

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona M. S., P. O. Berbice
Via Piet Retief, Transvaal
South Africa.

Dear Homeland Friends:

The days are passing swiftly and so happily. Words can never express the joy of our hearts in this new field of labor. It is so sweet to be here in the will of God and see the fulfilling of His precious promises concerning us. Truly these are blessed days. We have had some very hot days with but little rain—a few welcome showers, until last night we had a deluge of rain. I have never seen a worst storm since we have been in Africa. Wind, thunder and lightning until we wondered if the roof would be lifted with the fury of the storm. The rain poured in through the windows and doorway until our room was a flood of water in places, hardly a dry place to stand in the kitchen also flooded. Helen stood bracing the window to keep from bursting open and the rain ran down in streams, she was quite wet also. The native boy and I were working to get the window securely fastened and succeeded in doing so after some difficulty. It was certainly a torrent of rain, but we felt so secure in the dear Lord's keeping, my heart was so peaceful through it all I could not fear. Before the storm was thoroughly abated faithful Isaya appeared on the scene to find out if we were safe and how we were faring. He looked so happy when he found we were not alarmed during the violence of the storm. They had experienced a drenching also, even worse than we, for the water soaked through his wall, and the house actually shook he said, but they looked to the Lord and said "All is in your hands Father in heaven." A native woman just a short distance from him had the roof blown off of her "rondel" and lost a number of hens by the great hailstorm. We did not have much hail but the stones were very large. In some places the hail was very bad we hear. It was certainly a dreadful storm and we do praise the dear Lord for His loving care over us, and also for the good soaking rain which was so greatly needed. Today has been wet with slight showers.

Thursday we had a very gracious and profitable class, not so many present but the dear Lord blest. The lesson was from Psa. 116, the first two verses especially and verses 12, 13, and 14. One young woman, who had wandered from the Lord renewed her vows before the Lord and was blest. She gave a good honest testimony and asked for prayer and sought Him. Her face is now so changed. Isaya was full of praise that day and his testimony a benediction to our souls. Surely the Holy Ghost is with this dear native preacher. His prayers bring a spirit of conviction upon hearts and his face shines with the glory of the Lord. The German dip inspector was present at our meeting that day and has been several times, he says he has seen very few natives like Isaya. He certainly is growing more spiritual all the time and the burden for souls is continually increasing. We do praise the dear Lord for all that He is doing and for bringing us here just when Isaya needed some one to come to his help. He is so grateful to God for bringing missionaries to this place to live. Everyday we see more plainly that this is indeed His place for us and our hearts do rejoice.

On December 7th, we had a very pleasant closing of the school. About 75 people were present including pupils, parents and other visitors. We had a short service first, then the children sang some very sweet little hymns, recited verses of Scripture and nice selections of zulu

prose and poetry which the teacher had chosen for the occasion. Some of the multiplication tables were recited in English which was interesting to hear. Their hand work in basket making was exhibited, many different shapes and sizes and very pretty indeed, the work was beautifully done.

After the exercises Helen distributed a small gift to each pupil with candy and peanuts which pleased them very much. The parents had brought a few hens and a small feast was enjoyed at the last, which to them was a very happy ending of the day. The teacher was a very nice Christian girl from Swaziland and we are sorry that she cannot return next term. We trust to get another who will prove as satisfactory.

I was called to see a man who had been badly kicked by a horse. It had been an intensely hot day but the dear Lord sent helpful clouds and a refreshing breeze as it neared sunset. I rode about two miles in an entirely new section and praised God for the blessed privilege of entering a large Kraal where there are many heathen and ministering to the sufferer. I felt the Lord's special blessing and such a spirit of appreciation was shown by those people that I felt it was indeed blessed to be there. The injured man is a heathen, with two heathen wives, some of the people of his Kraal are attendants at the Ethiopian and Independent churches, who have no white supervision, but they were very kind to me. I went back several times to dress the wound and seeing that it needed more frequent dressings asked him to come to the Mission station where I could give it better care. To my joy he readily consented and they all seemed very grateful to have him come. The poor old mother was about sure that this wound was going to prove fatal to her son.

