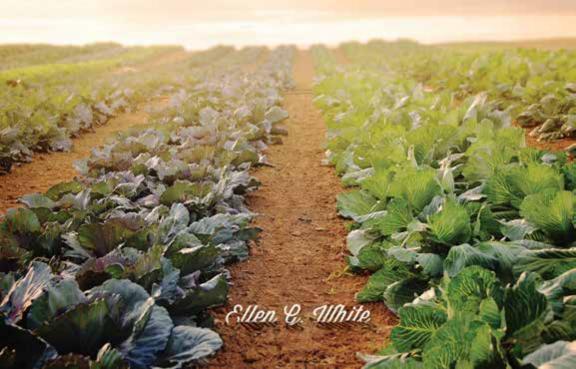
AGRICULTURE



COUNSELS on Agriculture

From the writings of Ellen G. White

Compiled by John Dysinger



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ISBN-13: 978-1-4796-0638-2 (Paperback)

ISBN-13: 978-1-4796-0639-9 (ePub)

ISBN-13: 978-1-4796-0640-5 (Mobi)

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016903510



To the Reader

"In God's plan for Israel every family had a home on the land, with sufficient ground for tilling. Thus were provided both the means and the incentive for a useful, industrious, and self-supporting life. And *no devising of men has ever improved upon that plan*. To the world's departure from it is owing, to a large degree, the poverty and wretchedness that exist today" (MH 183, emphasis added).¹

This is *the* quote that compelled my family and me to leave the "standard American life" and embark on the adventure of agriculture. If an agrarian life was God's ideal plan, then that's what we wanted! There have been lots of bumps, falls, twists and turns in the intervening 17 years, but we can honestly say we have no regrets about that choice.

When we started, our oldest child was not even 7; now she is 23 and married! Our four sons are now young men. I can't imagine a better place to raise children than on a farm. Although we had no idea what we were getting into when we started, and although we have made plenty of mistakes along the way, God has blessed us amazingly!

It has taken years for us to even begin to comprehend how all-encompassing the blessings of agriculture are. As I often remind my family, "It's not just about growing good food." It's about health: spiritual, mental, physical, emotional, social, moral.... There are very good reasons why God put man in a garden!

As we began experiencing the benefits of agriculture, we had a growing desire to share these blessings with others. One way I wanted to share was to put together a compilation of Ellen G. White's quotes on the subject. I felt if people saw all that this inspired writer had to say on agriculture, they would have to acknowledge its importance and take appropriate actions. That was many years ago.... But, well, let's just say that farm life is busy.

In the fall of 2011, my brother (and farm partner) and his family generously offered to cover the farm while our family took some time off. This was the opportunity I needed! After spending a week at Andrews University (Berrien Springs, MI) looking for unpublished Ellen White quotes on agriculture, we headed to Honduras for an amazing, God-directed, three-month sabbatical. It was there that the bulk of this compilation was completed. But that was in 2011! Well—did I say that farm life is busy?

^{1.} Please see the Bibliography on page 181 for a key to these reference abbreviations.

A couple years ago I returned to Andrews for another week of research—hoping to put the finishing touches on the project. But, I felt like I was trying to uncover an iceberg—there were always new quotes surfacing with no end in sight.

Then, just a few weeks ago, my dear wife told me she was sending me away to finish this project. I told her I didn't think I could do it—after all, we were in the middle of our farming season. But she is a very driven women and she, along with my wonderful family and some amazing apprentices, have managed the farm quite well without me.

As I have re-immersed myself in this project, I have been re-impressed with how important this topic is. This is not my project; this is God's project! This is His inspired counsel for the times we are living in. Everyone needs to read this! Agriculture is not just a hobby or an elective; it is an *essential* (her word, not mine). My prayer is that you will be convicted and compelled to action by what you read.

