

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Highway Friends: Altona

October has come and with it came days of dark, cloudy, rainy weather. It was certainly appreciated as everything was quite dry, but now the green grass is rapidly appearing and the vegetables in the garden are growing very fast. This year the winter was much longer and colder and the summer has not hurried to reach us. However from now on we will likely have plenty of heat.

Just now it is interesting to watch the native children outside. The white ants are coming from their holes in the ground and are flying about and the children are running here and there catching them. They will eat them soon.

September was a very busy month. Bible school closed the first of October and over the last week end of September we had quarterly meeting again at Altona. We began the meetings as usual, on Thursday. The crowds were not large but steadily increased until by Sunday very many were present and the church was full for the afternoon service.

Brother Charles Sanders was with us and we greatly enjoyed his messages in the services and his fellowship in our home. Brother George and Sister Grace were unable to attend.

We had a day of fasting and prayer on Saturday which I felt was very profitable. I spoke on Saturday morning, taking as my text, "Howbeit this kind goes not out but by prayer and fasting." Matt. 17:21. You will remember the verse just before this, "If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed ye shall say unto this mountain Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

I had asked for the day of fasting and prayer and I told the people that my reason was that we might get closer to the dear Lord and obtain more faith so that we could believe God even for the seemingly impossible things.

Sunday was a lovely day, quite warm and really very uncomfortable in the crowded church, but bright and sunny. We had an early prayer service as usual. I do so enjoy the early meeting together to ask God's blessing upon us for the day. To me, it is the best service of the day.

Following this we had breakfast and then Sunday school. Almost immediately after, many gathered at the river, where three persons were baptized. One was a school girl and the others a mother and her married daughter from our new outpost, towards Moolman.

At twelve the long service of the day began and it didn't end until after four, I believe. Two of our workers, Paul Nkosi and Alfred Metula, preached as did also Brother Charles and Eugene. Two babies were presented. Those who were baptized were given the right hand of fellowship, one woman who had gone astray had come back to the Lord and was restored to membership again. Another, who for a long time, has been going back little by little has now started to be a witch doctor, so she was placed aside. Poor soul, she was at one time one of our prayer women. How the devil does enjoy making trouble for these poor heathen to keep them from becoming Christians and after they do start to seek the Lord how he does try to cause them to fall. May the Lord help us to pray more and have greater faith for these hard cases.

Most of the people left after the service so in the evening we just had prayers for the natives as usual. Our quarterly was over, but our souls had been blessed.

A little girl has come to the Mission to live with us, and go to school. For a year now she has been one of my most faithful little Sunday school girls. Her name is Samaria Msibi. She was presented to the church as a baby but has not given herself to the Lord as a seeker. Samaria's mother and older sister are both our baptized members and I am praying that she soon may become interested in her soul's salvation. I have still three little girls and one little boy in my Sunday school who have not given themselves to the Lord. Harold was saying the other day that we should bestir ourselves more and gather these young people into the fold before the devil gets a greater hold upon them.

We are all well at present and the children are growing fast. Reginald's eyes are much better. They were not as bad as last year—and we had medicines so were able to treat them as soon as trouble started. So they were better within a week's time. How we do thank the dear Lord for His help.

We are feeling the effects of the war more and more. Prices are still going up, some things are scarce while others not obtainable. Cotton is very scarce and what we paid 25c a yard for when we came, is now about 75c a yard. Other things are much the same.

In closing I want to thank all who have remembered us in any way during the year. I have written to everyone and if you have not received the letter I hope you will see this and accept my thanks now. If Baby Kenneth was old enough to understand he would want to especially thank the young ladies of Marysville who have adopted him and have remembered him so generously. To all our friends we say a grateful "thank you" and may God bless you all.

I doubt if the homeland friends realize how much a word from home means to us here. I know I didn't understand it when I lived in Canada. I often say to Eugene that if our friends only knew how much their letters mean to us they would write more often. But we are so grateful for all the letters, etc. Please keep it up, friends, and we will do our best to let you know about your work here.

It will, no doubt, be near Christmas by the time this reaches you, so to all we send our best wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. May the dear Lord be unto you all that you need.

Yours in Hom,

G. M. KIERSTEAD

Hartland M. S.,

Natal, So. Africa

Dear Friends of the Highway Family:

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Yes, "Glory to God" for this wonderful salvation, through our precious Lord, which is meant for "all people." "Red and yellow, black and white—they are precious in His sight." Turning from this passage just quoted, from Luke 2:10-14 to Rev. 5:8-10, we get a glimpse of the results of this great salvation: "And when He had taken the book, the four beasts and the four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb . . . and they sung a new song, saying: "Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals there-

of: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of EVERY KINDRED, and TONGUE, and PEOPLE, and NATION; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." Again the Angels sing a song of praise and "glory."

Many a home will be saddened this Christmas because of the absence of fathers, sons, brothers, friends; yes, and of sisters and daughters who are at the front or have already lost their lives for their king and country. May God comfort these dear hearts and bring cheer to those at the front with the dawning of another Christmas Day. Think of this "so great salvation" which can keep through any circumstance no matter how trying, and of our Heavenly Father Who "careth" for them. And of the glories awaiting the blood-washed throng of "Victors."

For several weeks I have been having prayers for my little "family" in the Hospital morning and evening. The blessing has been so sweet in my soul as we have been reading Revelation and memorizing the eight overcomeths. The size of the family fluctuates very much—from five to fifteen and twenty or more. Last week heathen from Engotshe (Louwsburg district) and professed Christians from Swaziland and near the border of Swaziland and Transvaal, stayed over night, having been two days journeying here. Some were Miss Moe's followers. Five women are here now—one in bed with an 8-day-old baby. They are all Christians and there is a sweet spirit in the building of love and fellowship and joy in the Lord, and they often have sing-songs. Truly this salvation is wonderful. Since June I have had a fully trained nurse (native) who also took a course in midwifery, helping me. Most of the time we are both kept very busy. She is walking with the Lord—is also one of our Bible women and is a help spiritually in the work as well.

Glad to get the Beulah report in the last Highway which came last week. Made me feel a little "homesick" for Beulah—how I loved attending Beulah Camp! We praise the Lord for giving such blessing to you. Especially did we rejoice to hear the reports from the young people and about them and how God has blessed the "Self Denial Fund." Praise the Lord.

Some people are not interested in the salvation of the heathen. Some tell them that salvation is not for them. They will have to enter heaven through the back door and work for the Europeans in the kitchen. They tell them to stay heathen and they will be better off. But what has just been quoted from God's Word? We read that that holy, rejoicing crowd were people "out of every kindred, tongue, people and nation." That means that there will be some of these Zulus there too, praise the Lord! And that is worth all our united efforts of labour and sacrifice even to help but one to get through. Just think of the exceeding great joy it will be to join in that "new song" in unison with the redeemed Zulus from Africa! It gives me a wonderful thrill at times down here on earth to hear the saved Zulus sing—but what will it be up there? Oh, God help me to be faithful to their souls!

We covet your earnest prayers for us here that God will help many more to be "washed in the Blood of the Lamb" before the "Harvest is past."

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours in Jesus, GRACE E. M. SANDERS