

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland M. S., Paulpietersburg,
Natal, South Africa
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Dear Homeland Friends:

How swiftly have flown the first 39 days of this New Year! They have been beautiful days to my own soul. The Word of God grows richer and deeper and oh, so sweet, and prayer is a vital contact with His Omnipotence. We have been having some beautiful answers to prayer, and some stiff fighting. Holiness rouses the old enemy every time. In a recent Wednesday class Martha was having peculiar liberty in portraying the "Old Man". A young Christian girl by her side began to weep bitterly under deep conviction, soon another began screaming under demon power, and I felt sorry to have that burning message cut short as we gathered round for prayer. Both girls soon claimed victory and prayer and testified.

Our Quarterly meeting which ran from January twenty to twenty-seven, inclusive, was considered by some the best yet. The Sterritt Sisters were kept home by their school opening and a patient whom they could not leave. We missed them sorely. Isaya's wife was sick and Asiena from Entungwini was not well, but twenty of our workers and probationers from near and far were present, some not missing one service. A number stayed with us. The men occupied our new dispensary which has been built with this in view. Mornings and evenings they and the women workers from the Transvaal had sweet fellowship over the word and in discussing the problems of the work. Some of the evening services they had by themselves and my they did get blessed.

Our Bible Classes 10:00 to 11:00 a. m. were all on the subject "Holiness or Hell" and as we searched the Scriptures together, our souls were solemnized, fed, blessed and inspired. These native workers love their Bibles and are glad to study them. The progress some have made, in their grasp, understanding, remembering, ability to answer questions and readiness in finding their place, is really amazing.

In the business meetings which followed, (11:00 to 12:00 a. m.) candidates for baptism were interviewed, others who having been set aside for some sin and now seeking to be restored. Others who having slipped had to be disciplined, some set aside and some very interesting side lights on Zulu custom came out. We are always learning more of the ways of these interesting people. Through it all there ran such a sweet spirit of unity and helpfulness as encouraged our hearts. In spite of the fact that if they bring these cases up some of the erring ones hate the one who does so, these loyal native workers are willing to pay the price and stand the brunt of public opinion, for the sake of a clean church. In the afternoon service, 1:30 to 3:30, two workers each day were asked to speak. I don't know when I have been so blessed and fed in my soul from His Word, as I was in these meetings, and each message seemed better than the last and so often as a speaker ceased, one could wish they would keep on for a while yet. Praise God for His dark-skinned messengers and the sweet fellowship we have with them in His service.

The famine is growing worse and our hearts ache because we are so helpless, our own circumstances making it impossible to feed the hungry ones who come to our door. God is speaking to many hearts these anxious days, and we are praying and believing for a harvest of souls.

With love to you all in Him. Yours to meet Jesus when He comes, but not alone—I want a lot of these dear Zulus there too—

FAITH MACDONALD

I AM HEART SICK

Edward R. Kelley

My heart is sick. I am concerned about the people called *the holiness people*. Have we been caught in the undertow of the world's breakers and are about to be carried out to sea? God forbid!

But recently I read an account of three evangelistic organizations which met in Memphis, Tennessee, and in the report our attention was attracted to the statement that a number were reclaimed, converted and *consecrated*. Exactly! When did holiness evangelists begin to count "consecrations"?

I know something of these so-called consecrations. I was in a union meeting some months back with one of the prominent evangelists who attended the Memphis gathering and there were something like fifty or more who came forward one night for consecration. They knelt at the altar and were asked to repeat a certain prayer which the evangelist read, which they did, and they were "consecrated." Or, at least, that is what they were led to believe. I am wondering if there were any actual, definite sanctifications in that Memphis meeting. I notice that there were a number who went forward to be "filled and unctionized with the Spirit." Exactly! Well, thank God! If they were really and truly filled with the Spirit they got the blessing of holiness, but if they were merely unctionized—then they were unctionized. Amen.