Just a few words of explanation about the construction of this compilation:

- 1. My original intent was for this to be an exhaustive compilation of everything Mrs. White had to say about agriculture. Well, that exhaustive quest turned into an exhausting one. Many keywords had multiple thousands of search hits—and then there were the many slightly different versions of the same quote. I now make no claims to have an exhaustive compilation, but I think it's pretty close. I am sure there are some hidden gems still waiting to be uncovered. If you find them, I'd love to hear from you!
- 2. It was my goal to get back to the original sources for all the quotes compiled—so readers could more easily research the context. I believe this has been largely accomplished—with a few exceptions where later variations seemed more appropriate.
- 3. Since this compilation is on agriculture, I chose to *only* use quotes that had agricultural terminology included. This left out *many* quotes dealing with manual labor, industry, outdoors, nature study, etc. where reference to agriculture was implied but not explicit. Again, there are a handful of exceptions.

- 4. The chapter divisions are arbitrary but seemed to logically emerge out of the quotes compiled. Although many of the quotations could have easily fit into more than one chapter, I chose the one I felt was most appropriate. I have diligently sought to avoid duplications of the same quote.
- 5. I endeavored to attach a date to every quote and have chosen to arrange them in chronological order within the subject area. Exceptions would be when Mrs. White reminisces about former days or where the subject matter fits better in a different order.
- 6. Every attempt has been made to include the reference just as it appears on the Ellen White online database—for easier further research.
- 7. This compilation is topical. I know of someone else who has been working on a chronological compilation of her writings on agriculture. I hope that will come to fruition because I think each has its place.
- 8. I have refrained from interjecting personal commentary into this compilation and have attempted to let the author speak for herself without my personal bias. The only exception would be that I have chosen some favorite "pull quotes" to emphasize throughout the book.
- 9. An inherent weakness of compilations is that they can take things out of their original context and often give an unbalanced view of the subject matter. I have endeavored to avoid these shortcomings. But, in this case, because the subject of agriculture has been so neglected, I make no apologies in overemphasizing it—with the hope of bringing it back into its proper balance.

It feels like this project, although only four years in the making, has spanned a whole technological revolution. My original research at Andrews was done using a typewritten card catalog and photocopied manuscripts. Then, in Honduras I used the Ellen White CD-ROM. Now I am finishing the project using the online research tool, www.egwwritings.org—which now (as of July 2015) has all her previously unpublished letters and manuscripts available at the click of a button! There's never been an easier time to study what this inspired writer had to say!

Although some may question the relevance of this volume in the 21st century, I believe it is present truth for this generation—and possibly

more relevant than ever before! May it be the springboard for deeper and more thorough research into the topics presented. More importantly, may it inspire a new generation of farmers and gardeners!

John Dysinger September 2015 Williamsport, TN

P.S. After spending considerable time recently searching the previously unpublished writings on the online database, I realize there may be more undiscovered jewels than I first imagined. I have added those I found, but now feel it is more urgent to get this out to the people than to have it more exhaustive.

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God's Plan for Man



The Original Garden

"I saw that the holy angels often visited the garden, and gave instruction to Adam and Eve concerning their employment" (1SG 20, 1858).

"God gave our first parents the food he designed that the race should eat. It was contrary to his plan to have the life of any creature taken. There was to be no death in Eden. The fruit of the trees in the garden, was the food man's wants required. God gave man no permission to eat animal food until after the flood" (4aSG 120, 1864).

"Although everything God had made was in the perfection of beauty, and there seemed nothing wanting upon the earth which God had created to make Adam and Eve happy, yet he manifested his great love to them by planting a garden especially for them. A portion of their time was to be occupied in the happy employment of dressing the garden, and a portion in receiving the visits of angels, listening to their instruction, and in happy meditation. Their labor was not wearisome, but pleasant and invigorating. This beautiful garden was to be their home, their special residence.

