

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

P O. Hartland,
Natal, Dec. 15th, 1918.

Dear Highway:

So glad you came to us again by last mail! I wonder if you seem so like a "friend from home" to others who live far away. We receive so few personal letters from the home land that were it not for the precious Highway, we would have little idea of the doings of churches and friends. But with the Highway we can find no fault. Its pages are full of "news from a far country," and other soul food.

Christmas is most here. Faith, Paul and Bertha have each bought a goat to have slaughtered for the feast at Balmoral. Five goats or more are needed, and nearly a barrel of corn, etc. As I look forward to this coming event, I remember many old men who always attended these feasts and listened to the gospel, the only times they ever heard it preached. They have passed away the last few years, together with others who never attend our regular services.

We often speak about the breaking down of prejudice. This fact is continually brought to our notice. Large kraals that for perhaps ten or twelve years after our first coming, were closed to us, are now asking for the gospel.

More workers are needed. The liberal offerings of "Our friends" mentioned in Sept. 30th Highway—\$200—will, we trust, be instrumental in winning souls to Christ.

For "Our Friends" we are doing the best we can to find two worthy native workers. This effort may fail. If so, why not add a little more to the offering and give us a worker from home? Surely we need one! Our prayer is, "Come over and help us."

The life is strenuous and full of self-denials, but rich is the reward in souls won to Christ. They are coming forward now faster than ever before, and we need more help to care for them.

Instead of recovering her strength quickly, Faith continues with her symptoms of nervous prostration. The climate is against her, but we hope for the best.

In the meantime, however, the work she was doing falls on other shoulders, mostly on mine.

Personal conversation with native church members and seekers, is one kind of work that brings rich harvest. Regular correspondence with all our absent boys, and they are many, is another equally important branch of our work. Where is Bertha? She, too, is on the shelf, great prostration after the "flu." D. V. I shall have an auto some day which will make it easier to give such ones a change and chance to regain their health. Other missionaries have furloughs and vacations, etc. It is thought to be economy in the end. But we have not asked for this, thinking that somehow we would be all right without it.

We hope you all will pray the Lord of harvest that He send us one or more helpers very soon. It takes two years you will remember before the new ones are considered competent workers.

The last time I made this appeal, "the war" was given as an all sufficient reason for refusal. We trust God has some one ready, and you will arise and send them out without delay. Then you will be pushing in the line of the resistance—this is true economy. You will be giving more souls a chance to intelligently hear of Christ before they pass away—this is His last and great command.

Ever yours in Christ,
H. C. SANDERS.

Hartland P. O.,
Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa,
Dec. 20th, 1918.

Dear Friends:

This has been a good day here, Communion Sunday. About 80 people present. Four baptized and received into the church and four children presented to the Lord. Ana, Aloni's little girl, was baptized today. Years ago she was presented to the Lord and now comes in as a member. Her parents say of her, "she is keeping the ways of the Lord." Of course she has advantages over other children her age, and we hope will become a good worker for Jesus in the years to come. The others seem very bright cases. One Mestshiak, five years ago was a student for a witch doctor then he came under conviction for sin and finally, almost two years ago, was saved, gave up all heathen practices, left off beer and snuff, etc., and is happy in the Lord, having the witness within that he is a child of God. The two women had children and brought them today to present to the Lord as I have before stated.

Though the people came late, still we had time, after the baptism, for a good testimony meeting and before we were through had appointed a deacon to look after the sick, visit and pray with them, the weak ones and those who are drifting away. This we have so needed but had to make our own deacons out of heathen material, so it has taken a long time.

Then, another thing which I have so long desired and prayed for is to see the church wake up to their great need of coming to the Bible class for special training in Bible and church covenant, that each one may be able to give the reason for the hope within him and, most important be better able to withstand the fiery darts of the devil. All seemed to take a better hold of it than ever before and we are to begin afresh after Christmas having it Wednesday a. m. and our class in the afternoon making it only one trip for those so far away. Do make this Bible Class a subject of prayer that it may be used mightily of God to the strengthening of the whole church from the evangelists down to the smallest church member. The awful heathen practices held out to each believer by his relations and friends and often so hard for them to keep away from, especially if only one in a kraal is a follower of Jesus.

Quite a little offering in money, also three goats for Christmas. This makes six goats which will give quite a feast especially with the corn cooked as rice.

Oh, I am praying this may be the very best Christmas yet for drawing the heath-

en to God. They need him so, are so helpless without him as they are dupes of the devil, led captives at his will. Their witch doctors deceive them, their superstition and customs all tend to draw them away from God and yet they are souls for whom Christ died.

My heart is still in love with missionary work. It is just about the hardest work I know anything about for it includes such a variety of things. There are often great hindrances and discouragements, burdens continually, separation from kith and kin and home land, privations and loneliness (for Europeans seldom sympathize with missionaries but rather criticize them) and a great many other things which make life far from an easy one, but the joy of life being in a meeting, gazing into the faces of these one time heathen and hear them tell how God saves them, blesses them and keeps in times of testing and temptations, the joy, I say, swallows up all that I have written before. It seems different from the joy of seeing folks at home, who have a strange, deep, sweet surprise to really see how Jesus' precious blood can change the Ethiopian and make a new creature out of him.

I am sure you nor I will ever have one regret for all we have done for Africa. I am stirring up my heart to do more if possible. This has been with me for several weeks now and God is answering prayer. As I write a warm, deep love for the lost is flooding my soul. It is a reaching out love that will mean prayers, tears and wrestling with God to save these lost heathen. God is willing, God is able and he asks us to work with him to do it. We will, will we not?

Sincerely yours in Jesus,
MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

P. S.—O yes, four other seekers were put off on a little longer probation

The Church is facing a tremendous crisis. It is wavering between intellectualism and supernaturalism. The prayer meeting is going. The rooms in which were heard strong crying with tears, now resound with flashes of wit and wisdom. A few there are, thank God, who see the peril and are crying out for the "old path" that leads direct to God, through Jesus Christ. We rejoice that thousands of God's children all over the world are seeing that the hope of the Church is in its ministry; that prayer is the inlet and outlet of the supernatural. Eliminate prayer from the Church and she becomes, like any other society of the earth, earthly. On the other hand, revive the prayer meeting, revive the family altar, let the ministry say: "We will give ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word." Let a united Church say, "Let us pray," she would soon evangelize the world. Neither man nor devil can stand before a united, praying Church.—Living Water.

"He is not dead, the child of your affection, but gone into that school where he no longer needs your poor protection, and Christ Himself doth rule.—Longfellow.

"Sin, shame and strife stalk where God has been shut out."