Some months ago a well known holiness evangelist on the Pacific coast crossed the Pacific to hold some *Missions*—whatever that is. (I have known of Catholics and Episcopalians making use of the term, but never a holiness evangelist.) I read the accounts of the trip of this dear brother and the "missions" he conducted in different churches, and I failed to see the report of *one single sanctification*; but a number "were helped."

Beloved, let's be true to the commission to which the Holy Ghost has called us! As many of you know, I have been aligned with the holiness movement for a number of years, and have stood for the truth of the "second blessing" as taught by Mr. Wesley, when, I regret to say it, I could not have truthfully testified to the actual experience; and I am still standing for the truth, not because it is the truth alone, but because I know it to be the truth by an *actual experience as the Holy Ghost abides within my heart. Amen.* I know I have the blessing, and when I know that I have it, I know that I know it. Amen.

I am not finding fault. I am offering no word of criticism, unkindly. What I am saying is: *I am fearful we are toning down to become popular.* When I first came to the Coast I was asked to preach for a certain holiness association and did so. I had just come from a financial campaign for one or two of our eastern colleges and while in Maryland I visited the Quaker Meeting House, where William Penn used to preach, and also the little brick church where Asbury and Coke met for the first time; and as I stood upon the brass star which told of the spot where they stood, when meeting. I said: "Lord, let a double portion of that Spirit come upon me." I recall preaching on the incident of Elijah meeting the false prophets and also Acts 2:1-4. God was with me and blessed me in the

bringing of the message, but what effect did it have upon the congregation? There's the rub. Well, I know this: the writer's sermon *was not* reported to the Christian Witness and no invitation to preach has been extended him since. (O yes, I am dead. I am merely stating facts.)

"Brother B—, is ——— the same at the Annual Conference as when he is at the holiness camp meeting?" was asked of a well known evangelist, by an editor of a holiness paper. The reply was: "No, doctor, he is not the same." "I was afraid not." Selah!

If holiness is true, *and it is*, should we be ashamed of it? And if we are not dead enough to testify in an Annual Conference whenever God puts a testimony upon us, it certainly would do us harm to go forward to the altar of prayer again. Hallelujah!

Definite, second blessing holiness will meet with opposition. The devil has no use for it, and worldly preachers and church members will stand out against it; but is that any reason that we should fail to testify to it *and live it*? I think not. On the charge I am now serving God is blessing us. Of course, we have opposition, but in the face of the opposition God has reclaimed a couple of men and one of the best women in the church has been sanctified wholly; and others are under conviction. Amen. Pray for us!—*Christian Witness.*

A MAN SHALL BE . . . AS RIVERS OF WATER IN A DRY PLACE. ISA. 32:2.

One afternoon, a small stream of water, that was flowing from a melting snow bank down a sloping cement walk, drew my attention. The thought came to me forcibly how like the Christian life it was.

It had run along for a ways, then an obstacle had divided it into two streams. These two smaller streams started on again, but they continually came up against obstacles, or flowed into depressions, in the cement. There each would stop until enough water from the source came down to push away the obstacle, or fill up and overflow the depression. Each time the streams would grow larger. At last in the course of their flowing, they came together where one of the streams had flowed into a very large depression and had stopped, but when the two united forces, they filled up the depression and flowed on together for about three feet before it came up against anything large enough to stop its progress. Here as before, because the source of supply was greater than the need, or obstacle, it flowed on again with greater vigor than before.

In the Christian life we as God's children run up against things that at the time being, may seem hard, but may be ordained of God, that we get more grace, from "Him" who has an inexhaustible supply, for something far greater than anything we ever have run across before. We all know how God prefixes and suffixes each test of faith with an extra blessing.

Like the streams, if we have divided over some obstacle, and not one with the Lord, or fellowman we may go on in a way, but not the way pleasing to God, for a time and have no victory. But if like the streams, we put all our energy in one direction, we shall have victory and power and blessing, and be able to do all things through Him who strengthens us. Obstacles that once looked unsurmountable will become as plains. Then we can go on rejoicing. Praise His name.

S. G. HILYARD