"In this garden the Lord placed trees of every variety for usefulness and beauty. There were trees laden with luxuriant fruit, of rich fragrance, beautiful to the eye, and pleasant to the taste, designed of God to be food for the holy pair. There were the lovely vines which grew upright, laden with their burden of fruit, unlike anything man had seen since the fall. The fruit was very large, and of different colors; some nearly black, some purple, red, pink and light green. This beautiful and luxuriant growth of fruit upon the branches of the vine was called grapes. They did not trail upon the ground, although not supported by trellises, but the weight of the fruit bowed them down. It was the happy labor of Adam and Eve to form beautiful bowers from the branches of the vine, and train them, forming dwellings of nature's beautiful, living trees and foliage, laden with fragrant fruit" (1SP 25, 1870).

"Even the great God is a lover of the beautiful. He has given us unmistakable evidence of this in the work of his hands. He planted for our first parents a beautiful garden in Eden. Stately trees were caused to grow out of the ground, of every description, for usefulness and ornament. The beautiful flowers were formed, of rare loveliness, of every tint and hue, perfuming the air. The merry songsters, of varied plumage, caroled forth their joyous songs to the praise of their Creator. It was the design of God that man should find happiness in the employment of tending the things he had created, and that his wants should be met with the fruits of the trees of the garden" (HR July 1, 1871).

"The Lord surrounded Adam and Eve in Paradise with everything that was useful and lovely. God planted for them a beautiful garden. No herb, nor flower, nor tree, was wanting, which might be for use and ornament. The Creator of man knew that this workmanship of his hands could not be happy without employment. Paradise delighted their souls, but this was not enough; they must have labor to call into exercise the organs of the body. The Lord had made them for use. If happiness consisted in doing nothing, man, in his state of holy innocence, would have been left unemployed. But He who formed man knew what would be for his best happiness, and he no sooner made him than he gave him his appointed work. In order to be happy, he must labor" (HR July 1, 1872).

"God prepared for Adam and Eve a beautiful garden. He provided for them everything their wants required. He planted for them trees of every variety, bearing fruit. With a liberal hand he surrounded them with his bounties—the trees, for usefulness and beauty, and the lovely flowers, which sprung up spontaneously, and flourished in rich profusion around them, were to know nothing of decay. Adam and Eve were rich indeed. They possessed beautiful Eden. Adam was monarch in this beautiful domain. None can question the fact that Adam was rich. But God knew that Adam could not be happy unless he had employment. Therefore he gave him something to do. He was to dress the garden.

"The Creator of man never designed that he should be idle. The Lord formed man out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul. It was the law of nature, therefore the law of God, that brain, nerve, and muscle, should be in active motion. Young gentlemen and ladies that refuse to labor because they are not compelled to, and because it is not fashionable, are not guided and controlled by enlightened reason. Those who shun manual labor, cannot have physical stamina. In order for the young to enjoy perfect health and perfect happiness, every organ and function must be in perfect operation as God designed they should be. If all the organs act their natural part, life, health, and happiness, will be the result. Too little exercise, and staying in-doors too much, will bring on feebleness and disease of some one or more of the organs. It is sinful to impair or weaken one of the powers God has given us. The great Creator designed that we should have perfect bodies, that we might preserve them in health, and render to him the offering of a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God.

"Exercise in useful labor will be carrying out the original plan of God, when he bade Adam and Eve to dress the garden. Life is precious, and should be preserved intelligently by regarding the laws of our being" (HR May 1, 1873).

"Many look upon work as a curse, originating with the enemy of souls. This is a mistaken idea. God gave labor to man as a blessing, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. Adam toiled

"God gave labor to man as a blessing, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties."

in the garden of Eden, and felt it to be one of the pleasures of his holy existence to do so. Later, when he was driven from his beautiful home, as the result of his disobedience, and was forced to struggle with a stubborn soil to gain his daily bread, that very labor, although far different from his pleasant occupation in the garden, was a relief to his sorrowing soul, a protection against temptation" (HR September 1, 1876).

