

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland,
Natal, So. Africa

Dear Friends:

He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless return again, with him."

For several weeks I have wanted to write about our native evangelists and their work. Taking one at a time and giving the gist of the weekly reports which they bring, I will begin with Befu Kumene, supported by Beals S. S.

She is still a young woman of thirty-five or so; has an old man, lately seeking Jesus, for a husband. Is his only wife and has three living children, the eldest a young man. Her experience is saved, years ago, sanctified about two years or possibly three, and is enduring great trials, but getting victory and going on to know God better.

I do not remember how many years since she first began work, but it must be more than seven.

Her field is a large one, in that it covers long distances and she is one of the very best soul-winners we have had.

April 1st: Held meeting at Ekuvumeni but only a very few present. Some were away to mourn for several who had died. One, a man across the Pivaan, had died that week and his friends from here went to "cry," as they say, for him. This man, two years ago, used to beat his wife every time she went to meeting; would not allow her to believe, nor come to Balmoral for baptism. Two years ago Befu and I visited this woman, encouraged her and told her God would open up her way, she must have patience. How little we thought he would die. A baby died at another place and later news says the parents have been comforted over their deep sorrow.

A young man at another village had died also. So Befu's congregation was small and only eight were present, but they had a good meeting.

April 8th: She was with us for Communion Sunday here.

April 15th: Across Pivaan river to the kraal or village of Mandhlebe Kumene, a sort of relation of hers.

Five people, including this man, have given themselves as seekers and were so glad she had come again to visit and pray with them. Mandhlebe himself is sick.

Monday 9th: She and another woman went and visited those I mentioned as having lost some one by death. Three different kraals, this side the Pivaan, Meshiyaka Kumene had died and left his wife with practically no one as her caretaker, so they found her in great distress, but so glad to have their ministry of prayer.

April 22nd: At Kwa Budhluwini where we had such a fine meeting when I went itinerating among her people last year. The baby that had died had been a great blow to the parents, but were comforted, and only twelve were present—there should be over thirty when all come, but for some time from three villages they have not come owing to the bad influence of one.

Also at Ekuvumeni where 16 were present and an extra good testimony meeting.

April 29th: At Kwo Budhluwini, 15 present. Good meeting.

Esita, one of the church members at Eku-

vumini went across the Pivaan for Befu to see Mandhlebe who is still very sick.

She found the Tongues folks had visited him, insisted he give himself to their church, then they would pray for him to get well. They urged him almost with threatening, but his reply was, "No, I have given myself to God, laid all my sins at his feet and I will not leave the Umfundisi and join you, even if I die."

He gave a very encouraging talk for only a recent seeker and seems near the kingdom. Esita had prayers with the village and, as several were sick, they appreciated her visit much.

Befu wishes to get a woman from here to accompany her and go some day this week to see these people again.

She also held a meeting at Ekuvumeni, where 27 were present, gave excellent testimonies and all had a blessed time in the Lord.

On top of the mountain, at this place we have a new school, begun in January. There are at present 17 pupils—two are men of near 40 and his wife—these are all doing well. Especially so is this man and 7 children, who have finished the primer. This is a new school and this is a great success.

This man, Johan, has recently come to us from another church, but has worshipped with us for years. He and his wife are splendid helps to Befu in her work as they often take a service at one place while she goes elsewhere.

Befu has a donkey to use when she wishes, as she travels long distances. Her nearest appointment to Ekuvumena is at least 12 miles and down a steep mountain to the river valley. This must be a descent of 1,000 ft., perhaps more.

She has been opposed by another in her work, till she was almost ready to give up, but God has enabled her to get the victory and she is being a help to others. Next time I will take another worker. I have given you only a partial report of her work. I have not told how she has instructed a wife not to fight with the other wife of her husband, but to have patience with her. Nor how she has visited others again and again, praying with their sick.

Pray for our workers. They try to live up to all they know.

Yours in Jesus,

MRS. H. C. SANDERS

Later: Judida gave such an interesting bit of a report I must add this:

She is a widow, has several children and often goes to pray with the sick.

Early Sunday morning she and Marta, Filimonas' wife, visited four villages.

At one a young woman believes she has demons. Strange, but singing seems to arouse them. She was delighted to see these two Christian women come to pray with her, and wishes them to come often as she is very earnest about having these demons cast out.

At another kraal an elderly woman is almost ready to give herself up as a seeker and welcomed their prayerful help.

Before they got away a woman came up to them and said: "Why did you not call me as I am wanting to be a Christian too and would have been so glad to have been here to be prayed with."

After they had visited and prayed with all these places they went to Lydia's outpost and got part of her meeting. Judida said "the

young man, Mdiniso who nearly died with pneumonia lately, was to meeting, stood up and asked for prayers and wished them to come often to his place and pray with him." "Yes, answered Judida, you should give yourself to God for you were about dead."—E. S.

Altona Transvaal

Dear Highway Friends:

I thank the Lord so much for the privilege of being here once again. I left my sister home this time, as she is still waiting for her horse from the high veldt, and as Miriam and Grace are both away in Durban on a well deserved holiday, she is helping Dr. Sanders with the medical work.

On April fifteen, Sunday, Joeli Mahlaba and I left home for Entungweni for big Sunday. We arrived there in good time for the meeting. I spoke on Eph. 5, first twenty verses. Samuel was here for the first time in five months. His foot is better, but far from well. The people were all so pleased to see him once again; they love him very much, and he is so good, his testimony was a real blessing to all. The church was full, and we had a very sweet service. I truly enjoyed the testimonies of Samuel, Joeli, Isaya, Jona, Tomasi and Solomon, and as I listened to them I did praise the Lord for these dear servants of His. The Holy Ghost is just the same in Africa among these black people, and they are taught by Him. May the Lord most wonderfully use them. I have our little native girl with me. So after the service she built a little fire and boiled some water in a tin can for tea. I ate my lunch but seemed too tired to enjoy it, but in the evening I went up to the Sukazi kraal to have prayers, and got most wonderfully rested. I had such a sweet blessed time with them. My little girl and I slept that night in the church. Next morning Joeli and I left for Altona, our little girl taking a shorter way over the hills. We had a nice cool day for which we were thankful. After arriving there Isaya and Joeli put up the tent, and I was soon getting things fixed up a bit, and the little girl was soon boiling water for tea. After lunch I had a little talk with the folks, and then was glad to go to bed as it was then eight o'clock. Early Tuesday morning the chief Mbekepi came to call a few minutes, telling me he was so glad we were coming to live among his people. I found plenty to do that day looking after matters of the school. Isaya is so glad to have me here. In the afternoon we went up to have prayers at the chief's kraal. It did not take long to have twenty or more people fill the hut to hear the word. We certainly had a very blessed time there. We always do at this kraal.

Wednesday morning Joeli, Isaya and I started after breakfast to put in a day of kraal visiting. We had three different services, called on some sick people; we had the privilege of again talking to the heathen. I cannot explain the joy and satisfaction in my soul for the privilege of being here once again among these people. Yes, these needy people, and they are so pleased of the prospect of having missionaries living among them at last.

Today we will have meeting at this place in the afternoon. I don't expect there will be many as the people are busy harvesting now.

Saturday p. m. We had a very nice service here on Thursday, but not many present.

I had a meeting with the school children on