

October 29, 1903.

Eld. S. N. Haskell,
South Lancaster, Mass.

Dear Brother:-

At the Helpers' Meeting last night I told them about your promise to visit us and there was great enthusiasm. The helpers want to see you very much. A good many of them feel that these are rather dismal days. I should think so, too, if I did not know that above all the din and confusion and misunderstandings there is a kind Father whose love is everlasting and whose mercy never faileth. The trials we are having are all good for us, and the chastisements are doubtless all deserved. It is a great comfort to know that nothing can happen to us except what the Lord permits, so whatever comes must be for our good some way.

I shall be very glad indeed to get your revision of the book as soon as I can.

I have a letter from Elder Butler in which he says that he does not believe the Holy Ghost is a person. I am perplexed to know how he can believe the Testimonies, as Sister White says the Holy Ghost is the third person of the God-head. This seems to be the whole weakness of my book. I

have spoken of the spirit of God, the presence of God, and the life of God which are everywhere and in everything, and on which we depend for the performance of all our bodily functions, as a personal being, supposing this was a generally recognized view as Sister White has said it and the Bible itself uses the personal pronoun "he" in speaking of the Holy Ghost. But I am not prepared to discuss this question and never dreamed that this question was in my book, the Living Temple, at all; neither did I ever dream that there were any subtleties, mysticism, spiritualism, or any other wickedness there. I wrote the book earnestly praying the Lord to make it a blessing and a help. I have yet to hear of a single case in which anybody has been led astray from the Lord through the reading of it; but there must be something bad in it or it would not create such a disturbance. Whatever is offensive to good people ought to be left out; whatever comes in as a deceptive statement ought to be corrected, and I am relying upon you to help me get it right so I will not have to be held up as a malfactor. I have enjoyed a good measure of confidence and esteem for most of my life, - much more than I deserved, I am sure. Now I am going to have a chance to find out how to bear obloquy and public discredit. With the Lord's help I will try to be submissive and humble. The most I care for is a chance to work for my suffering fellows.

Last night I asked the family if they would undertake to sell one thousand copies of your book, and a great number of hands were raised; so you can send along the books and we will sell them right away quick. Your book is a beautiful book and