[Alternate version] "Many look upon useful labor as a curse originating with the enemy of souls; but this is a mistaken view. Judicious labor is

indispensable to both the happiness and the prosperity of the race. God ordained it for man as a blessing, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. Industry makes the feeble strong, the timid brave, the poor rich, and the wretched happy. Adam labored in the garden of Eden, and he found in mental and physical activity the highest pleasures of his holy existence. When, as the result of his disobedience, he was driven from that beautiful home, and was forced to struggle with a stubborn soil to gain his daily bread, that very labor was a relief to his sorrow and remorse, a safeguard against temptation" (ST November 12, 1885).

"Adam and Eve came forth from the hand of their Creator in the perfection of every physical, mental, and spiritual endowment. God planted for them a garden, and surrounded them with everything that was lovely and attractive to the eye, which their physical necessities required. This holy pair looked upon a world of unsurpassed loveliness and glory. A benevolent Creator had given them evidences of His goodness and love in providing them with fruits, vegetables, and grains, and in causing to grow out of the ground every variety of tree for usefulness and beauty.

"The holy pair looked upon nature as a picture of unsurpassed loveliness. The brown earth was clothed with a carpet of living green, diversified with an endless variety of self-perpetuating flowers. Shrubs, flowers, and trailing vines regaled the senses with their beauty and fragrance. The many varieties of lofty trees were laden with delicious fruit of every kind, adapted to please the taste and meet the wants of the happy Adam and Eve. This Eden home God provided for our first parents, giving them unmistakable evidences of His great love and care for them.

"Adam was crowned king in Eden. To him was given dominion over every living thing that God had created. The Lord blessed Adam and Eve with intelligence such as He had not given to any other creature. He made Adam the rightful sovereign over all the works of his hands. Man, made in the divine image, could contemplate and appreciate the glorious works of God in nature.

"Adam and Eve could trace the skill and glory of God in every spire of grass, and in every shrub and flower. The natural loveliness which surrounded them reflected like a mirror the wisdom, excellence, and love, of their Heavenly Father. And their songs of affection and praise rose sweetly and reverentially to heaven, harmonizing with the songs of the exalted angels, and with the happy birds who were caroling forth their music without a care. There was no disease, decay, nor death. Life was in

everything the eye rested upon. The atmosphere was filled with life. Life was in every leaf, in every flower, and in every tree.

"The Lord knew that Adam could not be happy without labor; therefore, he gave him the pleasant employment of dressing the garden. And, as he tended the things of beauty and usefulness around him, he could behold the goodness and glory of God in his created works. Adam had themes for contemplation in the works of God in Eden, which was heaven in miniature. God did not form man merely to contemplate His glorious works; therefore, He gave him hands for labor, as well as a mind and heart for contemplation. If the happiness of man consisted in doing nothing, the Creator would not have given Adam his appointed work. Man was to find happiness in labor, as well as in meditation. Adam could take in the grand idea that he was created in the image of God, to be like him in righteousness and holiness. His mind was capable of continual cultivation, expansion, refinement, and noble elevation; for God was his teacher, and angels were his companions" (2Red 6, 7, 1877).

"The home of our first parents was to be a pattern for other homes as their children should go forth to occupy the earth. That home, beautified by the hand of God Himself, was not a gorgeous palace. Men, in their pride, delight in magnificent and costly edifices and glory in the works of their own hands; but God placed Adam in a garden. This was his dwelling. The blue heavens were its dome; the earth, with its delicate flowers and carpet of living green, was its floor; and the leafy branches of the goodly trees were its canopy. Its walls were hung with the most magnificent adornings—the handiwork of the great Master Artist. In the surroundings of the holy pair was a lesson for all time—that true happiness is found, not in the indulgence of pride and luxury, but in communion with God through His created works. If men would give less attention to the artificial, and would cultivate greater simplicity, they would come far nearer to answering the

purpose of God in their creation. Pride and ambition are never satisfied, but those who are truly wise will find substantial and elevating pleasure in the sources of enjoyment that God has placed within the reach of all.

