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"Elmhaven," Sanitarium, Napa Co., Cal.

January 13, 1904.

Dr. J.H. Kellogg,

Battle Creek, Mich.

E.G. White Research Center  
FILE COPY

Dear Brother:---

We are glad to hear that you are trying to do a very thorough work in the reconstruction of your book, which will be called "The Miracle of Life." You will certainly need the help of experienced men, like Elders Butler and Haskell, to be sure that it is free from the leaves of the new philosophical theology, so long as you yourself do not discern the dangerous tendencies in the old book.

You express sorrow that Mother did not give you a criticism of the book earlier. Very many were sorry. They were looking for her to speak on the subject, and several of us asked her to do so. But she seemed to feel forbidden to look at it until the matter of its dangerous teachings were revealed to her. Then she examined it briefly.

You know, Brother Kellogg, that Mother never accepts the task of reading new books and approving or criticizing them for anybody. She says that this is no part of her work. But if she is given something from the Lord to say about the matter or style of a book or periodical, she says it. Mother also says that her silence regarding a book or a proposition submitted to her, is not to be taken as an assurance of her approval. She says, What I have written in the past to individuals and churches, and what I have published in counsels and warnings, should be taken into account. And she holds

that the messages of counsel and warning should mean more to the persons spoken to, than to the person uttering the message.

Let me illustrate: <sup>25 Nov 1884 Nov Jan 13 1884</sup> At the close of a General Conference before Mother went to Australia, when efforts were being made to bring the various publishing interests and some other matters under one central management, Mother read to the General Conference Committee, managers of institutions, and other leading men, a lengthy testimony based on the warning of Isaiah 8:12-14. It is a warning against confederacy. Many were deeply moved by the message, and some felt that it had reference to our plans for the work of the G.C.A. But they did not wish to relinquish their cherished plans, unless they were assured by Mother that the testimony related to these plans.

Instead of seeking the Lord for light and clear convictions, they asked to see Mother, and asked her if that message related to their plans for the G.C.A. work. Mother said, "I do not know." Then they went away rejoicing, saying that the message did not refer to their plans, because Sister White did not say that it did. And they gave the message away to other men and other enterprises. But about seven years later this whole matter was presented to Mother again, and she was told that that warning did apply to the plans being laid for the G.C.A., and that the men who received the message should have discerned it. The message should have meant more to the persons warned, than to the messenger.

"The Living Temple."

Regarding the teachings in "The Living Temple," Mother wrote to the teachers in Emanuel Missionary College a letter, which was published in the "Evidences" of October 22, 1905, in which I find the following statements:--