

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

P. O. Hartland,

Natal, July 4, 1926

Dear Homeland Friends:

We tried to have our Post Office named Balmoral, but as there was already one in Natal, we chose Hartland, and everybody wants to call this station "Hartland Mission Station." It looks like we must yield to local public opinion and accept the name they give us. The first name, as you remember, did not stick, but this third one probably will.

Paulina reports one new seeker, son of Fogo. How well I remember his father. His was the first case that opened the door into the confidence of these people. I was called to attend to his scalp wounds, after he had fallen over a precipice. Considerable of his skull was lying bare when I arrived; and I agree with them that he would have died under native treatment. From the time of his recovery our influence has been steadily increasing.

Befa reports two who are just now beginning to attend her services. They will probably "nikela ebandhleri" (give themselves to the church) from a month to six months later.

Across the Pongola last Sunday communion, two new seekers "nikeled." One of these is a boy who listened so intently while I was speaking. He reminds me of our much valued and spiritual worker, Inya Sangweni. I so clearly recall his first coming to our meetings. He looked so green and tall and awkward and rather unpromising. But today he is a rare jewel that will "shine as the stars for ever and ever."

Let me remind you of an illustration I used in my last letter to you. A poor man had picked up a rare and valuable ruby, but died in poverty, not knowing its value. His son had a dream that sent him to have the stone valued—\$200,000. Thus the eyes of his understanding were enlightened. All about us are precious souls, more valuable than rubies, but we seem as if ignorant of their true value. God knew and gave his own son that they might be rescued. Christ knew and gave himself that they might be redeemed, cleansed and polished.

Paul knew and could wish himself accursed from Christ that unbelieving Jews might be saved. It is he who prays that "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know the hope of His calling." What is this "hope" that Christ had and has for every member of His church? Paul will tell us: "That I may apprehend that for which I also am apprehended of Christ Jesus." Then verse 11 of Phil. 3rd chapter . . . "I might attain unto the resurrection from (among) the dead." R. V.

Did Paul fail to attain? We think not, and place him as one of the twelve Apostles. Then it was his name that stood among the twelve written on the foundations of that golden city that John saw. This then was what Christ hoped for when He called Paul.

What was the plan of Christ when He called you, reader? Let Him answer: Rev. 2:7, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life." This is step one. Six more follow. Rev. 2:11, "Shall not be hurt of the second death." This is holiness

of heart that comes after conversion (eat of the tree of life). How do we know? "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection. On such the second death hath no power."

After the "Second blessing" comes true progress, the sustaining "manna" and sealed orders or an appointed sphere of service. Rev. 2:17.

The fourth thought in the mind of Christ for His victors has to do with service in the next life, the millenium, Ch. 2:26, "I will give him power over the nations."

The fifth expression, unfolding the hope of our calling, as seen by Christ, Ch. 3:5, speaks of the bridal robe and the introduction to the Father and the angels.

This will be glorious, but better follows: Ch. 3:12, "him . . . will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out; and I will write upon him" three names, etc. The first name identifies the honoured one with God. The next with the Bride of Christ, the golden city. The third with the Bridegroom, "My new name." How wonderful, and yet more to follow. Rev. 3:21, "I will grant to sit with Me in My throne." Thus we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ," and as kings and priests, shall reign with him for ever and ever. This is the fulfillment of "The hope of your calling," as from the lips of the glorified Son of God.

Then "what shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" This is the question Christ asked in the light of His second coming, with His saints.

A bride in looking forward to her wedding day makes no end of preparation. She hopes to be altogether lovely in the eyes of one man. Shall we, who "love his appearing," be less zealous? Daniel foresaw this glory: "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

The Heavenly Bride is to be arrayed in "fine linen, clean and white," and also to be adorned with all manner of precious stones. Let's suppose that these "jewels" represent precious souls won for Christ, and that for each thus won there is an added star to the crown. Then some persons will wear many stars in their crowns and others few, some none. Daniel says some shall shine as the "firmament," while others—The soul winners as the stars in that firmament.

But who can say where God places the credit for a soul won? Perhaps to the unseen person who only prayed. Perhaps to the one who cast into His "treasury all her living." Only He can award the crowns and the stars. The love that counts sacrifice a joy for Christ's sake has promise of first place in the coming glory.

I forget how many millions worth of jewels were worn by an actress in a New York theatre. A jewelry firm loaned some of its most costly gems for the occasion, and saw that a competent police force guarded the women while thus dressed. When this star actress stood before the great assembly and the lights were so arranged as best to show her glory, there was profound admiration and praise.

But the Heavenly Bride will be adorn-

ed in jewels, not borrowed, but her own; won down here by prayer, sacrifice and tears.

And this, beloved, is the "hope that Christ entertains for every member of His body.

Yours in "The hope of His calling,"

H. C. SANDERS.

Bucu, Transvaal,

South Africa, July 13th

Dear Friends:

Beulah is past with all its blessings and opportunities! We expect to hear of great help and blessing and have enjoyed much the privilege of praying for it and you all.

At present I am once again on the hill or mountain of Bucu, across the Pongola river and among the kindly heathen people, who are hungering for God.

I have with me only one native girl, Paulina, one of our native workers, and whose field this place is. She certainly has been faithful in sowing the seed and has come to help to remove stumbling blocks out of the way of some who are ignorant and yet longing to get saved.

We had about 40 present at our Sunday meeting, 13 of which were forward as seekers. A good meeting and blessing in spite of a determined crying child, whom no one seemed able to quiet, and who persisted in staying so near the hut that its noise bothered much and there were other things to disturb and annoy, but one must expect the devil to do his best to upset any attempts we make to rescue these souls from heathenism.

Thursday, the 15th, a man who is doing some preaching among a mixed people and who knows only a little himself, came today for help and instruction. He knew his sins were forgiven but knew also he needed something else, but was quite ignorant of the Holy Ghost, how to receive him and what He could do for those who received Him.

We took six hours in constant teaching by scripture, and at the close he made such a beautiful surrender to God and said as he left us, "My heart is full of praise to God."

He will be our evangelist in a needy section on the outskirts of this place and about six miles from here. In the evening, being very weary, Paulina and I were about to prepare for bed when two boys came for prayer and help and we spent more than an hour teaching them so as to clear up some misty ideas they had which were stumbling blocks. One is a young convert and recently gave himself to Jesus in one of Paulina's meetings. A consumptive with only a short lease of life prayed his first prayer for forgiveness of sin last Sunday when we visited him. Afterwards he saw how awful was his witchcraft in the sight of God and cried to him to forgive him for that. Now he has received the witness of sins forgiven and is so happy in God he does not know how to praise Him enough, and wonders if he cannot get strength enough to come to meeting on Sunday to witness to the saving power of God.

A test came too that shows his case is