

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

LETTER THREE

Natal, So. Africa,
April 1, 1934

Dear Friends:

In the last two letters we have had a little glimpse of God's working against two great evils in our community.

We have, ever since our return from furlough in 1912, been up against a sect who at that time took sixty of our eighty converts. The ship-wreck they made of their faith, the deceits and false teaching propagated their proselyting and unswerving loyalty to their "church," which rendered them utterly unreachable by truth, so saddened our hearts that many times we have said we would rather see a party backslide and go right back into heathenism than to turn "Zionist," because the heathen knows his danger, and is reachable. One of their strongest tenets is that "medicine is sin."

In February we had a great deal of very serious illness in this district, and many sad deaths. Lois Makudulela, who as a young girl was one of Father's converts, left us with the first lot and became one of their woman preachers. She had a nice little family of five bright children. All sickened with measles and seemed to be recovering when one after another was stricken with a mysterious malady. Her first girl was buried on Thursday, the second died Saturday afternoon. After the funeral on Sunday she came here with her dear little baby boy, so low they did not think he could live to reach the station. We did our best. Jostina came over and stayed by us for ten days and nights while we battled. The child lingered till Thursday and followed the other two. Her two oldest boys were also very ill indeed, but God blessed our efforts on their behalf and they recovered. Her people simply dropped her and cut her off from fellowship. I could tell you much more for there is strong proof that they were poisoned, and the conduct of her husband's people certainly leaves very little room for doubt.

Last Sunday her brother "Elisha or Madhlauga," (also saved under Father's and Mother's ministry and left us in 1912) came with a little child with an abscess on its leg. We poulticed it and it is making a good recovery. He has a poor little crippled boy whom he wants to bring here for treatment and schooling. Yesterday he was here for medicine for his baby. He is the leader of a branch of this many branched sect.

Yesterday Mateu Nyembe, leader of another branch of Zionists, came for medicine for his poor little boy who has five abscesses.

Yesterday morning Filimon Nhlabati, another Zionist preacher, came for medicine—Quinine and salts—for his wife and son.

Do you know that we have not seen it after this manner since 1912? Surely the foundations are crumbling. Oh, to see these people free once more! Let us continue our bombardment of prayer. God is sweeping away the refuge of lies.

Another evidence we see of God's doing which is wonderful in our eyes is among the children and young people. I have written about the Sunday school. God's blessing has continued upon this branch of the work.

ge, Jostina, Johan, Andalia, Paulosi,
a, Lyna and three of our young Chris-

tian girls, Lifina (Bertha's litte hunch-back), Celia and Matshi, have all been faithful in teaching their classes. The interest has continued. Many have already earned their prizes. Week-day classes have been held and quite a number have been converted. Among them Josefa and Andalia Kumalo, sons of Lois mentioned in the first of this letter.

We should like to have started a school at the proper date, but I was expecting to go to hospital for further treatment and did not get away. We have continued in uncertainty, hoping each week that the next would open that closed door. At our quarterly the native workers brought forward a request that we try to establish a Government school here, and pledged their help and support in cash, kind and person. In faith we sent for a teacher and announced the school to start the next Monday. So far, our teacher has not come, but we have two more good prospects. I started with 12 Monday morning, and averaged 22 that week. This week there are 41 on the roll, and ever so many more have said they are coming. This is watching season—the very hardest time in all the year to hold a school. The Zionists are also asking for this to be a Government school. I believe that in two weeks more we can have 60 on the roll, and when the grain is reaped there should be 100. I can truly say we have never in the history of this work seen it on this wise. God is working and public opinion is being changed, and our dear young folk are beginning to have the glimmer of a chance.

Teaching, even for the four hours per day which I have given, has been very heavy for my slender strength, especially with the extra rush of medical work which has had to be sandwiched in before—at recess—at noon—after school—for hours on end. But, oh how He has blessed and what opportunities to reach souls. How we do need the unction of the Holy One in double measure these days!

Thursday, for morning prayers, we took the story of the trial and crucifixion, the burial and resurrection of our Lord. We devoted a full hour, and God's presence came down in real conviction. Many bright young faces were wet with tears. We have not got away from it yet. Evening prayers was a time of weeping before the Lord. Oh, we long to see a mighty sweeping revival break right out as it has before. Souls are perishing all around us, swiftly passing out into eternity by the score. Yesterday I heard that seven young people were swept away in the flooded Pevaan and drowned last week.

We believe He is giving us the kind of a revival He puts on our hearts to pray for. A real Holiness revival that will plough deep—it is coming this way—we are getting good big "first drops."

Yours for the mighty showers,

— FAITH MacDONALD

SOMERVILLE HOUSE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

During the height of the electrical storm last Wednesday a bolt of lightning struck the residence of Bert Nixon at Somerville. The lightning struck the house chimney, demolishing it and entering the house. The shock tore a considerable amount of plaster off the wall near the flue. Fortunately the lightning set no fire and the damage was slight.—Hartland Observer.

CORRESPONDENCE

Port Maitland, N. S.

Dear Brother Dow:

Please find enclosed P. O. Order for \$5.00 my pledge on Supplementary Fund for Highway. I praise the Lord for full salvation that saves me from sin just now. The Spirit beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. Rom. 8-16. I am glad to be in this race. As the Apostle Paul says: "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12-1.

If we keep our eyes on Jesus we need never fall. He will never let us be tempted above that we are able to bear. "There is no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but with every temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Cor. 10-13.

The Lord surely has met the every need of His children and provided a way to keep them from falling. But brothers and sisters, let's not forget our prayer life. Jesus knew the weakness of the flesh. Therefore provided a source from which we could draw. The way of prayer. He also says: "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak."

The enemy comes to us the strongest when we are weak from the neglect of prayer. "Pray lest ye enter into temptation." Too many people say words but never truly pray. Then let us believe His precious word remembering that the promises are "yea" and "Amen" in Him. "But when ye pray, enter into thy closet and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which shall seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matt. 6:6. When we go to Him in secret we must shut the door from the world and its cares, and remember that we are in the presence of the One that died on the Cross of Calvary that we should have ever lasting life. "The Lord is not willing that any shall perish." 2 Peter 3:9.

So let us remember to pray for those who are perishing in sin away from the fold. May the Lord broaden our vision. Where there is no vision the people perish. "More of his love to sinners show." Let us pray and trust the Lord for greater things. According to our faith will it be unto us.

May the Lord's blessing be on the Editor and Highway readers, is the prayer of your sister in Christ.

ESTELLA M. STANTON

GARDENS

As Mother Nature begins to put on her dress of luxuriant foliage our thoughts naturally turn to the idea of assisting her by doing all we can to beautify our surroundings and our earthly dwelling-places as well.

Many have already laid their plans for a vegetable and flower garden; and what is more satisfying to the natural eye than to gaze upon a garden of growing vegetables well laid out in rows and beds? We also like to have different kinds of flowers growing, and we look forward to our perennial shrubs, which put forth leaves and blossoms year after year.

As we arrange our earthly gardens, have we thought about the most important garden of all, the garden of our souls? Every