

## Correspondence.

Extract from a private letter from Mrs. H. C. Sanders to Mrs. Baker.

Paulpietersburg, Natal,  
South Africa, March 13, 1915.

Dear Sister Baker,—

More and more as the days go by and I am learning how evil is abounding, how Russelism is spreading and souls are stumbling and falling, I feel to praise God and to thank him for his marvellous care over Herbert and I, that amidst all these deceiving things we have been "kept by power divine" from falling. "No more than others we deserve, but God has given us more."

I think of those who went with Sanford and how they thought we should go with them. Then Doweyism, Russelism, Spiritualism and other false things, including higher criticism, etc. All of which we have come up against, but God has kept us from being led away and I thank him. One thing above all others that has helped is the study of God's word. To know what the word of God teaches shows up error.

For a very long time I have not heard from you and of late I have felt like writing to you, but lack of time to do all I wished has caused me to delay till now. We are always busy, you know, but sometimes there comes a bit of an extra pressure. In two weeks we have had three native weddings here at the station. These affairs make much flutter among our folks and consumes much time, etc., but they are very interesting. If I had time to enter into the details I am sure you would think so. Each bride gets a white dress, white gloves, shoes and stockings, a veil and wreath of artificial orange blossoms; has a bridesmaid to remove her gloves, if there is a ring, and to hold up the train of her bridal dress. There is a procession formed. The leader carries a long pole with a white cloth fixed for a flag and as they come and leave they walk slowly and singing hymns. We always have an impressive service in the church. The last one, on Friday, while we waited for some others to arrive, I improved the minutes by giving a short address on marriage, its sacredness and how binding the vows were. I drew a bit of a contrast between how men at home provide for their wives and children and how the heathen men do here. Jesus honoured and hallowed a wedding service therefore he sanctified it. If we were going to follow him in all things, then we should follow him in this. Such addresses are needed for a laugh has gone round when some have been married, the time the groom promises to endow the bride with his worldly goods, etc., for the people said—"he promises, but will he do it?"

A splendid time a week ago today at the covenant meeting in the morning. God blessed us much—ten seekers at the altar. Across the Pongola in about six or seven months ten new seekers have started. Johan Sukazi reports this. He needs training himself. We need more workers. Our work across this river is advancing faster than we can keep pace on account of shortage of evangelists. Only two there when three or more could be kept busy. I am praying God to raise up from among us others to help us. Many of our young men are away to work and some may return who can help us there before this reaches you. The young man who helped across Pivaan has gone away to work and we now have no regular one to send there. The others are working away with more or less result. Probably by the time

this reaches you Lydia and Elizabetha will take a trip of some weeks across the Pongola to help those who are believers to get a good thorough grounding into what it means to live a Christian. One thing, Herbert and I have always kept the standard up very high. They must know their sins forgiven, must give up beer (this is a questionable point with some workers) and all known sin before we take them into the church. If we would only lower the standard a bit we could have several more who want to enter now. One is a young woman who is not yet married to her husband. It is not her fault but his. He is enlightened very much and knows what it means to be a Christian (by the head I mean) but delays. Do pray for these two. She is so earnest, has such a definite experience on answered prayer, and is so hungry to follow Jesus.

The Zionists—the tongue movement—are still going on deceiving and being deceived, and their deceptions are being seen by some, at least. It is hard to see so many led astray, and we are pained by it. We do what we can. Help them by kindly, neighborly ways, etc., and try to keep all we can from following their ways. It seems horrible to me, the pranks they cut up, when they have an extra time by the "spirit."

We are all well at present. I have had several poorly spells since Ida went home and that hinders me in keeping up with my work as I should like. I am so thankful I am able to do what I can. God provides in various ways to help me out. I can see his kindness day by day. Have better help in the kitchen than ever before. Then to our salary—money came in a time just when we needed it. Food prices have come up and we are told they are still rising. We raise a good deal of our food but some we must buy. Cream of tartar used to be 50 cents now \$1.00 per pound; flour \$14.25 per bbl just now—it was \$16.00. Our storekeeper gives us a big reduction when we pay money down; so these prices are the reduced ones, other people pay more. We have bought groceries up ahead to last for a while anyway. Are using corn meal in our bread and eating much vegetables such as green corn, etc. Rebellion is quiet just now but not dead; I fear just waiting an opportunity to start up again. General Botha, our Premier, is leading our forces against the enemy in German West, a most difficult country—hot, little water, sand storms, etc. The interior remains to be taken yet. All ports are in our hands now. European war drags its horrible length along. My sister wrote me lately saying that both George and Thomas, my two brothers, have gone to the front. Mr. Howard Thurston's eldest son, Ray, is there also, so we feel for those who have loved ones there. I am expecting the Turkish Empire to disappear, or nearly so, before this conflict is ended. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Palestine should come under the protection of England? I consider this possible. All is quiet with us at present, but the Boer sheep farmers will be bringing in their sheep next month and May.

Faith and Paul, in spite of their going to school, are a great help in mission work and we are encouraging them all we can. Hope nothing may turn them away from their purpose and expect them to make better missionaries than we have been. It would do you good to hear Judson and Miriam pray to grow up to be missionaries and save lots of heathen.

Now, be encouraged. The Lord bless you in all things and uphold you during these awful

## W. C. T. U. Column.

### W. C. T. U. SENDS LETTER TO THE LEADER OF GOVERNMENT AND TO THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR—WANT LIQUOR TRAFFIC STOPPED.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of St. John has sent to Lieutenant Governor Wood and Premier Clarke letters of which the following is a copy:

St. John, N. B., April 21, 1915.

The Hon. George J. Clarke, Premier of New Brunswick, and Legislative Assembly, Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Sir,—As daughters, sisters, wives and mothers we are coming before you in the form of this letter to pray you to use your whole and individual influence to give this province a prohibitory law, or in other words prohibition.

Surely, if we read the true meaning of this awful war crises, God will overrule it, to give our nation prohibition and rid it of the greatest curse known since time began.

And when the men at the head of our nation say the liquor traffic is the greatest enemy Great Britain has to fight, why in the name of our God, do not the governments of our overseas colonies rise in their much boasted loyalty and stamp it out?

If possible for Russia, and we must admit it is, why not for Great Britain and her colonies? And what of the other nations who have had such a law for years?

Could there be a more opportune time for our own government to make a name for itself in the eyes of the nation, world, yes, Heaven, than the present, by putting itself on record in this matter? Surely not.

And mark you gentlemen if you don't, you as a body collectively and individually will lose your opportunity, for a year hence, if not sooner, you will be compelled to grant it, for God is going to do with the sword wet in the blood of the men of our nation, what the governments have refused to allow the sword of the spirit of God to do.

If right for the province of Prince Edward Island to take this stand, why not for New Brunswick? Is our government more policy ridden, or more lacking in principle, and the courage of its convictions?

If not, quit yourselves like men of metal and bravery like our soldiers at the front, worthy of your position of trust at this hour and rid this province of our fair dominion of the curse of the licensed liquor traffic, and in doing so make it much easier for the other provinces, to which this is a gateway.

You will kindly have this read before the Legislature in the interests of all women of the four relations to man of which we have spoken.

Yours respectfully

THE WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN  
TEMPERANCE UNION.

If it wasn't for the hard knocks from our enemies, the fondness of our friends would ruin us. God didn't fill Job's nest with thorns just to see him squirm, but He saw he was determined to die in his nest and was nearing a dangerous precipice and God turned the devil loose on him to save him from ruin.—*T. H. Nelson.*

days of falling away from God. Let us be true at any price.

With much love, ever your friend,

ELLA.