

## MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S., P. O. Berbice,  
Care Welkam Police Camp,  
via Piet Retief,  
Transvaal, So. Africa

Dear Homeland Friends:

My heart is so full of praise tonight for all that God is doing for us. It is impossible to express the joy of my soul in being here among these neglected hundreds. Day by day He showers blessings upon us and gives us continual tokens that we are here in His blessed will. This is what makes our hearts so glad and free. We know that He has definitely led us here and we do praise Him for this blessed assurance.

"God's delays are not denials," and through the hindrances that here come during the year we have known that He was bringing His will to pass in His own way. It is a year now since we first knew that He wanted us here—we wanted to come at once, but He has seen fit to lead us through a period of waiting, and though our hearts longed to be here we have felt that all was well and have been content to wait His own time.

His definite leading, and how each delay has only been to perfect His plan concerning our coming, and our souls are full of rest and sweet peace these days, for we know His will is being done as we wait for Him. I have never been so happy since coming to Africa as I am these days. Such a blessed sweet assurance that this is where He wants us and can use us best and we do praise Him for the gracious privilege He has granted us. Surely He has looked upon us in great love and mercy in leading us so definitely to this needy people.

We have had some blessed seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and we feel that God is strengthening His people. For this we do praise Him, for blessing must first begin in the Church if we want to see sinners brought to God. The cry of our soul is for the searching of the Holy Ghost among God's people. He is answering prayer on this line and we rejoice in His precious promises which comes to us with such comfort and blessing.

This last week has been just full of answers to prayer until my soul knows not where to begin its praises. Oh, dear friends, I am so glad I am in Africa tonight. There is no place so dear to my heart, and it seems that a new horizon has dawned upon my spiritual vision and I feel my soul daily expanding in faith and love—that boundless love of God which takes in every tribe and race. Praise His name.

The people are beginning to come for medicines and tooth extraction, and this is a token of their confidence in the missionary. Many natives cling to their own way of doctoring, and are very slow to adopt the treatment of white people, so we feel glad to see them looking to us for help, and we pray that God's special blessing may rest upon this form of service. He has graciously answered prayer for Isaya's little boy who was very sick last week. We were really uneasy about him and we do praise the Lord for undertaking so beautifully for him.

Sunday we rode up to Entungwini; it was Communion Sunday and we were very glad to meet the people from the different outposts. Dr. Sanders did not come, but the Lord gave us a very blessed meeting. We felt His

special help in giving the message laid upon our hearts and the spirit of conviction was deeply felt during the service. Truly God was with us. Aloni and Joeli were present from Hartland, and I think I never heard Aloni speak with such tenderness and persuasion of the Spirit as he did that day. Samuel's exhortation was certainly given in the power of the Holy Ghost, and all the native workers testified with unction. It was a feast to our souls to be present in that service, and our hearts to praise the dear Saviour for it all.

We had another especially effective meeting at the chief's kraal on Tuesday. They had buried a beloved child on Saturday and the Spirit of the Lord was indeed manifest when we met with them for prayer. Mbheke-api, the young chief, is a very bright, pleasant-faced Zulu and always listens attentively to the Word. He has joined a church, which makes the way very easy for the people; they have no European teachers, all is under Zulu superintendency, but we see that he is really not satisfied, and he seems very kindly disposed toward Christianity. We always feel the spirit of conviction in a special way when we have a meeting with him. Some of his home people are seekers in our church so we go there quite often. Isaya is his cousin, and they seem to like one another very much. Isaya considers him a remarkably good chief and I am sure he respects Isaya's religion.

On this day the chief seemed especially tender, and listened so hungrily to the story of resurrection power from the grave. My soul was greatly blest and Isaya was lifted above the position of being in the presence of his chief and spoke as the Spirit gave utterance with tears and wonderful pathos, pleading for the souls of his people, especially for the chief, and wept before the Lord as we knelt in prayer. It was one of the sweetest Zulu services I have been in and the chief seemed very touched, thanked us for coming at this time when "their hearts were full of pain."

We rode home after sunset with our hearts rejoicing in Jesus who had given us such a meeting of liberty and blessing, and with a greater longing for Mbheke-api's salvation.

Another especially good meeting was on Friday. Samuel had been having a few days of special meeting at the different outposts in the Entungwini section, and we joined them there on Friday. God was in our midst and gave me such a foretaste of heaven that I felt my heart would break with the longing for the souls of the people. It was a heart-searching time and several confessions were made which helped the souls of some present. We did thank God for the working of the Holy Spirit. We did not reach home until 8 o'clock, travelling by moonlight—very tired, but so thankful to be here in His service.

Helen was at Hartland for a few days to get a supply of food. We will be very glad when we can have our store on this side; it will save time and strength.

Perhaps you will want to hear how our building is getting on. It has been slow, but praise the Lord, it is coming surely. We expected to have a rondavel built by a native, but the Lord had a different plan. We were unable to get a native builder, though Isaya tried in different places. Through the kindness of the German dip-inspector, who really went to considerable trouble for us, we have been able to secure a Dutchman who will come with two other white men and hasten the matter, cooking for themselves, living in

a tent and will take the whole responsibility of the building. I cannot tell you how our hearts praise the Lord for this kind provision in our time of need. This German is a praying man, very kindly disposed toward mission work, both his father and grandfather were missionaries, and he has taken a real Christian interest in our welfare concerning getting settled here.

We have felt it wiser to have a large room rather than a rondavel, for we have been told that they are very inconvenient to live in. The dear Lord has helped us in this matter and also to have a small kitchen adjoining Miss Johnston, our friend in Durban, very kindly supplied money for doors and windows with railage and transport paid, for which we are so grateful. Without this kind contribution we could not have as comfortable a dwelling. Transport is twelve dollars per load from Moolman to Altona. Both Paul and Faith contributed ten dollars each last year toward this building also, which we appreciate very much. We feel that God is pleased to have this Mission Station opened, for He is helping us to do so. The men have asked a reasonable price for building, and we feel to praise God very much indeed for all His benefits towards us.

Miss Johnston also contributed twenty-five dollars for medical supplies, which is a great blessing to us.

I am sure you will all rejoice to know that God has been so good to us, and before this letter reaches you we trust we will be living in our new home and will gradually get settled here. We can never fully express the gratitude of our hearts for all the dear homeland friends have done for us in far away Africa, and we ask you to ever remember us in prayer, for "without Him we can do nothing." We do praise Him for definite leadings and His special blessing upon us in taking this step.

"Our hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
We dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus' Name."

We eagerly await Beulah news in this distant land, and shall enjoy the account of the Camp Meeting.

Yours in His will,

ALICE F. STERRITT

## INTERPRETATIONS OF LOVE

Patience is Love on the anvil bearing blow after blow of suffering.

Zeal is love in the harvest field, never tiring of toil.

Meekness is Love in company when it vaunteth not itself.

Perseverance is Love on a journey pressing on with unflagging step toward the end.

Joy is Love making its own sunshine where others see nothing but gloom.

Power is Love driving the soul's chariot wheels over all opposition.

Gentleness is nothing but Love in her own sweet voice and manner.—Jacques.

Tertullian wrote: "Clothe yourself with the silk of piety with the satin of sanctity and with the purple of modesty; so shall God Himself be your suitor.—The Church Herald.

Good works that are born of the Spirit and not artificial will attract men's attention to God and not to us. If our light does not shine for him it does not shine at all. Matthew 5:16.