

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

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Dear Homeland Friends:

I have not written lately for we have been extra busy during the building of the new church. We do thank the Lord for the splendid workman He supplied for us and all has been going on well. Our hearts had desired a special service in laying the foundation stone, but we had not arranged for it at the beginning and the builder kindly suggested having it later on by his removing the corner bricks and making a nice cement corner stone. Brother Purves said he would carve the name and date on it, and Brother MacDonald, who was here at the time, promised to come over to the service. We were very happy and grateful to all concerned and on August 26th a company of about 45 natives met with us for the first ceremony of this kind that they had even seen. We feel that it was a helpful and instructive service, the Scripture lesson being from Isa. 28:16-17, I. Peter 2:7-8 and Eph. 2:17-22. Remarks were made by the other missionaries and native workers present, also by the builder. A paper was read containing a brief history of the mission acre and the first church built here by Isaya Sangweni, also the names of all the kind friends in Canada who have contributed toward this new building and the native contribution as well, after which the paper was enclosed in an envelope, sealed and placed in a glass jar which had been moulded into the cement to receive it. The stone was then placed in position during the singing of the Doxology, and we were very thankful to the Lord for granting our desire in having this helpful service.

We want to express our grateful thanks to the dear ones who have helped to make this building a possibility in this distant land of Africa, and hope to write personal letters of thanks in the near future. We ask your prayers that God's blessing may ever be upon this house of God. We expect to have the dedication service as soon as we have it thoroughly finished and trust it may be in a couple of weeks from now.

On August 31, we had Communion Service and were happy to have over three Hartland brethren present, with Mr. Purves, and two native workers from Natal. It was a great help to the service to have these visiting friends. One woman gave herself as a seeker at the close of the service. Two women were baptized—one from Joeli's outpost and one who lives near us. Two years ago she was a heathen woman, today she is such a dear soul walking in all the Light she receives and her heathen husband is becoming interested, comes in the hut when she has family prayer and consented to have two little boys presented to the church.

The Lord gave a precious promise concerning this man's salvation more than a year ago and his attitude now is so encouraging to our hearts. We do praise the Lord, and we long to see many of these precious souls delivered from the kingdom of Satan to serve Him who died for them. This is our hearts' cry before Him and He does hear us. Praise His Name!

Mr. Purves has been learning brick-laying from the builder here and we feel that his influence has been beneficial to the work. He is eager to learn all he can of Zulu customs

and the language and we have all appreciated his fellowship in the work of God.

Isaya's wife, Agnes, has been very ill and we do thank God for His mercy in sparing her life. Last Saturday they thought she was dying and hastily called us. We found her in a state of coma, but the dear Lord wonderfully undertook; she has steadily improved since and we do give Him praise and glory for her restoration. Isaya proved himself a very kind husband and capable nurse during her illness. I believe you would not find many Zulu men who could shine so brightly and look after the sick so tenderly as he has done during these days, and his face beams with the love of God.

Yesterday I spent kraal visiting and enjoyed the blessing of God, felt well repaid for the long ride and saw much to encourage my heart. Surely the dear Lord is touching hearts and they are growing more tender toward the gospel message.

In another section where Helen visited this week she found the same softening influence upon some heathen hearts so we do praise Him very much.

We are believing God for some definite conversions among the Zulu men. Join us in prayer for this, dear friends.

With Christian love from us both, I am yours, happy in His service.

ALICE F. STERRITT

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ANSWERS TO PRAYER

She was only a little girl about twelve years of age. She had been reading the life of Mr. Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission, in which many definite answers to prayer are recorded, and, hearing that the writers were in Shanghai, she came to see us. Sitting by my side on the sofa, she said after a while, rather timidly, "I am writing a book, too."

"Are you, dear?" I replied. "Won't you tell me about it?"

"It's about my answers to prayer."

"Do you get answers to prayer that you can write in a book?"

"Yes, I do," she responded brightly, "lots of them."

"How long have you been writing them down?"

"I began last summer."

"And how many answers to prayer have you had in these eight months?"

"Well, I didn't get them all written down," she said. "I went away from home for a holiday, and I forgot to take my book with me. I did write on scraps of paper, but they got lost. However I have a good many in my little book—I have a hundred and fifty. I do so want to learn to pray. I want to be missionary, and I know that missionaries must be able to get answers to prayer. Do you think that, if I go on praying about everything, and writing down the answers God gives me, by and by I shall learn to pray like Mr. Taylor did?"

This little Chinese girl found a depth in prayer many do not realize.—Quoted from China's Millions—The Wesleyan Methodist.

YOU ARE GOD'S FINGER

During a certain revival meeting a friend was praying for the conversion of his neighbor, and while praying, the Lord of heaven taught him a lesson that he did not forget. He prayed something like this: "Oh Lord touch that man with thy finger!" He continued his prayer in great earnestness, repeating it several times; when suddenly a voice seemed to say to him, "Thou art the finger of God; hast thou ever touched this thy neighbor? Hast thou ever spoken a single word to him on the question of salvation? Go thou and touch that man and thy prayer shall be answered!" In bitter condemnation he rose from his knees, and like a flash the fact came upon him that he had lived for a quarter of a century, a neighbor to this impenitent man for whom he now prayed, without ever once touching him with the message of God's love to the sinner. Why should God touch him with a finger invisible, when He had those in the world, His representatives, who had been faithfully commanded to let their light so shine that others—sinful, sin-sick, weary, restless—should see and accept the Light of Life, the everlasting Saviour. No, it is not his way.

Everything else can easily find a place in our everyday conversation, except a little word about the great love of Christ. A great responsibility rests upon those who have the light of heaven shining on their hearts. Will they, will we, will I, be true to the trust left by Christ? Or shall the blessed opportunities be allowed to pass unhindered and unused? God forbid. The matter of our responsibility in warning and inviting others, is plain in the following lines: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

Be a willing and useful "finger of God;" and—

"Throw out the life-line across the dark wave,

There is a brother whom someone could save;

Somebody's brother, O who then will dare
To throw out the life-line his peril to share?"

—Christian Standard

QUIET!

If I should take you by the hand,
And gently lead you through the land,
And show you every lovely thing,
To make your very being sing.

I should not talk of that or this,
While you the beauty saw amiss,
But wait for God to speak to you,
As He most certainly would do.

—Faith Hollister

"Perhaps the most impressive among the methods of Whitefield and the Wesleys is this—they went to the people. They did not wait for the people to come to them. Like Jesus, they went where the people were and sounded forth the 'Good News.' In drawing rooms, prisons, kitchens and camps, on ship-board, in thickly populated parts of towns, in yards and courts where people must needs hear, they thrust themselves in. The market-cross and any well-known place, where the people were or would soon gather, there went these evangelists. It attracted, thrilled and empowered."—Geo. Eayrs, F. R. Hist. S.