

# The Ellen G. White Estate

*87-14*  
E.G. White Research Center

(Incorporated)

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"Elmshaven" St. Helena, California

May 26, 1935

#35

*Copy*

Miss Franke Cobban,  
Sanitarium, Calif.

Dear Miss Cobban:

In response to your phone call I have gone into the matter of the visit of James and Ellen White to the St. Helena Sanitarium at about the time it was founded. From the documents which we have here in the office, it is certain that Elder and Mrs. White visited St. Helena, arriving on December 3, 1877 and staying until December 8 or 9. They were entertained at the home of Brother Wm. Pratt.

While here they found Dr. Kellogg working on the road, probably to the present site of the Sanitarium. Records would indicate that December 10, 1877, Dr. Kellogg commenced work. It seems that at the time of this visit the road was not yet built, so they could not go to the site of the building by carriage.

In a talk given at the Sanitarium Church on January 23, 1904 Sister White said:

"Many years ago, while my husband was still alive, we visited St. Helena, and helped to select the piece of land on which this Sanitarium has been built. As my husband looked over the valley, he said, 'Wife, if we ever have an institution here, we will build a house where from every window we can look upon the beautiful scenery that is all around us.' Ever since that time, I have looked upon this place with great delight." ---  
Elmshaven File MS-3-1904

We have no way of fixing the time of this visit. It is possible that this took place at the time of the visit in December 1877. If there was an earlier visit, we have no record of it.

These facts can be fit into the story as given on pages 7 and 8 of the "Golden Jubilee" booklet, if some modification is made in some of the details as given there. It seems they are given from memory. We find no indication of Dr. Kellogg's invitation as mentioned. Elder White and wife visited this place in conducting a series of week end meetings in this section over a period of several weeks. While here in December 1877 they stayed at the home of William Pratt. We

ST. HELENA  
BUREAU  
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ST. HELENA  
FRANK COBBAN -2-

do not discount the statement that Mrs. White claimed to have seen the place and surroundings before--in vision. This was not an infrequent experience. Our records here do not deal with this point.

If we can help you further in this matter, just let us know.

Sincerely your brother,

*A. White*

ALW:aw

P. S. I am enclosing Elder James White's account of his visit to St. Helena as described in the SIGNS of December 20, 1877. W