

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Altona, Mission Station,
Transvaal, So. Africa.
July 3, 1934.

Dear Homeland Friends:

I fear we have been neglectful of our Highway letters lately. I am sorry. You are now in the midst of Camp-meeting. We hope to hear of a grand time of salvation. We are indeed grieved to hear of Brother Kierstead's Home going. Sorry for the church's loss and the sorrow it brings to his loved ones and many friends, but for him we know it is far better to be with the Lord. How he will be missed by all and we in Africa will miss his cheering letters which have always been so welcome. "One by one they are gathering home". Mr. Kierstead has not been forgotten by the natives to whom he ministered and today they are sorry to hear that his earthly labours are ended.

We have been extra busy lately until just now it is quieter again. Helen is at the Quarterly meeting at Hartland. School is closed for the July holidays and after one Big Sunday (8th) we hope to get out among the kraals—winter is such an ideal season for this work. We do hope that Aloni Mkonza or Philemon Nkosi can be with us alternately from this time. They have been busy moving their kraals and we are very much in need of a native evangelist in the work. In spite of this great lack the Lord has been so gracious and has given us some gracious services assuring our hearts of His presence and help. Truly He is wonderful to our hearts.

While our enemies fire away at the church of these "white people" and we realize that we are indeed surrounded by bitter opposers of God's truth who are filled with Zulu envy, hatred and all manner of deceit and wickedness. Yet, dear friends, it is marvellous how He keeps us happy and free from fear. Not more than fifteen minutes' walk from us in two directions are those who long to see the end of this church in this locality. They breathe out their bitter insinuations at beer drinks and it gets to our ears through other sources of reliable authority. Having gotten rid of Isaiah by their wicked devices, they hope to discourage us. They know so well how valuable he was in the work and how we appreciated his fellowship and help. I have an idea that they thought his widow would have to leave and that we might follow, by the whispers that come to us now and again, but the dear Lord did not intend that the work should go down by Isaiah's home going. He permitted it for the glory of His name and we expect to see an advancement in His Kingdom rather than a falling away, even though it has been such a loss and we miss him so much.

His little widow seems to feel the responsibility of filling in the gap, and it often brings the tears to one's eyes to see her faithful efforts to help in the work. We do praise God for this faithful, determined little Zulu widow who has taken her stand so bravely in the face of heathen relatives and customs. Remember her in your prayers.

She has had one of her serious sick spells recently and knowing how faithfully Isaiah always nursed and cared for all and how she would miss it in her home we brought her down to the hospital room. Her mother-in-law has always been very careless and neglectful of her so she was glad, too, that we brought her here. At the same time dear Tulina was here sick almost unto death and we did have a busy but blessed time caring for these two dear workers. The Lord was so gracious and so near and helped us so

wonderfully. At times it did seem as though Tulina might not come through but the Lord had mercy on us all and restored her. We praise His name. She is, it seems to us, second to Isaiah in deep spirituality and our loss would have been great had the Lord not spared her to us. She is at home now but not able to do any work yet. I visited her a few days ago and had such a sweet refreshing time. How you would love her, could you see her sweet, shining face and hear her unctious words of exhortation and praise. Her trust in God was so firm during her illness and it was a sweet privilege to minister to this dear child of God. Aloni was over for one week-end while she was sick here and in his loving fatherly way said to us on Monday. "I am not going to leave you alone today when Tulina is so sick, I will stay and watch with you until tomorrow, then if she is better I will go with rejoicing." We did appreciate this for we knew he had much work to do at home. She was better on Tuesday and he left with a joyous heart. He is really a dear soul.

Meliana, Isaiah's mother has had a deep, bitter struggle to get victory over the seemingly untimely death of her beloved son. How our hearts have pitied and prayed for her as we have watched the struggles. She was so proud of him and knew he was a pillar in the church of God. The Zulu tendency for revenge in such tragic matters is a normal thing for them, but this dear soul had Light enough to see the sinfulness of revenge and her poor heart battled bravely against the temptations that beset her soul. How we praise God for the help He has given her and how sweet it is to see the lines softening in the dear old wrinkled face and a spirit of cheerfulness returning. Agnes said, sometimes the poor old woman would not come into prayers and she would say bitter things about Agnes taking such a stand against Zulu customs, but now praise the Lord she shows a kind spirit toward the widow and is becoming more and more tender in every way. Sometimes my heart is so full of praise for the many tokens of His love and answers to prayer, it is so wonderful, I know not how to praise Him as I should. He is so gracious, and kind.

