

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE

Hartland M. S.

Dear Friends:

It has been a lovely clear, winter's day, what you would liken to a day in early spring. The frosts have come and it seems we are to have quite a severe winter. Late rains have kept the ground more moist than is usual at this time of the year. The brooks and rivers have a higher water mark as a result.

One of the older natives of this farm died recently, after an illness that slowly but surely led him to his grave. Obed Kunene, a son of old Mpengula, the witch-doctor that my parents found living here when they arrived. Obed was one of the few of Mpengula's sons who was converted. I believe that he had been in a back-slidden state for a number of years. Near the end of his illness he became unconscious and preparations for his burial were under way when quite late in the afternoon we received word that he had come to life again. He lingered for a few days and finally passed on to his reward. We have reason to hope that he is safe in the glory world. He leaves a young widow and a few small children who are to live with the husband's sister for the present.

Friday night we had a service of special prayer for the lost sheep of our flock. Only a few people came to the meeting; those who testified expressed gratitude for the service. I trust that it is but the first of a new phase in this work, preliminary to a revival.

Recently a young man, whose father is a Roman Catholic, gave himself as a seeker during our Wednesday meeting. This Wednesday class meeting is like a preaching and testimony service. Several weeks before, a woman, who used to be a member of this church but who had strayed far from the fold, rose to her feet and told her story. She said that she is once again seeking God and the way back into His fold. May God bless these two and cause that there will be many who will follow their example.

Last Sunday I visited one of our smallest outposts, it is small in the size of its congregation and membership. While I waited outside the kraal I ate my lunch and talked to two young men of the place, and a little later to their old mother. When about through my meal some of the people for the meeting arrived and also our native worker who conducts services at this point. Hearing some voices I looked to one side and there was a group of natives walking in Indian file with two women witch-doctors in their company. I was told that they were returning from participating in the ceremony for initiating a third young "isangoma" into the ungodly state they themselves were in. There was a beast killed for the occasion as is their custom at such a time. So there is one more fully fledged servant of the devil, out to do his will. And as it happens this new "isangoma" was a professed Christian or seeker before the enemy took her captive to help extend his kingdom. Let us pray more earnestly against the encroaching power of darkness.

Yours glad to be in His service,

CHARLES SANDERS

As Christians, we must conquer hate with love.

The secret of the Lord is imparted to those who have no secrets from Him.

HOW TO PREACH—SO THAT NO ONE WILL BE CONVERTED

Gathered from Finney, and others

Study to please and thus secure an audience and make a reputation.

Preach on the loveliness of virtue and the glory of Heaven, but not on the sinfulness of sin and the terrors of hell.

Reprove the sins of the absent and distant, but make those present well pleased with themselves, so that they will enjoy the sermon and not go away with their feelings hurt.

Denounce sin in the abstract, and especially unpopular sins, but pass lightly over sins that prevail in your congregation.

If asked, "Is it wrong to dance, play cards, and attend the theater?" answer very pleasantly, "Oh, that is a matter of private judgment; it is not for me to say you shall or shall not."

Let your motive be popularity and salary, rather than salvation.

Make the impression on worldly church members that God is too good to send anyone to hell, even if there is a hell.

Encourage men to live right, and tell them if they do they need not fear that they will die wrong.

Take up popular, passing and sensational themes to draw; spice them with jokes, and avoid the essential doctrines of salvation.

Preach the universal Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of man, so that no second birth is really needed.

Do not rebuke the worldliness of the Church and try to make it peculiar, but fall in with the Amusement Heresy and the Cooking Stove Apostasy.

Preach much on civic righteousness, and try to make your city a good place to live in. Heaven is a long way off, anyhow, and we may as well take one world at a time.

To make religion attractive, and to make the Church progressive and up-to-date, split it up into worldly clubs and societies, to cultivate worldly sociability, fun and merchandising. Instead of meeting for prayer, let them "Sit down to eat and drink, and rise up to play."

These principles and practices have been widely used, and the results are sadly apparent.—Sel.

HOW TO KILL A PRAYER MEETING

1. Forget all about it until the hour arrives.
2. Come ten minutes late, and sit near the door.
3. Drag the music. Slow, painfully slow singing is so appropriate for a dead prayer meeting.
4. When the meeting is begun, wait for others to speak and pray.
5. When you do take part occupy about twenty minutes.
6. Be sure and bewail the low spiritual condition of the church.
7. When meeting closes, go out as from a funeral. You can speak with your brethren or the stranger at some other time or place.
8. If you mention the meeting during the week, tell how dull it was.
9. If this does not kill the prayer meeting, stay away entirely for six months or a year.—Selected.

CORRESPONDENCE

Fort Fairfield, Maine

Dear Highway:

We were sorry to learn that we were not to have our camp-meeting at Riverside this year, but we can only hope that in the coming year, if Jesus tarries, that the ban will be lifted. We are pleased with our church edifice, which looks well, with a fresh coat of paint inside and out, and the best of all, all bills paid up to date. We are looking forward to having Brother Jones with us, and we all pray that God will send us a gracious revival. Many are looking forward to our next quarterly meeting, which we hope will be held at some near future time.

Some writer has said we all need these meetings, where we can encourage one another, and renew our vows to God. Living as we are in perilous times, we who remain, must hold the torch high, as the enemy of our souls is busy. Amid it all, let us not forget that our God is still on the throne, and will answer prayer.

Greetings to all Highway readers,

MRS. FRANK KIMBALL

Dear Highway:

Fredericton, N. B.

As we enjoy hearing from the churches and our brothers and sisters in the Lord, in connection with their seeking to advance the work of God among the people with whom they labor, so others may be interested to know how we are getting on here. Our hearts are full of praise to our loving heavenly Father for all the benefits and blessings that he is bestowing upon us as a church, and as individuals. Our prayer-meetings and Sunday services are well attended, God is honoring us with His presence, and souls are being blessed. Some have found Jesus as their Saviour, of late. Sunday, Aug. 8th, was a wonderful day among us, four candidates were baptized at the close of the morning service, when the presence of the Spirit of God was manifest in a very special manner, five were received into church membership at the evening service; we have undertaken a new work in holding open air services at Parliament Square at the close of our Sunday evening service. Lic. Hubert MacGeorge has charge of this part of the work and has the hearty co-operation of the church and pastor, good crowds attend and we believe much good will be accomplished. Let us keep on praying. Pray for us. May the Lord richly bless our new Editor and all our pastors and people, and may this be a year of gracious revivals. Amen!

Yours for true holiness,

P. J. TRAFTON

Jonesport, Maine

Dear Editor:

The joy that fills my soul is as the hymn writer has written: "Joy unspeakable." It is useless for me to try in my way to put into words how happy I am, at this time for my health and strength, so I would ask you to look with me, at the blessed passage of scripture found in I. Peter 4:12.

We were privileged here in the little church at Jonesport to listen this morning to a very