

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland M. S.

Paulpietersburg,

Dear Homeland Friends: July 21, 1935

Just last night I was talking to Jesina, our Native worker, about you all and what a wealthy heritage your love and prayers have been in the past and are today to us in this work, and in our lives. I tried to picture to her the scene when upon my furlough home in 1926 I first stood before you at Beulah and first realized this great love in its fullness! I felt a great wave of love sweep over my soul and the Holy Spirit unite my soul with yours in a sacred and holy bond. He showed me the wonder of His call to us to work together for Him for the redemption of souls. He knows today how precious each one of you are to my heart as I look back on our sweet fellowship while I was privileged to be with you, and now, "Though sundered far, yet still we meet around one common mercy seat," and continue in that wonderful fellowship in His glorious service. Praise His Holy Name, I do thank God for every one of you, and pray that He may continue to bless and use you in this wonderful ministry of intercession, and give us all yet more fruit, and more of the great joy of seeing precious souls won from darkness to light. It does rejoice my heart to read and hear of the blessing and victories He is giving you in the Homeland, and we are looking forward to hearing great things from Beulah Camp.

Others have already written of our quarterly which was held from Wednesday, the 27th of June, to Wednesday, July 3rd. It was a great blessing to us to feel that while we were gathered in worship here, you were doing the same over there, and the thought of our unity was very sweet to us all. I will not try to describe the quarterly, as that has been done before, but I would like to tell you about the baptismal service and the converts this time. There were three women about the age of my own mother, women whom we have known ever since we came here, and have prayed for all these years. All three have been friendly to the gospel and "seekers" for years, but bound by one or another heathen custom till during the last six months the Lord has brought them out and given them a sweet definite witness of salvation. One of these has just come up from the brink of the grave and was still so weak that it seemed a great risk, but she said she did not know that she would live to see another quarter, and knew the Lord would help her as He surely did.

One fine Christian woman came with Alfred Metula from Grootspuit. She has been waiting for five years for a "Letter" from the Dutch Reformed church from which she came to join ours, and all these years has pulled her weight in the yoke there and lived a good consistent life. Her prayers, testimony and helpful presence was a blessing to the Quarterly.

Maliya Nkosi, a little sweet-faced woman, just seemed suited with the name she chose, "Mary." To tell you of her self-sacrificing life I will have to go back and tell you another story. A poor old couple living alone were given the little orphan son of Maliya's dead sister, to help them with the cattle and kraal chores. This little fellow became very ill and was doctored by demon doctors and became demon possessed. Josefa Ngoza went to pray

with him, but failing to get results gave up and left him. Filimon Nkosi, one of our preachers passing by, learned of the little fellow's desperate case and went to pray with him, and was so gratefully and gladly received that he went again and again. Later Bertha, one of our Native Bible women, was given this kraal as her regular preaching place, and the little fellow was completely delivered from the torment of demon possession. He developed T. B. of the bones, is being buried piecemeal, and a great sufferer. The poor old woman was no fit nurse for such a patient; and he suffered from neglect and was a very pathetic case, till this sweet aunt of his left her own home and came to live in the kraal of this old couple and devote her life to the nursing of this invalid. He was beautifully saved, and his testimony is really touching. Just after last quarterly George and Dan went down to that distant kraal and baptized this little fellow, who took the name of "Jotamu." Malia was greatly blessed at this service and very, very happy to see little Jotamu baptized. Bertha started in the face of real persecution from this Josefa Ngoza whom you may remember left us, and is running an opposition work. He threatened and tried to terrify her and influence people against her. At first he succeeded, and she had a long discouraging pull with only an occasional outsider to her services at this kraal. But this poor little sick boy grieved so if she missed a service, and was so happy when she came that she continued to go. Bertha was not satisfied with the long months of apparently fruitless toil, and wrote to Mamma about it once, stating her burden. Mamma wrote back comfort and encouragement regarding the priceless value of even one soul, and Bertha was content to carry on. Within this New Year, the tide has turned, and God is doing a new thing in that place. The young people from this Mission Station are going with her occasionally, and God has wonderfully blessed their testimonies, especially that of Bertha's own crippled daughter, Lifina, and now she has good congregations and melting meetings. Once, not many weeks ago, folk from three other denominations came by appointment and request to her service to hear her story of victory, deliverance from sin and from sinning, the destruction of the old man, and the experience of Holiness and strong men wept as she gave her experience and testimony, folk grieved to see the sun go down so quickly and asked for prayer, and expressed both in the service and afterward in private talk, a hunger for this experience, saying that they have never heard before that one can be delivered from sin in this life. Praise God, how glad we are for the glorious Gospel He has called us to preach to these poor sin bound souls! Jotamu and Malia are the first fruits from this outpost, and we are looking and praying for many more. The people there are very needy and hungry. Death has been, for the last three years, taking heavy toll, and they are uneasy. Pray with us for Bertha's outpost at "Emaqulusini" down by the Pevaan.

Jakobina Shabangu was the name chosen by an exceptionally bright and spiritual young married woman whom Filimon brings over from his outpost in Louisburg District, across the Pevaan. Her clear, definite answers and beautiful testimony blessed our souls as we questioned her in preparation for baptism. Filimon tells us that she has from her first

start down an earnestness and depth that has rejoiced their hearts, and we felt while dealing with her that perhaps here was the instrument God is choosing to take the place of Trifina Shabangu, wife of Johanisi Nkosi, who at present is doing such fine work at that outpost as a young helper but seems greatly needed in another section.

Enoke Kunene, son of our Native preacher, Johan, is one of the finest and steadiest of our "Church Babies." He has been brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord by Johan and his fine wife, Lena, and gives good promise of becoming "A pillar in the Temple of God."

These, with a sweet young girl from Jostina's section and Bertha's daughter-in-law, who comes to us from another church, were received into membership.

In another letter I want to tell you about the three Altona converts who were received last Sunday, but mention them here as being in the same class of converts who just bless our souls as we interview them and whom we rejoice to receive into membership. I do not know of another nine months, in our work, when we have received into membership such a fine promising bunch of outstanding characters as have been baptized in and between our last three quarterlies. I believe that this is a sign of deepening spirituality and power in our workers and work, and we look up and take courage, praising God for what He is doing, and praying and hoping for more, yea "Much more than this," which He says He is able to give us, praise His Name.

Yours rejoicing in His amazing Grace,

FAITH MacDONALD

NOTES—By W. G. Burns

1. Holy living is the supreme test of holiness.
2. We should not suppose, that if we habitually profess the experience of holiness that we have its power.
3. The profession may become a habit and a mere shibboleth without the power of holiness in the character and the life.
4. There are those still who claim that there is never needed any cleansing process in the soul after conversion.
5. The logical conclusion of this theory is. It is a contradiction of the universal consciousness of the regenerated.
6. All those who find converting grace find out some time after they become born again, they have inbred sin remaining.
7. To believe like Zinzendorf is to make an absurdity of the command, exhortations and promises to the children of God to "cleanse themselves," "to be holy," etc.
8. Many good people advocate very zealously growth in grace, but neglect the experience of entire sanctification.
9. We grow in grace in a very marked degree when inbred sin with all its hindrances are cleansed away.
10. It takes more than a certain "shibboleth," or patented profession to convince the world of the divine reality of the doctrine and experience of Holiness.
11. It is quite a safe test as to whether we have the experience of the New Birth or The cleansed Heart, by our zeal to promote the truth of either experiences, within the sphere that we move, that all around us will find their conviction of need as we did.—The Holiness Era.