

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Hartland P. O.,
Paulpietersburg,
Natal, So. Africa,
Jan. 26, 1926

Dear Friends:

It is mail night and I want to get this letter off by this post if possible.

We continue to have very hot and abnormally dry weather, so the summer affects us all more than usual. No one can foretell what kind of a winter we shall have, but I think since it has been abnormal in flood and cold we may have a cold and wetter than usual winter here with a scarcity of food as all crops are light indeed.

I want to tell you more about the work at Bucu's across the Pongola where I visited with Paulina. I shall put the article in two chapters so if it is too long the editor will not be so bothered. The account is Paulina's report of work done, villages visited and people prayed with, meetings held, etc.

BUCU, CHAPTER I.

From this mission station to Bucu's the distance takes four and a half hours of smart walking and wading across the Pongola river which, at this, our summer time, is liable to be in flood any time. It flows for many miles through very high and steep hills (mountains) for its banks and often when we have had no rain down here it is full from bank to bank from heavy rains up country sixty and more miles away.

Now I shall repeat many things she told in her own words:

"I was afraid I had to go alone as the day, Saturday, was nearly gone and I could not find another girl to take Zaudilie's place. (This girl is always ready to go). But the Lord comforted my heart by telling me, 'Do not worry about this as it is my burden.' Shortly one came who said she would go and I was glad. I remembered too, once before I had just such delay and was much tested over it before I found one to go, but then God greatly blessed us and I thought He must be going to give us an extra good time the next day.

It was very late when we arrived at Meleli's (the head-man of the village), and we found the people getting ready for bed. But we had prayers with them and tried to show them the path to Heaven from the lesson in John 14.

"Meleli had a dream that impressed him so much he awoke his wife and they both cried and were afraid to go to sleep again. He dreamed he was walking along the road to Heaven, and that he was burdened. Soon he found that it was his sins that were so heavy; then he heard a man say 'The time is finished, hurry up, your sins stop the way before you.' So he went on and found that it was so—his sins did burden him and stop up the way—then he awoke. His whole body was sick, and he had a great fear. He trembled and awaking his wife told her to strike a light and dress, then not knowing what to do, he and his wife cried till morning.

We visited a near-by village to have prayers with them and the headman here was so grateful for a gift sent him and said, "What shall I say for I am a man

with many sins. Beer is my great sin. I know not how I shall enter there (Heaven) for you say no sin enters there." He could not stay, so left us. Some others seemed concerned for their sins too while we were having prayers with them.

Returning to Meleli's we had breakfast and then opened the meeting.

I felt led to speak on Heaven and the forsaking of sins before we can enter there. We must confess sins and I gave them my experience and how I had to go and confess to folks I had wronged and now I know all my sins are forgiven. This testimony made Meleli groan and turn his head to one side with great conviction.

The girl friend who came with me, also testified to having great sins but now she knew they were all forgiven.

Next to testify were two girls, new converts, who had only been baptized Christmas Sunday. One is the headman's sister. They both gave clear testimonies and, one especially, hardly knew how to contain herself. The tears streamed down her face and she finished by saying, "I wish my heart could be yours so you would know how I feel and know this blessing."

It was a great meeting and we all were much blessed of God.

When bidding the head-man farewell he asked, "How is it all you believers of this church testify to knowing your sins forgiven? I even see it by those whom I live with and by their works that they know their sins are forgiven. Pressing on home we realized he was a very hungry soul and we hope will soon find the Lord."

CHAPTER II.

Greatly desiring to visit a new place much farther on from Bucu's, Paulina and her regular helpers left on Friday noon the following week so as to spend Saturday visiting some of these villages.

They had a very profitable prayer-meeting at Bucu's that night, not even one falling asleep.

Early Saturday morning they started off to pray with an old woman who seems to be slowly dying of dropsy.

She has been a seeker for some time, but recently has found peace in sins forgiven. Her testimony was, 'Even if I die I know I shall dwell with Christ. The way is bright, when I look up I see my Saviour.' At this village are four women and a man eager for prayers. The man said, 'You are like a real doctor because you have showed her (the sick one) the way.' From there they went still further and came to the village of a man who had spent several weeks here, being treated for diseased condition of his feet. He had received much spiritual help during his stay here and continued to go on after he returned home, teaching his wife to read, having family prayers, etc. He was very glad to see them and the girls stayed all night with them.

They found that this man lived with his wife's father and brother. The latter is an evangelist, but never has prayers with his own village people and seems to be in a very low spiritual state. He would not even come in with them at their prayer meeting which they held Saturday night on their return from visiting.

At one village they had quite a few out

to their little meeting and all listened eagerly and said, "We have no one to teach us the way." These wished them to come soon again and pray with them and teach them the way.

An old sick man was rejoiced to have a visit from them and told them this: "The things of earth do not satisfy. I want to be a Christian but I need some one to show me the way. I give myself to the Lord today and I entreat you to soon return and pray with me. All my sins are seen by God. I want to leave them; they do not help me."

They returned to have the Saturday evening prayer meeting with the man whose hut we had. He had gone with them that day and marvelled he could walk so well. It had been a very hot day and one of the girls had a bad sun headache. But the housewife had prepared something extra for them by the way of some eggs which they greatly appreciated as they realized the supply of a great need they were reminded of God's care for His own.

Early on Sunday morning a sick woman asked prayers. She had been treated by a demon doctor who had caused a demon to enter into her to eat up her disease. She prayed thus, "Lord, help me and enlighten me. Pray for me; I want to be a Christian, but I do not know the way."

On the way back to Bucu's they met a man hoeing his garden and said, "Father, why do you weed in your garden on Sunday? Come along with us to meeting." "Oh, is it Sunday? Yes, I will come to meeting. I forgot it was Sunday."

A woman who was on her way to borrow some food, also turned back with them and come to the meeting also.

Coming to a village at Entuluka they had such a nice meeting there and met some more hungry people. The head-man said, "You are wise to take such a way (to Heaven); it is right."

There are so many villages at this place but they did not have time to call all the people, but had a good meeting with those who came, said Paulina.

The meeting at Bucu was well attended and much blessing from the Lord. Meleli said, 'I want the Lord in deed and in truth.' Two of his wives are seekers and progressing well.

Their return home was uneventful and the old snake who has frightened them several times at a certain place in the path was not there when they passed by.

My friends "The harvest is great but the laborers are few."

Yours in Him,
MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

P. O. Hartland,
Paulpietersburg,
Jan. 14th, 1926

Dear Friends:

Let me pass on briefly what the Lord gave us for our class yesterday: "Peace." This grace is the fruit of the Spirit and is described in God's word as "great," "perfect" and it "passeth all understanding."

At the breakfast table yesterday morning, I asked: "What is the source of this peace?" Judson answered promptly, "The Prince of Peace," which is correct, as we