

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Hartland,
Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa

Dear Friends:

Yesterday we had about the largest congregation ever at communion. I do not think I got them all and I counted about two hundred. I judge there was from two hundred and ten to twenty-five. As there were very few from across the Pongola and all are connected with either this station or the many outposts, you can get a good opinion of how our work is enlarging. Nearly everybody here were either believers or seekers. This is very encouraging to us, but there are also many grave problems to be solved as they are but children.

Our church is 20 x 20 ft. and was packed. I do not think Europeans can crowd themselves into as small a space, sitting, as these natives know how to do, and yet the church could not hold them. I counted sixty-five out at the door and windows who had no chance to get in to the first meeting which was testimony. The second meeting was an open-air under peach and apricot trees, so there was a good shade for all and plenty of room. We had a good time, many spoke of the victories they had won over trials and temptations. Many reported their standing and then asked for prayers that they might go on to know God better.

Six new converts were baptized yesterday and one of these is the mother of Jeremiah, an epileptic who was a member of our church but died a few months ago. His mother took his death very much to heart. I had a few minutes talk with her and she told me how the things of earth were slipping away and now she wanted to serve Jesus. Her heart was full.

It is sad to hear them talk about their parents, brothers, sisters and friends who are not saved; they ask prayers for these and tell how they themselves pray for them in secret but some hearts are so hard they only desire the things of earth that appear. More than half of our congregation yesterday was young people under twenty. Herein lies our future success in as much as we are able to build up these into strong men and women for God. They will be a strong church, shedding a bright light around them or weak and of no use to God. The Bible class still continues and is the real source of strength and enlightenment. All may bring perplexing problems and from God's own word have them solved. One can see the difference in the experiences of those who do not. All of the evangelists are doing good work at present and new ones are being added to their congregations.

Now what are our difficulties? Many and some I could not explain as they are so foreign to what we have at home. Polygamy is a terrible evil and all have to combat it if they are to follow Jesus. Some of the other denominations surrounding us have many among them who are married to one wife but on the sly have another wife. Satan is very cute and the law seems to be of little avail to a certain extent. If a man does not "lobola," give the necessary ten cattle she is not considered his

wife, but his concubine. If he does give the cattle then the law can take hold of him as a bigamist for he was married first by Christian rights. Now how can the church keep them from taking second or even third wives for many of the Zulus take their promised wives, "lobola," five, six or more cattle and bring them home to live with them. After some time the rest of the cattle are paid. Being brought up with polygamy it is difficult to make them see many fine points or the sin of it. Those professors who so wish to live, find plenty of scripture to plead their case with. However, Christ's teaching is plain and quite enough but one must be thorough and also constantly teaching. We do need your prayers on this special subject for I can see a crisis is upon us over this very thing and we shall need more wisdom than we possess to cope with it successfully. Truly "many are called but few are chosen." So few wish to give all and follow Jesus.

Food is dear at present, rain holds off so new crops will be late; looks like famine ahead. People are planting in the dust. Yesterday Christians all over the country were praying for rain. Very hot days now and then too, summer heat is upon us without the cooling showers we so much need.

We are all in good health at present and enjoying the blessing of the Lord, living beneath the shadow of his wings and glad to be of service to him.

Ever yours in Him,
MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

REV. C. J. FOWLER, D.D.

The Christian Witness of Nov. 6th was almost entirely devoted to the late editor, Rev. C. J. Fowler, D.D. This is a very proper tribute to the strongest leader in the holiness movement. We trust God will raise up other as unbiased and strong men as outstanding reliable and unswerving, and as true to the principles of holiness as all who were in close acquaintance with Dr. Fowler found him to be.

DULL OF HEARING.

Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.—Paul.

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.—Christ.

I have fed you with milk, and not with meat; for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able—For ye are yet carnal.—Paul.

The Bible condemns lukewarmness in religion. A lukewarmer is an uncertain quality, he goes up or down with the temperature of the meeting. He never lifts the weight of a feather.

It took a very large fish to swallow Jonah—How much of a circumstance does it require to take you down?

J. Campbell White said that not yet has there been a billion minutes since our Lord was here. But there are a billion heathen yet. If the Christians of America gave even one-tenth to God, over a billion dollars a year would flow into the Lord's treasury.

"Never apologize for the financial objective," he said.

THE GOSPEL SUFFICIENT.

"The calm answer of Paul and Silas to the question of the jailer was, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved.' They were not afraid of that gospel which they came to preach; they did not count that which God had made free, it would not be prudent for man to clog with conditions. They did not say to themselves, 'This wicked, this hardened jailer must not be encouraged to believe too soon in the forgiveness of sins; he must be kept at a due distance for a while; and then some glimpses of hope may be given him, and the prospect at some future day of full pardon.' Not so; but the rich treasure-house of God's grace was thrown open for him to help himself, and to make himself rich with the best gifts that were there."—Hastings' Great Texts.

ONE GIRL'S INFLUENCE.

"A lawyer, who has for forty years been eminent in his profession, and no less eminent in Christian work and in princely gifts to the cause of benevolence, tells this story of what fixed his course in life: When he was a young man he once attended a missionary meeting in Boston. One of the speakers, a plain man, said he had a girl in his domestic service, at a wage of less than two dollars a week, who gave one dollar every month to missions; she also had a class of poor boys in Bible school, who never missed her from her place. And he said of her: "She is the happiest, kindest, tidiest girl I ever had in my kitchen." The young man went home with the three broken sentences on his mind: Class in Bible School—dollar a month to missions—happiest girl. The first result was that he took a class in Bible school; the second was a resolve that if the girl could give one dollar a month to missions, he could, and would. These were the immediate effects of one plain girl's consecrated life. But who can count, who can imagine the sum total? That lawyer was, for almost half a century from that time, an increasingly active force in every good work within his reach."—Selected.

PRAY FOR YOUR PREACHER.

Dr. John Watson, better known to many as Ian Maclaren, in the early years of his ministry determined to preach without manuscript. He took into the pulpit a single sheet of paper containing a few notes. Sometimes his memory failed, and he would say: "Friends, this is not very clear. It was clear in my study on Saturday, but now I will begin again." The people never showed any impatience. After a sermon one Sabbath morning a gaunt Highlander elder went to him, and said: "When you are not remembering your sermon, just give out a psalm, and we will be singing while you are taking a rest, for we all are loving you and praying for you." In after years Dr. Watson said: "I am in the ministry today because of the tenderness and charity of those country folk, those perfect gentlemen and Christians." The generous behaviour of the people to whom he ministered acted upon his nature as spring sunshine and showers act upon all vegetable life; it called out all that was best in him.—Exchange.