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### Publishing Work Moves West

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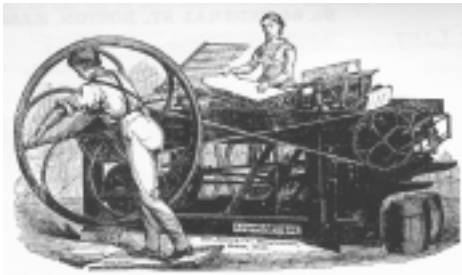
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## Publishing Work Moves West

Merlin Burt, Director, Andrews University Branch/Ellen G. White Estate by Merlin Burt



Adams New Patent Steam Press under manual power (The workers used it this way for a short while until they installed a steam engine.) The first issue of the *Review and Herald* published on this press was July 30, 1857. The first under steam power was October 8, 1857.

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It was at the Dorchester, Massachusetts, home of Otis Nichols in 1848, that the principal founders of the Seventh-day Adventist Church first became aware that the Sabbath, as the seal of God, needed to be proclaimed around the world. During that conference in Nichol's home, Ellen White received a vision that clarified the meaning of the sealing and urged the need to publish the message. She understood that God was holding the time of trouble in check until the sealing of God's people was finished. She was shown that to facilitate the proclamation of the Sabbath, her husband, James White, should begin to publish a paper that though "small" at first would be like "streams of light that went clear around the world". James White obeyed God's direction and began to publish *Present Truth* in July of 1849. As one reads the few issues of *Present Truth* and the first issues of the *Review and Herald* it is clear that the primary focus is on the Sabbath and its proclamation to the world in preparation for the Second Coming of Jesus.

The publishing ministry continued to expand. In 1852, with the help of Hiram Edson, the first printing press was purchased and began operation in Rochester, New York. Three years later it was relocated to Battle Creek, Michigan, in a newly erected publishing house. In 1860 James White, who owned the publishing enterprise, gave it to the newly named Seventh-day Adventist Church. Thus, in 1861, the *Review and Herald* Publishing Association became the very first official Seventh-day Adventist institution to be organized.

The Adventist publishing ministry has supported the spread of the Three Angels' Messages in many ways and remains the first of the three original outreach ministries of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (the other two being



The first printing press owned by Sabbath-keeping Adventists was a Washington hand press originally purchased in 1852 and used in Rochester, New York, before being moved to Battle Creek, Michigan.

medical and educational). Adventist Heritage Ministry plans to build a replica of the 1855 publishing house in Historic Adventist Village by 2005. May "streams of light" continue to flash the message around the world as we wait for the soon coming of Jesus. ■



A wood engraving of the 1855 Battle Creek Publishing House.