They brought him in an ox waggon and we have had a most blessed time ministering to this hungry soul, seeing the Word of God take effect and softening his heart. It has been a truly precious time of sowing the seed and we do trust for a gracious reaping. His questions and remarks about the things of a God show a deep interest and he is considering the cost of becoming a Christian. He says, "I do not want to hurry and tell you today that I will be a Christian and then tomorrow go back, I want to think and decide with all my heart."

He is a half brother of the chief and a cousin of Isaya's and certainly has faith in Isaya's religion. God will surely give Isaya souls from among his own people for he so bravely stood the testing in his home kraal for Jesus' sake. I am sure God will reward him for He is the faithful God.

Matanda, (the injured man) is very fond of the chief and said, "I want Mbeke-epi to believe also, so that we can be Christians together." I told him that he must believe and then God would use him in the salvation of Mbeke-epi. God is truly able to do this dear friends, and we are looking unto Him who said "Ask of me and I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance". Surely it is a precious promise for us as we look up the heathen faces around us. There is need of much prayer and we ask you to remember this corner of His vineyard in your daily prayers.

December 25th. It is now Christmas night. A soft rain is falling and it has been cool and showery all day, we have never had a cool wet Christmas season like this since coming to Africa and it has been a welcome relief from the intense heat.

On Sunday we had a special meeting at this place, the people from Joeli's outpost and from Emozane met here for service. It was a wet day so all did not get here but we had a good full

house and the Lord's presence was manifest. Helen spoke from II Peter 3. and the Lord solemnized hearts. Isaya spoke with great earnestness breaking down in tears and prayer pleading for souls. It was a precious hour indeed. Afterward a short Christmas service with testimonies of thanksgiving and contributions for the Christmas feast which Dr. Sanders has consented to have here instead of Entungwini this year. Nine goats, a number of hens and about \$2.50 were pledged by those present and we trust there will be more.

On Sunday we will ride to Entungwini for Communion Service and on Monday (D. V.) there will be a service and feast here. We would like both Dr. and Mrs. Sanders to come if they can. There is no crossing now the river is full, but we trust it will be passable by that time.

Today we had a Christmas tree for our natives and Isaya's family. Isaya spent the morning kraal visiting so we did not have our Christmas celebration until afternoon. The Lord caused the chief to come along just at that time for which we were glad and we were able to get a little gift ready for him also, which he appreciated. He was not used to this kind of a Christmas and seemed much interested. We had a very pleasant time. Helen and I were given two grass mats such as natives only can make.

Native feasts were held in two different places today which draws a crowd always. Isaya predicts a very large gathering here next Monday. This is such a heathen locality it will be a wonderful opportunity for the Gospel message. We are trusting the Lord to make it a profitable time for souls.

Matanda has gone home and wants us to come often to his kraal for prayers. He wants them all to become Christians. His heart has been awakened during these ten days and the burden of our hearts for his salvation is great, for the battle is on. He was much affected by the meeting Sunday.

We are looking to Jesus to bring victory to many souls. It is blessed to be here.

With Christian love to you all from us both, I am,

Yours in His will
ALICE F. STERRITT

Hartland P. O.,
Paupietersburg,
South Africa.

Dear Friends:

"The entrance of Thy word giveth light". Raw heathen people, who have not had the Gospel preached to them, must be taught patiently for some time, before they see the path to Heaven clear enough to take it. Twice I have had the privilege of visiting a native village on the outside of our work at Bucu. It is a long journey from here, by horse, but shorter by foot, only the steep mountain sides of this path are too much for a horse.

Paulina has visited this place other times, besides these when I was with her.

A young girl had consumption but longed to know Jesus and we took the journey for her sake. She was instructed, gave herself to Jesus and took the new name of Bessalina and was so happy in Jesus. Any believer, who came, she always asked to pray with her and joined them heartily.