True happiness is found, not in the indulgence of pride and luxury, but in communion with God through His created works.

"To the dwellers in Eden was committed the care of the garden, 'to dress it and to keep it.' Their occupation was not wearisome, but pleasant

and invigorating. God appointed labor as a blessing to man, to occupy his mind, to strengthen his body, and to develop his faculties. In mental and physical activity Adam found one of the highest pleasures of his holy existence. And when, as a result of his disobedience, he was driven from his beautiful home, and forced to struggle with a stubborn soil to gain his daily bread, that very labor, although widely different from his pleasant occupation in the garden, was a safeguard against temptation and a source of happiness. Those who regard work as a curse, attended though it be with weariness and pain, are cherishing an error. The rich often look down with contempt upon the working classes, but this is wholly at variance with God's purpose in creating man. What are the possessions of even the most wealthy in comparison with the heritage given to the lordly Adam? Yet Adam was not to be idle. Our Creator, who understands what is for man's happiness, appointed Adam his work. The true joy of life is found only by the working men and women. The angels are diligent workers; they are the ministers of God to the children of men. The Creator has prepared no place for the stagnating practice of indolence" (PP 49, 50, 1890).

"God gave Adam and Eve employment. Eden was the school for our first parents, and God was their instructor. They learned how to till the soil and to care for the things which the Lord had planted. They did not regard labor as degrading, but as a great blessing. Industry was a pleasure to Adam and Eve. The fall of Adam changed the order of things; the earth was cursed; but the decree that man should earn his bread by the sweat of his brow was not given as a curse. Through faith and hope, labor was to be a blessing to the descendants of Adam and Eve" (Ms8a-1894).

"The Lord has given to every man his work. When the Lord created Adam and Eve it was not for their happiness to be idle. Activity is essential for happiness, and the Lord told Adam and Eve to till and dress the garden. In this work of agriculture our every faculty is brought into action" (Ms185-1898).

"God placed our first parents in Paradise, surrounding them with all that was useful and lovely. In their Eden home nothing was wanting that could minister to their comfort and happiness. And to Adam was given the work of caring for the garden. The Creator knew that Adam could not be happy without employment. The beauty of the garden delighted him, but this was not enough. He must have labor to call into exercise the wonderful organs of the body. Had happiness consisted in doing nothing, man, in his

state of holy innocence, would have been left unemployed. But he who created man knew what would be for his happiness; and no sooner had he created him, than he gave him his appointed work. The promise of future glory, and the decree that man must toil for his daily bread, came from the same throne" (YI February 27, 1902).

"A life of useful labor is indispensable to the physical, mental, and moral well-being of man" (CTBH 96, 1890). (An alternate ending of the previous quote)

"It was not God's purpose that His people should be crowded into cities, huddled together in terraces and tenements. In the beginning He placed our first parents in a garden amidst the beautiful sights and attractive sounds of

nature, and these sights and sounds He desires men to rejoice in today. The more nearly we come into harmony with God's original plan, the more favorable will be our position for the recovery and the preservation of health" (7T 87, 1902).

"The more nearly we come into harmony with God's original plan, the more favorable will be our position for the recovery and the preservation of health."

"The system of education instituted at the beginning of the world was to be a model for man throughout all aftertime. As an illustration of its principles a model school was established in Eden, the home of our first parents. The Garden of Eden was the schoolroom, nature was the lesson book, the Creator Himself was the instructor, and the parents of the human family were the students....

"To Adam and Eve was committed the care of the garden, 'to dress it and to keep it.' Genesis 2:15. Though rich in all that the Owner of the universe could supply, they were not to be idle. Useful occupation was appointed them as a blessing, to strengthen the body, to expand the mind, and to develop the character.

