

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

S.S. Arundel Castle,
Feb. 21, 1929.

Dear Friends: Daily on this voyage, which has been remarkably smooth and pleasant, we have been made conscious of God's tender thought and care for us. Over and over again, as some new sweet token is given, our hearts **have been melted in gratitude**, and we have been reminded of the loving friends in the homeland who are so faithfully praying for us. Thank God for this sweet partnership.

A sister ship, the *Garth Castle*, went on the rocks, so those who had booked their passage on that boat were transferred to this. Therefore our boat is unusually crowded. I believe it is 340 passengers they have in the third class, and both second and first are likewise full.

The Lord has a few of His own precious children on board. Sunday evening we had the privilege of attending a service conducted by a Wesleyan missionary who had been working among the Shangaans for over thirty-four years and has translated the New Testament into their language. He gave us a beautiful, simple gospel message and there was a good spirit on the meeting. Besides this man and his wife, there is another couple in the second class who have told us many beautiful and wonderful things which the Lord has done for them.

The first Sunday evening we found a small company of lovely Christian people in the writing room singing the dear old familiar hymns we love so well. Through this song service we have become acquainted with several of them. A Rev. and Mrs. Coleridge, from Johannesburg "Plymouth Brethren," have been a real help to us in the study of Zulu. They have worked for 5½ years, during which time he has mastered two native languages, as well as Dutch, and all without a teacher. We have an hour together over this study, daily, and find his zeal and interest a real inspiration. Their story of God's dealing and provision—their's is a faith mission—is very blessed.

Another very happy Christian couple, about the age of our own parents, have been a great blessing to us. She has been a soloist and Christian worker since childhood, for ten years was matron in a rescue home in England, and has had thirty years of experience as a nurse. With these of His children we have had blessed fellowship and daily have reason to praise God for His own.

We are to land at Cape Town Monday, Feb. 25th, and Durban on Sunday, March 3rd. This will bring us "home" either Tuesday or Wednesday.

Yours in Christian love,

MRS. D. M. MacDONALD.

Dear Friends: It is now 5.00 p. m., and since the mail will go early tomorrow if we mail tonight, I will just say in closing that the dear Lord has given us one more good day. We have many tokens of his love and favor daily. We thank Him for answered prayer, yours and ours. We think of you and pray for you. We are looking forward to the hour which will bring us to our field, with confidence in His wisdom, who has called us and carried us along thus far, to give us strength for the labor and to make us workmen fitted for our field.

Yours in Christian love,

D. M. MacDONALD.

Hartland P. O., Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa.

Dear Friends: It is so hot and dry! Gardens are drying up, those looking so promising a couple of weeks ago are now ready to die. Some have died and can be burned up. Very abnormal year and unless more rain falls there is every prospect of a hard winter for stock. The pastures have a brown, dry look already.

Sunday was Communion and a most blessed day. Two were baptized and joined the church, and five babies were presented to the Lord. One baptized is a young man who has waited about four years for this opportunity. He has been away that long time. However, he worked at the same place as Tomasi Ngomezulu, who instructed him in the Way of Life, and he continued to live for Jesus till he had this opportunity, and grasped it. He will worship at Bucu, across the Pongola, and, we trust, be a means of strength to that little band.

The other is a woman, who came here several months ago as a seeker. She has gone on, learned to read, and now has been baptized and joined the church. She will worship at Entungwini, across the Pongola also.

It was a touching sight when the row of mothers, holding their babies, came up—and some of the fathers, too—to present their children to the church to be cared for, taught and helped, so when they are old enough to understand, they will be baptized and become full members.

I said it was a touching scene, to me anyway. Among the fathers was a restored backslider, who is now so anxious to be true to God. Another father is not a Christian, but we hope he will soon become one. We encourage the parents to both come, even if unsaved or only seekers. It has a very helpful effect as they promise to do their best to teach these little ones the laws of God, to pray, not to lie, steal and so on. They often feel this a big responsibility.

