect a long epistle from both of you.

We took the boat for New York City the very day your letter came. On the morning of August 14 I was standing on the wharf on Brooklyn side, and saw the boat "Bay State" pass us by, and in it was Brother Bates. We were very glad to see the old Pilgrim once more. He had been able to leave things comfortable at home, and had two dollars in his pocket. Brother Chamberlain from Connecticut had two for him from Sister Hurlbut. I had one from you and fifty cents from another sister in all made \$5.50 which brought him to the meeting.

Ellen stood the journey well for her. She fainted but once. At Oswego we met Brother Gurney. Now we were five in all. We had a good time with Brother Moody's family, all in the Sabbath of the Lord our God.

Friday P.M. the brethren came in to our meeting in Volney. There were thirty or forty who met with us. Brother Bates preached the Sabbath to them with strong argument, much boldness and power. My principal message was on Matt. 25:1-11.

The brethren are strong on the Sabbath and Shut Door. Most all confessed that they gained much strength from the meeting. Ellen had two visions at the meeting. She spoke to them with power, to their comfort. It was thought best to have another Conference at this place, sixty miles from Volney to hold Aug. 27 and 28. We hope to have a good time.

On our way here we stopped at Brother Snow's in Hannable. In that place are eight or ten precious souls. Brother Bates, Brother and Sister Edson and Brother Simmons stopped all night with them. In the morning Ellen was taken off in vision and while she was in vision all the brethren came in. It was a powerful time. One of the number was not on the Sabbath but was humble and good. Ellen rose up in vision, took the large Bible, held it up before the Lord, talked from

it, then carried it to this humble Brother who was not on the Sabbath and put it in his arms. He took it while tears were rolling down his bosom. Then Ellen came and sat down by me. She was in vision 1 1/2 hours in which time she did not breathe at all. It was an affecting time.

All wept much for joy. We left Brother Bates with them and came to this place with Brother Edson. This is a dear family. God has blessed us here with them. Praise the Lord.

As for O.R.L. Crosier, we have not seen him. We have no desire to see him. He has given up the Sabbath and does not expect the Lord until 1877. Poor soul, he is shut up in gross darkness. We expect him at the Conference now appointed. I know of no one who agrees with him on time, not one. I see that B. Matthias is out with another Girdle. But I find no food there. He opposes the Sabbath. He fought it like a tiger at our Conference in Connecticut last April.

I will not help or support his paper in any way whatever. Here are they who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. Amen.

My brother and sister, here is the standard to rally around. Jesus has left His mediatorial throne. He is now claiming His new kingdom. Do you believe it? I hope you do. Well, this is the present "faith of Jesus." So the Shut Door and Sabbath is the present truth. These truths will form and keep up the same mark of distinction between us and unbelievers as God made in 1844. John, where did you see that little few who were always talking about the commandments and faith of Jesus? And who were so "peculiar" as to keep God's holy Sabbath? "Here" are they, etc. Well, I see them, for you have led us down in the 14th chapter of Revelation, step by step, so plainly that any one whose lamp still burns can see them. First is the Advent Angel or message of verses 6 and 7. This took place from 1840 to 1843. Second is another angel in the 8th verse crying, Babylon is fallen. This was in 1844 when we all rushed out of Babylon. Next a third Angel appears with a warning message for us not to go back and receive the Marks we got rid of in 1844. Well, here, yes, right here is this little despised company who embrace the seventh day Sabbath. Oh! how glad I am that I know my whereabouts. Yes, never was there a people whose position was so plainly

marked out in the world, as ours. We know where we stand. My dear Brother and sister, what reason have we to praise God that our lamps have not gone out! And these things forever shut from our eyes. Let us humble ourselves before God in view of His everlasting kindness to us. Glory to His dear name forever and ever. Amen.

Thank you for the \$1.00. I think a good work will be accomplished by this visit and you will have your reward for assisting in it. May God bless and sustain you is the prayer of your brother. In hope,

(Signed) James White