

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland P. O.,

Paulpietersburg, Natal,

May 13th, 1926

Dear Highway Friends:

Just a few lines to say we are all well, and enjoying a little winter weather. Faith left us early Tuesday morning and by now is on the ocean, starting for the homeland. The Lord has blest her very much in her going. Sunday was the farewell day for her. It was big Sunday, and the people brought gifts, as had been suggested to them by Faith, for a thank-offering to take across the ocean to the people who had sent the gospel to them.

It was real touching to see them all, as they brought their gifts of love.

A young widow who is dying with consumption, made such a pretty beaded grass bag, and sent to her. The tears came to my eyes when I saw it, for I knew it was made by loving hands, and a heart full of praise to God for she is a Christian.

Another widow who has lost the sight of one eye this summer, gave her a shilling saying, "This is the farewell offering from my children to you." I thought this was so touching, as a shilling meant a lot to her, especially now where she is afflicted. She lives on our farm, and my heart goes out to her very much, and is made sad indeed to see her today so change from six months ago when she was well and cheerful. Now she looks and acts like an old woman. She has suffered much pain these months and lost a lot in weight.

We trust and know that it is for her good in some ways. My heart cried to the Lord as I saw Matula, a married man, come up with his gifts one from his wife and one from himself. As he placed them on the table my heart yearned for his soul, as he is one of the worst drunkards in this place. How our hearts long to see him come to the knowledge of the saving grace of God. May it be done. Truly God is able. Remember him in prayer, dear ones, this coming winter.

Oh, it was touching to see the many ones presenting their gifts, and saying good-bye to the one they love so well—they will all miss her very much and many a prayer will go up for her from these black people who have white hearts.

Dr. Sanders gave out toward the close of the service that there would be wanted ten women or girls to carry her luggage to Paulpietersburg, and stated that they could be paid for their services. I was talking to one of the carriers today who said, "We did not ask for money. We helped the 'Inkosazana' from our hearts—we wanted to help her to go nicely, and we did it for the sake of the church and for the sake of our Saviour, who died for us." They were all so glad to do their bit for her sake and for the sake of the gospel. We feel to thank God for these sincere testimonies.

It is beautiful to see these black faces shining for God.

I am writing this bit of the farewell service for the dear ones who will not be able to attend Beulah, and for those of our number who are living far away from the home churches.

Faith will be able to tell you all so much more about this farewell service than I am able to write.

I went yesterday about four miles away to visit a sick woman. After riding perhaps about two miles, I came in sight of some marvelous green hills which was a feast to my eyes—a wonderful sight indeed. There are many such hills now due to the burning of the grass a couple of months ago, and the recent rains which will serve as pastures for the winter grazing of sheep. May you have a blessed time at Beulah. Loving greetings to you all. Yours glad to fill a little place in Africa,

HELEN M. STERRITT.

Hartland P. O.,

Paulpietersburg,

Natal, So. Africa

May 16th, 1926

EVERYDAY HAPPENINGS AT BALMORAL

May 4th—Lydia Ukasi very sick with influenza.

May 5th-12th—Lydia Ukasi still very sick. Different ones of us visit and minister to her needs and pray with her. Finally Sister Helen takes charge as nurse.

May 9th—Communion Sunday and Faith's farewell. Splendid testimonies and a spirit of going forward in spiritual life predominates in the Church.

Tears and sobs heard here and there as Faith gives her address. Many tokens of their own handiwork were brought and presented. How these Christians love her. Their prayers will follow her till her return.

May 10th—Monday last of the sewing and final preparations, packing, receiving of visitors to bid good-bye, etc., very full day.

Tuesday, 11th—She rides off to nearest neighbor, who has offered to take her half way in his trap and horses which will be better than by horse all the way. Another neighbor, 8 miles beyond, will take her to town; for all this we are so thankful.

Our son, George, goes with her as far as Durban and will see her safely aboard ship, etc.

After they have gone a sheep farmer calls and requests help in an accident which has befallen him.

Team of 14 mules takes fright at a nasty cutting on mountain side, and mules, wagon, native girls and load all go over the mountain side, turning over three times in doing so. No one is killed and only one mule hurt, and one of the girls bruised a little. These girls managed to get off after wagon turned over the second time. Wagon wheels quite good, but tent and body smashed.

Dr. Sanders lends donkeys and our wagon and they get things up from far below the road.

Wednesday, the 12th—Class day. Very cold. Winter seems really to have set in. Have a fine meeting and quite a few out.

Much sickness about among the people but usually a form of influenza. Lydia is improving.

Thursday, 13th—Faith sails today at 10 a. m. Our hearts are with her and we commit her into God's hands.

A Dutchman calls, heartbroken over loss of his wife. Forty-two years of mar-

ried life and now left so alone as his children are all married and away from home. Dr. Sanders quotes to him many precious promises and I sing, "The Pearly White City." He breaks down and sobs, but is comforted, for his wife was ready to go and he says all things work together for good.

We strain and take care of about 45 lbs of honey from wild bees which our boys (sons) have captured and hived. We will sell most of this. One boy wishes to help him buy a shot-gun.

Sept. 15th—Callers again. Two men by motor cycle and side car. One comes to look after his sheep which he places in a near-by farm. The other is his friend, who wishes to sell Dr. Sanders a few acres of land in Utrecht district, but the doctor refuses.

This man is a priest to a new church, modern Catholic, lately come to Durban. We find it has very wide views, will receive any body into its membership who believes in the brotherhood of man.

Many who helped write the Bible were not inspired as the others.

Believes in Theosophy, purgatory, etc., etc. We have a chance to talk a little about a real live experience God gives the believing soul who accepts Jesus and tell him we are sorry to see he has been deceived.

Sunday, the 16th—Dr. Sanders goes across Pongola. Judson fills George's appointment and we fill in a little place here ministering to about twenty people who come here.

Sisters Helen and Alice are also away to meetings at the kraals.

Monday, 17th—Another farmer calls and wishes Dr. Sanders to help him by bringing in the wire for some fencing he expects to do.

Tuesday, 18th—Full day. Magistrate comes in a motor to collect taxes. Some new changes in the law.

We are very glad to hear Befas poor old husband is among some exempted from paying as he is too old. This lifts a burden from her shoulders as she is the one who has had to find the money as he is not much of a man to provide such things.

Yours in Jesus,

MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

Brookline, Mass.

Dear Brother Trafton:

Enclosed find my renewal to the Highway. I love the paper and look forward to its coming.

Your sister in Jesus,

MRS. ANNIE HORTON

On the evening of June 28th the members and congregation of the R. B. Church of Marysville, as well as members of other churches met at the parsonage and gave the pastor and his wife a genuine surprise. The evening was very pleasantly spent, after which refreshments were served. Before departing Deacon Cochrane in a well-worded address presented the pastor and his wife with a well filled purse, and the Young People's Praying Band presented Mr. Dow with money to buy a Bible. Mr. and Mrs. Dow replied in a fitting manner, expressing their surprise and gratitude. The Lord bless this faithful band of people is our prayer.