

Preliminary draft.

This could change slightly after further analysis.

Rochester, N.Y. Feb. 17th, 1853

Beloved Brother [Uriah Smith]:

Annie has arrived, and all our hearts are filled with joy at her return. We have missed her much, and are now better prepared to appreciate her faithful labors.

During the period of her absence, a heavy task fell on me which I was poorly qualified and unable to perform. I begin to feel free.

I think of making two tours the coming Spring and Summer: one to Michigan and still farther West; another East. I think it will be the will of God for me to be much freed from the Office.

Brother, your composition, "The Warning Voice, +c." is excellent. I have no disposition to flatter any mortal. I speak the real sentiment of my heart. It is a valuable production thus far. May God help you to complete it to his glory. I love the production for it is a great truth teller. Its style is sweet, rich and impressive. It will attract attention, and do good. I shall let it remain in type and probably make it up finally after it goes through the Paper, in a neat pamphlet.

Go on and complete the work in the strength of the Lord. [2]

I rejoice at Annie's relation of your faith, and fixed purpose to go with the remnant that keep the commandments of God. Your writing shows that you are fast getting at your command the arguments, or theory of our position. May God bless you still with light, and make you useful in his cause.

I am not now disappointed that you and Annie are in the faith. A connection with your faithful mother in 1848, relative especially to her two loved children, Annie and Uriah, inspired faith in my own heart, that I should see you both with us in the faith. I have never wavered, tho, I never saw Annie till November 1851, and you till last Autumn. O, the love and mercy of God to us poor mortals!

Will it not be, the will of God for you to devote your energies, the short time we have to labor, to the interests of the publishing department? Not merely to set type but we want some engraving done, and, again, your help in conducting the paper is needed, especially in my absence. The labor is too much for Annie.

Will you write to me on the receipt of this? Please state your present feelings relative to coming to Rochester. You were [3] proposed to come, but my circumstances, business, +c, were such that I did not then feel free to make an offer that would be a suitable recompense for your labor. And now I can only say, come and share with us toil, care, perplexity, and food and raiment.

It would be my joy to make Annie and you happy; but the business will not allow any of us to expect anywhere near what equal labor would be repaid in other business. In fact, our faith would hardly allow it, unless to obtain means to use in this precious cause.

It would be a relief to me for you to speak freely on this subject, etc. I feel deeply the responsibilities resting on me, and wish to move just right.

I am weary and must close. Much love to your mother and Bro. John. This is written in haste, with an aching head, and weary limbs.

Yours in Love,

[Signed] James White