

copy for Eld. White

July 21, 1907.

Prof. F. R. Rogers,
Vicksburg, Miss.

Dear Brother Rogers:-

Your favor of the 16th Inst., addressed to Professor Ballenger, has been handed to me for reply. I will say, Brother Rogers, that we are in full sympathy with the work in the South. I feel more closely in sympathy with the work among the colored people after going to Africa than ever before. However, you are planning on doing a really strange thing, but I know that you do it innocently because you do not know our situation. There is no Conference in the world loaded with burden in a financial way like Southern California. The indebtedness of our institutions is about \$300,000. Instead of inviting people to come to our field to solicit this year, we have taken a man of our coasts and send him to the Middle West to solicit funds for Southern California.

In my judgment, it would have been a much better plan for your work to have gotten good, strong recommendations from the General Conference Committee, and also from the Southern Union Conference Committee, and then have gone to such prosperous states as Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa, the Dakotas, etc.. As regards your coming here, I will say, Brother Rogers, that we will personally give you a cordial welcome, and will give you an opportunity to present your views of the Southern work, but I cannot say that our Committee will allow you to make any appeal for finances to our people on the camp-ground. We have appeals to make to them whereby we would be glad to raise \$100,000 this year. Of course, this will be out of the question. However, we have a surplus tithe of \$5000 to \$6000 and, personally, I would favor our voting, at least, enough of this to pay your expenses to Los Angeles and return, and, possibly, the amount may reach \$500 or \$1000. I cannot say how other members of the Committee may consider this matter, but I think they would look upon it with favor. However, I am equally sure they would all look upon it with disfavor to allow you to solicit the field when our own needs are so great. It will surely not deter your coming nor displease you after you get here if we have a sum that would at least cover your expenses to our city from our surplus tithe.

Wishing you every blessing, I remain

Truly your brother,

G. W. Raser

FEN.