"We can sing amidst the tempest, Praise the Lord!"

I rode to Badaza on the 24th. It was a very cold, bleak day for Africa and I had a small congregation but felt repaid for going. Mosi Mkonza accompanied me on a bicycle and found that the gate in the wire fence across the foot path we take, had been tied up with wire and we could not get through, so it looked as though we would have about eight miles more to ride and I thought I would not get home that night, but the Lord was so good. I found the people had gathered at a nearer kraal for the meeting and I was thankful, though rather disappointed not to reach the kraal where the most heathen live. But "He knoweth our frame" and I found when I got home after the twenty-eight mile ride in the cold, that I was thoroughly chilled and very, very weary indeed. How thankful I was for a fire and a place of rest. It cleared off beautifully on the way home and after sunset the moonlight was lovely but a true winter night in this country. This is our most distant outpost and we do not get there often. Tulina goes regularly and reports a growing interest at the Swaziland meeting place. We hope to go with her and one of the evangelists and spend a few days among these people when she gets well enough.

Helen had walked to Klip Vaal (about five miles from us) for a meeting that day and Agnes had the service here.

Hoping to hear good reports from Beulah and

asking you to remember us at the throne of grace. I am

Yours in His tender keeping.

ALICE F. STERRITT.

CORRESPONDENCE

August 9, 1934

Dear Friends:

Please pardon my delay in reporting about the two weeks special meetings at Wood's Harbor. They followed a very good Quarterly. Brother George DeLong brought soul-stirring messages from God's precious word. A spirit of great conviction rested heavily upon the people. If I remember correctly five were saved; seven reclaimed from backsliding and four claimed sanctification. We had seasons of great rejoicing in the Lord to see the lost find Jesus. The church was strengthened and greatly encouraged and more determined than ever to keep following in our Saviour's footsteps. We were sorry to bring the meetings to a close when folk manifested a hunger for salvation. Some left the building fairly sobbing—and yet they would not yield. Oh pray for these that they may "surrender all" to Christ very soon.

Friends from Sandford came down and helped in the battle. "Verily I say unto you they shall not lose their reward."

Oh! What a wonderful time we had at Beulah! And yet the evening of our arrival home, God met and blessed us in a singular manner, far beyond any blessing I ever received at any time at Beulah before. Since then God has refreshed us again and again in the meetings here. It seems like a continuation of Beulah! Each service seems better than the one before. Bless God, "Where Jesus is 'tis heaven there!" He has promised to never leave nor forsake us but is even with us. North Head Church has travelled far up the road since I was home Christmas. The Young People's meetings are seasons of great refreshing.

Last week-end Miriam, Charlie and I had the pleasure of a trip to Wood Island. We greatly enjoyed meeting the kind friends, brothers and sisters in the Lord. Sunday morning Charlie brought a God-given message and how God did bless us! It seems so easy to get blessed these days! They have a good Sunday School there. Miriam was the messenger of the evening. Truly God filled her mouth.

I have been home longer than I planned, but expect to return any day now to my little field of labour. Have received very good reports of the Lord's blessing for which I do praise Him.

May God help me to labour more faithfully and effectually than heretofore. Pray for me, dear ones; I know many of you are. God bless you! I feel it is so great a responsibility. I need great wisdom. May God help me in declaring the whole truth and grant a holy boldness. I mean to be at the front of the battle for Holiness without which, no man shall see the Lord.

Yours for souls,

GRACE M. E. SANDERS

North Head, Grand Manan, N. B.,
Dear Highway Readers:

You will have seen and appreciated the Editor's front page announcement, in our Highway of July 15th, where he explains how the Sanders family is to be sent to Africa.

Let me review some of the providences of he feels he needs a chance to attend a Bible God that point to our going. Our son, George, now in Africa, writes the Mission Board that School in the homeland and should not longer

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