

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

Hartland P. O.,
Paulpietersburg,
South Africa,
April 8, 1926

Dear Highway Friends:

Just a week ago your missionary, Sister Faith, received the cablegram from the homeland friends saying "Come for Beulah." Of course she is delighted; and I feel to praise God very much for this opportunity she has to visit the homeland once again. She is getting a well deserved furlough. These words came to me: "She hath done what she could."

She will be greatly missed here by us all, and the natives especially, as they all love her so much. But my prayer is that the blessing of the Lord may be upon her. I know she will be a blessing to you all, and I know you will have some wonderful missionary meetings with her. She, who has been brought up from a child among the natives and knowing their language and habits so well, and best of all whose whole heart is in the work, will be able to tell you all you want to know about these natives. I don't expect Dr. and Mrs. Sanders realized when they first came here to the mission field, how their work was going to be multiplied many times by their children. Paul and wife are fighting a battle alone in a lonely spot in Zululand, no other white people near; for miles around they are the only white people to be seen. But by the blessing of God, they will make good the waste places there. Paul is a wonderful young man, and his wife also is very capable and both know the language so well, which the natives appreciate so much.

There will be a farewell service here for Faith just before she leaves. This week she has gone to Durban to go up to Zululand to make Paul and family a short visit; on returning she will have just a few days here before leaving for Canada. We are all greatly interested in this event. The homeland seems a little nearer and I know will seem nearer still, as we will read her whereabouts at home in the Highway. I feel sure that it is the Lord's will for her to go home at this time, and we praise God.

Last Sunday was Big Sunday, "Easter Sunday." We had five meetings, the blessing of the Lord was felt; three were baptized.

Joeli's baby boy was given to the Lord. The weather is some cooler for which we praise the dear Lord. It is so good to feel it cool.

A few days ago Alice and I went to visit a kraal about eight miles away.

The husband of the kraal had died three days before. He died trusting in the Lord, but up to a short time before his death he was a real heathen, had three wives and a number of children. One of his wives is a Christian. As we neared the kraal we met several people leaving the home. They had been there wailing with the relatives—this is the way the friends show their sympathy. This is the heathen custom, and is just like the old Jewish custom which we read of in the Bible. The heathen have other Jewish customs as well. We stayed four hours

there to rest ourselves and our horses as well. We had two services while there. Some of the neighbors came to the meetings, and the Lord blessed His word.

The scenery on the way to this place is really grand in some places; there are some very steep hills on the way, but a very good road most of the way.

We are very much interested in a little Christian girl who lives at this place. She lived with us last year for five months, and is a very bright and interesting child and a dear little Christian. Last week we went to visit a young Christian girl who has just been taken by a heathen man to be his wife. This is against her will as she does not like him, and don't want to be his wife. He has one wife already, but this marriage was settled long ago by the parents of both parties when they were both children. The cattle have been paid in a long time ago, and the girl's heathen brother has taken them to pay for his wife now. It was very sad for us to visit this girl and to see her in this new home, as a slave you might say. May God help her is my prayer. She feels keenly the injustice of it all, where she has not had a chance to choose a husband of her own liking, like some of her more fortunate sisters. This girl is from our outpost at Lindeni's kraal. I believe if she had gone to court and had the courage to stand out against her two heathen brothers, she would have won the case and would have been free from this life of unhappiness. But there are many such cases and many many unhappy wives among all heathen women. Homeland friends, thank the Lord for living in a civilized land, where a woman has a chance to live in peace.

The three young converts at our outpost are rejoicing in the Lord. We have heard from the young daughter who is working a long way from here at her white man's farm.

She is seeing the tender care of her new found Saviour every day, and is rejoicing in Him.

The married son was also called to the white man to work, but was taken very sick while there, and laid by for several weeks. So now by the consent of the white man he has returned home, and will work for him here by watching his sheep which will come down from the high veldt for winter grazing. He is praising God for the privilege of being home for the winter months and for being able to attend the services. The mother's eyes were shining as she told me about the workings of the Lord in their midst. There are many others at this place, full of darkness, a number are seeking the Lord, but not willing to give up all yet. Continue to pray for them, dear ones. Alice has gone to visit an old sick man on this farm. He cannot live very long, and his heart is still in darkness. He is one of those who has had chances to hear the Word many times, but would not. We pray he will truly repent soon.

A sorrowing mother left the hospital today with her only surviving child, a baby in her arms she is taking the baby home to die. It has been sick for some time, and was treated by a native doctor, and then at the last brought it here, when it was too late to help it. So often this is the case. The poor mother is to be pitied

as she has lost a child every year for three years. It looks like as if they have been poisoned by some enemy. Remember her in prayer.

It will soon be the harvest time again. Then after the reaping is finished, the winter school will open again—the children will then be free. They do enjoy the school life so much.

I expect when this letter reaches you, many of you will be thinking about Beulah. May the services be greatly blessed of God. Remember us in prayer, beloved.

Yours in Christian love,

HELEN M. STERRITT.

WHAT CAN A LAYMAN DO TO HELP THE CAMP MEETING?

I, A, J, Ward

This is a very important question, and one too much for me to answer, but will offer a few suggestions which I trust will be of benefit:

The first thing that comes to my mind is, if a layman is to be a helper in a Camp Meeting (in fact any meeting of public worship) he should by all means be a saved man, and even in the less important places of a Camp Meeting that must be looked after if saved helpers can be procured, the work would go along much more smoothly.

God has and always will honor his word and save some, even though they may be out of their place, yet I feel often the Lord will not or cannot honor or bless some things we do.

A layman in my mind can help the Camp Meeting most by being a praying man and do much of it on the Camp Grounds. Nothing will produce genuine results like prevailing prayer.

Laymen can help the Camp Meeting by going prepared, not to be repaired. Laymen can help the Camp Meeting by going to boost on every essential line and be united with evangelist and ministers in spirit to "knock" the Devil.

Laymen can wonderfully help the Camp Meeting by knowing his place and filling it.

Laymen can help the Camp Meeting by attending to the minor things, thus relieving the ministerial brethren, is that they can give themselves wholly to the spiritual field in which they should be much more capable than laymen.

Laymen can help the Camp Meeting by going free of his own burdens and cares, and pardoned for souls.

Laymen can help the Camp Meeting by esteeming others better than himself.

Any layman who thinks he hasn't any faults (and I trust there is none so unwise) and cannot overlook them in others he can best help the Camp Meeting by staying home.

"Confess your faults one to the other." A layman can be a help to Camp Meetings by going with a spirit willing to fill the humblest place.

"If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye also should wash one another's feet" (Jesus).

This also can be applied to laywomen. "Above all, let nothing be done with strife or vain glory. Do all things without murmuring and disputing.

Have fervent Charity among yourselves.