"The book of nature, which spread its living lessons before them, afforded an exhaustless source of instruction and delight. On every leaf of the forest and stone of the mountains, in every shining star, in earth and sea and sky, God's name was written. With both the animate and the inanimate creation—with leaf and flower and tree, and with every living creature, from the leviathan of the waters to the mote in the sunbeam—the dwellers in Eden held converse, gathering from each the secrets of its

life. God's glory in the heavens, the innumerable worlds in their orderly revolutions, 'the balancings of the clouds' (Job 37:16), the mysteries of light and sound, of day and night—all were objects of study by the pupils of earth's first school....

"As it came from the Creator's hand, not only the Garden of Eden but the whole earth was exceedingly beautiful. No taint of sin, or shadow of death, marred the fair creation. God's glory 'covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.' 'The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.' Habakkuk 3:3; Job 38:7. Thus was the earth a fit emblem of Him who is 'abundant in goodness and truth' (Exodus 34:6); a fit study for those who were made in His image. The Garden of Eden was a representation of what God desired the whole earth to become, and it was His purpose that, as the human family increased in numbers, they should establish other homes and schools like the one He had given. Thus in course of time the whole earth might be occupied with homes and schools where the words and the works of God should be studied, and where the students should thus be fitted more and more fully to reflect, throughout endless ages, the light of the knowledge of His glory" (Ed 20-22, 1903).

"In the garden that God prepared as a home for His children, graceful shrubs and delicate flowers greeted the eye at every turn. There were trees of every variety, many of them laden with fragrant and delicious fruit. On their branches the birds caroled their songs of praise. Under their shadow the creatures of the earth sported together without a fear.

"Adam and Eve, in their untainted purity, delighted in the sights and sounds of Eden. God appointed them their work in the garden, 'to dress it and to keep it.' Genesis 2:15. Each day's labor brought them health and gladness, and the happy pair greeted with joy the visits of their Creator, as in the cool of the day He walked and talked with them. Daily God taught them His lessons" (MH 261, 1905).

"God gave to our first parents the means of true education when He instructed them to till the soil and care for their garden home." "God gave to our first parents the means of true education when He instructed them to till the soil and care for their garden home. After sin came in, through disobedience to the Lord's requirements, the work to be done in cultivating the ground was greatly

multiplied; for the earth because of the curse, brought forth weeds and thistles. But the employment itself was not given because of sin. The great Master Himself blessed the work of tilling the soil" (Ms85-1908).

God's Plan for His Chosen People

"The education centering in the family was that which prevailed in the days of the patriarchs. For the schools thus established, God provided the conditions most favorable for the development of character. The people who were under His direction still pursued the plan of life that He had appointed in the beginning. Those who departed from God built for themselves cities, and, congregating in them, gloried in the splendor, the luxury, and the vice that make the cities of today the world's pride and its curse. But the men who held fast God's principles of life dwelt among the fields and hills. They were tillers of the soil and keepers of flocks and herds, and in this free, independent life, with its opportunities for labor and study and meditation, they learned of God and taught their children of His works and ways" (Ed 33, 1903).

"By the distribution of the land among the people, God provided for them, as for the dwellers in Eden, the occupation most favorable to development—the care of plants and animals. A further provision for education was the suspension of agricultural labor every seventh year, the land lying fallow, and its spontaneous products being left to the poor. Thus was given opportunity for more extended study, for social intercourse and worship, and for the exercise of benevolence, so often crowded out by life's cares and labors" (Ed 43, 1903).

"In God's plan for Israel every family had a home on the land, with sufficient ground for tilling. Thus were provided both the means and the incentive for a useful, industrious, and self-supporting life. And no devising of men has ever improved upon that plan. To the world's departure from it is owing, to a large degree, the poverty and wretchedness that exist today" (MH 183, 1905).