Seldom have I heard a straighter or more victorious testimony on full salvation than Filimona Nkosi gave that day. He certainly is going ahead on the shining way very fast, and God continues to bless and use him.

Susanna Gwebu returned to us after having been away for some years. He found her, asked her to come to his meeting, across the Pirvaan, and then found out she had been away for years and did not know we held meetings anywhere near enough for her to attend. She is very happy over the good news, and says there are three others who want to come with her. One is only a seeker. They tell us they do not want to worship with a church whose preachers drink beer and use tobacco as the church they have attended does.

The young man I wrote about not long ago, who was struck by lightning and came near being burned to death when the hut burned up, is now anxious to give himself as a seeker. How wonderful are His ways! This boy used to laugh at the very idea of his going to meeting. But God gave him a look at an awful death, and that turned him to praying. Keep on praying, beloved, God wants these heathen saved.

Now for a little story about Aloni Nkonza's boy, Jeremiah. This young man was a presented child, grew up in a Christian home, became baptized and joined the church, but backslid. He is light-fingered, and from a small boy seemed possessed with a desire to steal anything he wanted. Correction served to check him for a time, but even jail seemed to have little effect. Once or twice Aloni paid his fines in the law court, and was broken-hearted. Both parents are evangel-

ists and teaching others the way of life while their own goes to the devil. This has been as a fiery furnace to his parents, but God has used this trial to draw them both closer to Him and deepened their experiences. Once, when he was arrested and sent to a far-away town, they seemed quite discouraged and felt like giving him up as hopeless. But here is where we come in, and by encouraging words, prayer and the promises, helped to buoy the mother up and helped them through the deep waters. This trip to jail seemed to take hold of him strongly and for a time after his return he seemed to try to be different. It passed away. Then he has had several sick spells, all with some convicting influence over him.

One day, recently, a policeman came and arrested him again—this time for the theft of a bicycle too. He said he was innocent, but he was marched off. The poor mother was washing for me, and I just kept away, but prayed in secret for the stricken woman. When she left for home I gave her a promise and told her to hold onto God. But the dark waters surged over her soul, and the devil tempted her sorely. However, the accusation was wrong. He was innocent, as another boy proved to the officer, and once more Jeremiah returned home.

This circumstance has broken his hard heart and he has cried unto the Lord to forgive him, thrown away tobacco and says he is convinced if he does not now give up and serve the Lord, God will send something very bad upon him. He says he sees the other arrests, sickness and troubles he had were whippings from the Lord which he did not heed, but this last has convinced him God means what he says.

Do pray that this gifted young man may indeed be saved and sanctified and made a vessel of service for Jesus. He testified on Sunday and told us what I have written above. Brethren, God does answer prayer. He never changes. "Also He willeth not the death of any sinner." Praise His dear name.

Yours in Jesus.

MRS. H. C. SANDERS.

Altona Mission Station,
P. O. Berbice, Transvaal.

Dear Highway Friends: It has been some time since I have written. As the days go by, we continue to see the Lord working, yes, in many wonderful ways, and we do praise Him for the privilege of living on this acre of land at Altona. My sister wrote you about our wonderful Christmas service and feast. Four hundred people heard the gospel message for nearly two hours. The order was perfect, not a disturbing sound could be heard, many a heathen heart was touched, and many heard the gospel for the first time that day.

A few days after Christmas four of our Nazarene friends from Swaziland surprised us by giving us a three days' visit. They came by automobile. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, whom we knew in Lynn, Mass., and Miss Lovelace and Miss Robinson. Needless to say we were delighted to see these dear Holiness folks, and although our place was small, we found room for them all, some sleeping in the church. They spent Sunday with us, then went on to Durban. Isaya went out around to the different outposts, calling them to the Sunday service. We had a full house and a lovely service. Many hearts were touched and helped. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins giving us special songs in Zulu which touched the hearts of the natives very much. This was a blessed day for us to have some Holiness visitors among us. As they left us Monday noon they gave us a farewell