Her mother is a seeker but not yet saved. Just a few days before Christmas I was so surprised to find Bessalina's mother and a sister wife, each with a sick child, had come to us for treatment and could stay a few days.

Here was an unthought of opportunity to

help these faraway ones and I asked the Lord to help me to improve it.

Every day was so full with preparations but, each one, had an hour given to these poor troubled souls, wherein we instructed them "in the way of the Lord more perfectly." They responded.

Bessalina had gone to Heaven, the fourth child her mother had lost. She was here with her baby, (and there is small hopes of its living) and only one other child at home. So, her heart is heavy with past sorrow and dread of this to come. Ah! How can we minister to such ones! Only Jesus and His love can help. But He can and does. Day by day for 12 days we had the chance to teach them "more about Jesus." Hungry hearts grew tender, and darkened minds grew enlightened until they were almost persuaded "when they said "good-bye", today, and went home. Oh friends pray for these mothers! Only a heathen home to return to, a husband who begins to see his need too, but bound by heathen customs and habits, so hard to break away from the old life. But that kraal can never be the same, the light has come.

One woman said to me "It will not be hard for me to give up beer but snuff will take more strength. She is an intelligent woman and talked very sensibly of it all and I have great hopes she will soon enter in.

These natives think on different lines from we civilized and enlightened ones and, there is a big time element that must be considered, when one helps them to be saved. Ignorance must be taught and all is not learned in a day.

Yesterday as I read to them of Jesus at the well and how skillfully he drew the Samaritan woman to confess her sin, I praised Him for such beautiful words of His to give out to these troubled ones. How they prayed, beautiful, beautiful, to be able to tell about Jesus to those who never heard before!

Today another very sick child called Dr. Sanders out by 4 o'clock a. m. I think of the mother and grandmother who came with it and ask God to so help us that we may be able to help these as they are weak Christians and need it.

Such a bevy of bright little faces as come to Sunday School and Norman helped teach today, as grace was ill. If one can only get the lovely prayer Jesus gave His disciples, into their young minds and instill Bible truths too, one may be preparing future evangelists for their work. I am more impressed than ever with intensive Missionary work. Surface work so soon passes but solid work is more lasting. Pray for our success in Sunday School work.

Dec. 31st. Called on a young girl who is very ill we fear it is consumption. She is so weak and such a dreadful cough! Her mother has tried for years, to be a Christian but has had a hard time. The husband is a heathen and, though he does not forbid any of his to become a Christian, he also does not help them much and she has found great difficulty in finding clothes to wear.

Felicia went too and helped much by prayer. The father is really touched and even helped us sing. We read about the beautiful home on high and tried to comfort as well as warn all, to be ready to go there. The Lord was there very real, to us and we feel conviction is on the father to join us in praying for Mbabala. Mdimiso who lives on this farm.

One thing daughters are good for is to help the father to buy a new wife or even help pay for her own mother. This man has two other wives, sisters, and finds great difficulty in providing for them all. But his greatest need is Jesus.

Yours in Jesus
MRS. H. C. SANDERS

CORRESPONDENCE

Brazil Lake, Yar. Co., N. S.

Dear Mr. Trafton:

I am sending money order for renewal of "The King's Highway".

Wishing your valued paper every success.

Yours truly
MRS. ARTHUR D. COOK

Woodfords Me.

Dear Sir:

I am sending a money order to pay for the Highway for another year, I do so much enjoy reading your good paper, I feel I could not do without it for it is food for my soul.

MRS. FRED NUTTER

W. JONESPORT, ME.,

Dear Brother:

Please find enclosed renewal of my subscription to "The King's Highway" we surely enjoy its clean pages.

Your sister in Him
MRS. ALICE NEWBURY

Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Highway

Just a line to say: We are still enjoying the blessing of full salvation and the Lord is giving us some victories by the way in this service.