"The pupils of these schools [of the Prophets] sustained themselves by their own labor in tilling the soil or in some mechanical employment. In Israel this was not thought strange or degrading; indeed, it was regarded a crime to allow children to grow up in ignorance of useful labor. By the command of God every child was taught some trade, even though he was to be educated for holy office. Many of the religious teachers supported themselves by manual labor. Even so late as the time of the apostles, Paul and Aquila were no less honored because they earned a livelihood by their trade of tentmaking" (PP 593, 1890).

[Alternate version] "The pupils of these schools sustained themselves by their own labor in tilling the soil or in some mechanical employment. In Israel this was not thought strange or degrading; indeed, it was regarded as a sin to allow children to grow up in ignorance of useful labor. Every youth, whether his parents were rich or poor, was taught some trade. Even though he was to be educated for holy office, a knowledge of practical life was regarded as essential to the greatest usefulness. Many, also, of the teachers supported themselves by manual labor" (Ed 47, 1903).

"The Waldenses had sacrificed their worldly prosperity for the truth's sake, and with persevering patience they toiled for their bread. Every spot of tillable land among the mountains was carefully improved; the valleys and the less fertile hillsides were made to yield their increase. Economy and severe self-denial formed a part of the education which the children received as their only legacy. They were taught that God designs life to be a discipline, and that their wants could be supplied only by personal labor, by forethought, care, and faith. The process was laborious and wearisome, but it was wholesome, just what man needs in his fallen state, the school which God has provided for his training and development.

"While the youth were inured to toil and hardship, the culture of the intellect was not neglected. They were taught that all their powers belonged to God, and that all were to be improved and developed for his service" (4SP 73, 1884).

God's Plan for the New Earth

"In the earth made new, the redeemed will engage in the occupations and pleasures that brought happiness to Adam and Eve in the beginning. The Eden life will be lived, the life in garden and field. 'They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.' Isaiah 65:21, 22" (PK 730, 1917).

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7 T	. Testimonies for the Church. Vol. 7. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1902.
Pamphlets:	
2Red	Redemption; or the Temptation of Christ in the Wilderness.
PH085	Special Testimonies for the Battle Creek Church.
PH117	. Testimony for the Battle Creek Church.
PH151	Selections from the Testimonies Setting Forth Important Principles Relating to Our Work in General, the Publishing Work in Particular, and the Relation of Our Institutions to Each Other.
PH164	Words of Encouragement to Workers in the Home Missionary Field.
SpTa04	Special Testimonies for Ministers and Workers.
SpTb03b	Letters from Ellen G. White to Sanitarium Workers in Southern California.

Periodicals:

Advocate The Advocate.

AUCR Australasian Union Conference Record.

BEcho The Bible Echo.

GCB General Conference Bulletin.

GH The Gospel Herald.

HM The Home Missionary, The Missionary Magazine.

HR The Health Reformer.

MMis The Medical Missionary.

PUR Pacific Union Recorder.

RH The Review and Herald.

SSW Sabbath School Worker.

ST Signs of the Times.

YI The Youth's Instructor.

Miscellaneous:

Lt Letters.

Ms Manuscripts.

SpM Spalding and Magan Collection.

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100 years before the terms "organic", "local" and "sustainable" were in vogue, Mrs. Ellen G. White was urging her readers to return to the land. The industrial revolution was pulling people from their agrarian roots, and she foresaw the end results. Although the world was heralding a new age of progress, she was lamenting a turning away from the "old paths."

In this volume you will find counsels for parents, teachers and school administrators, gospel and healthcare workers, farmers, and anyone else who wants to come closer to God's ideal lifestyle.

Unlike many who preach one thing while practicing another, Mrs. White was a passionate gardener. Reading diary entries and letters about her own work in the garden will encourage and amaze you.

Although this counsel is dated, it is particularly relevant to those living in the 21st century as they navigate through the technological revolution. May the reader hear the call back to God's original garden plan.

