

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

"Balmoral" Mission Station,
Paulpietersburg,

Sept. 17th, 1925

Dear Highway:

"At first I did not see the way, but now I do, and am very hungry for God." So said Vangile, wife of Mandundu. And she continued telling how Nomatshelaka, a sister-in-law, is slowly weakening with consumption, from which her husband died. "We all greatly desire to be taught and prayed with. We wish there was some one to visit us daily. No one comes except Aloni, our native preacher, and her own brother, and he so seldom. I am praying God to save me from the slough of beer-drinking and all my sins." And so she went on describing just how she longed for genuine salvation. I tried to encourage her, and have since been asking some of our Christians to visit and pray with that kraal.

The headman, her husband, called a little later and asked medicine for a badly sprained shoulder. He had been thrown from his horse and rendered unconscious, but no permanent injury has resulted.

This gave me opportunity to again warn this man, who is sinning against much light. Awhile back he was openly seeking the Lord. But lately has been calling demonstrators to attend the sick members of his large family (he has three wives).

I told him how that last Wednesday, the day before his accident, I had prophesied concerning him, saying in our class-meeting that God would not permit him to go on much longer in wilful, high-handed sin, without sending some sudden judgment upon him. Two of our native evangelists were present, and helped drive the message home. He seemed impressed and penitent, but finds it hard to break away from heathen customs and the honor of his office as police to his native chief.

At our Sunday service there were quite a few, in spite of rain. One woman testified to much blessing from the Lord, and gave her infant son to be the Lord's own—and to become a preacher. To grow up on this Mission Station and be taught. All this and more was in her testimony, emphasized by tears and crying. A few months since, she came here, a helpless, hopeless, expectant mother, having lost all her former children. She was even contemplating suicide, a thing very rare among the Zulus. Now she is happy in the Lord, and lives with us as her nearby relations did not make her welcome.

Another similar case is old Loisi, whose son lives on this farm. She is a proverbial mother-in-law, and came here to avoid the endless strife that made her life and theirs unbearable. She had lost all the joy of the Lord, and was filled with great bitterness of spirit; but now is enjoying a better experience.

This Mission Station is thus a harbour of refuge to storm tossed souls as well as bodies. One who testified in our meeting today is a hospital patient, a young woman, an epileptic, who recently fell, in one of her fits, onto a large iron pot. It turned on its side over the fire, burning her severely, but keeping her from the live coals beneath. There she lay, uncon-

scious, until her mother came and found her thus. For some months she had been seeking the Lord, and now speaks of great joy in her heart.

Just before our meeting closed today, George arrived home, in the rain, from his outpost service.

Later, our Bible woman, Befu, arrived from her outpost, six miles distant, thoroughly drenched.

Her old mother testified in our meeting today. She is a miracle of grace, saved at the eleventh hour, after rejecting light for the last twenty years. Now she seems wholly given up to the Lord and saved from heathenism, and beer and tobacco and prays, "Oh Lord, drag me along after Thee in the path that I should go."

Our Faith is just now laid aside, recovering from severe weakness, following influenza. It is not easy to look on and not help, when one has seen the vision of the wide harvest fields. However, we know that He doeth all ahings well.

We realize, too, that we are His for suffering and sacrifice as well as for service. He is the head, and we the members of His body, to move or not as he bids. My hand does not think, but moves as my mind directs, so we all, as members of His body, should move only at the impulse of His directing thought.

Our Mission work here has ceased to be a small one; but we rest in God, feeling that He is in control, and is guiding all for His glory and the best good for all parties concerned.

It is ours to wait upon Him, in vital touch, and with a harkening ear. We are to bring all our burdens and cares to Him, and then cease to know a fear or a worry. For "the peace of God that passeth all understanding" will keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Yours trusting in Him,

H. C. SANDERS.

"SO SPAKE"

By A. J. McKinney

Among the values of Scripture is that which reveals methods of success in God's work. The pessimist may think the labor of soul-saving always was problematical and largely fruitless. Revivals of various success are on history's pages. Thousands have been saved at times. Some 70,000 in the early days of the present century in Wales. In a single verse at Acts 14:1 is recorded a gracious harvest, pending from a single contingent: Paul and Barnabas "SO SPAKE" that a "great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed." Research discloses elsewhere the elements of this "speaking." Specification first: "Spake the word of God with boldness." This in answer to prayer just prayed, "Grant unto Thy servants that with all boldness they may speak Thy Word without fear." Again: "Spake boldly from the space of three months." The first records of the converted Saul of Tarsus tell: how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus." Of Apollos: "And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue."

Other elements also: Not only did Paul say, "Great is my boldness of speech towards you [but], great is my glorying of you . . . I am exceedingly joyful."

David's hope for the desert of Israel was the return of the preacher's joy. A third of the constituent elements of the kingdom preached is "joy in the Holy Ghost," which being true suggests the propriety of speaking with joy. Joy at conversion, finishing the course with joy, and finally "present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy," justifies the joyful speech of the evangelist.

Another specification: "Speaking the truth in love." Another: "In demonstration of the Spirit and power." These with sidelights on the tone, temper and manner of the preaching discloses the secret of success. Dozens of books have been written on "The Secret of Power," and multiplied words without knowledge. The "simplicity which is in Christ" was more to the great apostle than many and divers qualities highly esteemed among men.

The simple natural, becoming and fruit-bearing elements of the preaching of the early ministry of the gospel have accompanied all successful evangelistic efforts through the centuries since. They have been imitated and counterfeited, and the deception covered also the minister who fondly dreamed his bitterness was charity and his braggadocio was authority, but the forgery but proves the genuine. Counterfeit brings the thing forged into disrepute. Nevertheless the genuine retains original value. Sound doctrine administered with dogmatic and bossy mien is sound doctrine still. Boldness, love, joy, and tenderness are none the less essential elements in gospel publication because of abuses under the guise of zeal for religion. Brief contemplation of the being, attributes and magnitude of the God of salvation with the vastness and power of the message of redemption would seem to forbid any crouching, cringing or feeble presentation by the ambassador. Asked why he did not attend church a great lawyer of the West told the preacher, "I am an admirer of man and manhood, and at church I have so uniformly listened to apologies and excuses for the weakness of church members that I am sick at hearing such, and this is my reason for absence." Indeed, the gospel presented at all, is worthy the most possible positivity, confident certainty, and if it contain hope for the populace, with joy and liberty. The listlessness and hesitancy and lassitude often seen is shameful, disgusting to all auditors. The "so" in the declaration that "God SO loved the world" is said to hide the essence of salvation. Also the "SO" of history which tells the successful labors of the early evangelists reveals the plan of theirs, and that of successors in the field of preaching. "So Spake." A creditable writer on successful soul-saving says no preacher called of God is called to fail. But the qualities, elements, tempers, affections and methods of the first successful labors must be copied, or repeated or duplicated. A never-changing government needs never change its constitution. The gospel was instituted by infinite wisdom, and is so far perfect, complete and beyond the need of improvement that all attempts at changes neutralizes or ruins it.

McPherson, Kansas.