The time will soon be with us when some of our ministers will be thinking about changing for new fields of labour and their churches considering the matter of securing new pastors for the incoming year. May I suggest that before making a final decision, both we ministers and churches set aside a day for fasting and prayer that we may get God's will in reference to the matter!

Sincerely yours,

I. F. KEIRSTEAD

Wollaston, Mass.

Dear Highway:

I take this opportunity to report from E. N. C. I wish to acknowledge the receipt of ten (10) dollars from the Students' Fund, for which I wish to thank all who make this Fund possible. May God add richly to you both temporally and spiritually.

We just closed the special service of a gracious revival Sunday, the 17th. Rev. Raymond Browning was the special speaker. He preached in the Spirit and Power of the Holy Ghost. I believe the Christians have a greater vision of their responsibility. Many sought Christ in service or sanctifying power.

Besides the services at the College, Brother Browning preached six times over the radio, the singing being rendered by the students. This is the beginning of a new phase of work for the College. Letters came in, telling how some, who were shut in by sickness, enjoyed the messages.

I don't believe we should allow the devil to get a mortgage on everything that is good.

Pray for us for we have our battles to fight.

Your brother in Christ,

S. G. HILYARD

Calais, Maine

Dear Brother Trafton:

Just a line to let you know how I am getting. I have improved much this last two weeks. I have been able to go outdoors a little this last week, that has helped me greatly. I expect to be operated on a week from today, March 1st. Dr. Bunker was in this morn-

ing. He was very well pleased with my progress. I feel after the operation I will come O. K. The ulcers of the stomach are all healed. The operation is for appendicitis and adhesions. The doctor does not think it will be a very serious operation. I feel that I will be in very good condition for the operation, considering the sickness I have gone through. We must leave it in the Lord's hands.

I told Brother D. McMillen to have the Church send for Miss E. Slipp to handle the work. He was to bring it before the Church Wednesday evening. I do not know just what they decided.

Trust the work is going good up there. May God bless you in all your work.

Your brother in Christ,
C. R. HAGERMAN

"WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE"

The use of the word *Advocate* in the single instance in which it is used in the Bible—in 1 John 2: 1—impresses us as a most appropriate rendering of the word elsewhere translated *Comforter*. In the three chapters of the gospel by John that record the promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit, chapters fourteen to sixteen, this word is rendered *Comforter*, and means "one called alongside to help."

The verse mentioned above reads: "My little children, these things write I unto you that ye sin not, and if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous." Humanity's need of help divinely given is recognized, and well supplied, with Christ as our heavenly Advocate and the Holy Spirit here as our Comforter. We understand that this word is still used in some European countries for the word lawyer, or attorney, especially in countries where Latin origins strongly color the language. It is almost a literal use of its Latin origin ("ad"—to "voco"—the voice"), hence "one called for help by the use of the voice." Christ is ready and waiting to be any man's lawyer at the solemn and august court of heaven, and His services are always awaiting the call of repentance and human distress. It is not God's standard for Christians that they should be in the distress of sin and an adequate repentance, but "if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous."

The apostle John here states that the purpose of his writing was that Christians should be saved from sinning. We understand this to be the Bible standard of a normal and correct Christian life. This is the minimum of grace for a Christian experience, for in the same letter (3:8) John declares, "He that committeth sin is of the devil."

Many people find fault with the preaching of holiness on the score that they think it is the standard of life in which the Christian claims to be saved from sinning; whereas the Bible, here, and in many other places, makes the non-sinning state the regular and normal standard for all Christian believers. The great advantage of holiness, or heart purity, is that it enables one to be truly Christian without the hindrance of the inbred sin of the heart.

And we notice, further, that the purpose of the apostle's writing is not an odd or isolated statement, but it runs in harmony with the great outlay of the foundations of the Christian religion. The sacrificial system was intended to atone for sin—for all sin—even taking into account the sins of ignorance, for which Israel became responsible as soon as increased light brought them into the realm of conscious transgressions. (Lev.

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