

The South African MISSIONARY

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

VOLUME X.

KENILWORTH, CAPE, JANUARY 23, 1911.

NUMBER 4.

The Refiner's Fire.

HE sat by a furnace of sevenfold heat,
As He watched by the precious ore,
And closer He bent with a searching gaze
As he heated it more and more,

He knew He had ore that could stand the
test,
And He wanted the finest gold
To mould a crown for the King to wear,
Set with gems of a price untold.

So He laid our gold in the burning fire,
Tho' we fain would have said Him—*Nay*,
And He watched the dross that we had not
seen,
As it melted and passed away.

And the gold grew brighter, and yet more
bright,
But our eyes were so dim with tears,
We saw but the fire, not the Master's
hand,
And questioned with anxious fears.

Yet our gold shone out with a richer glow,
As it mirrored a Form above,
That bent o'er the fire, tho' unseen by us,
With looks of ineffable love.

Can we think that it pleases His loving
heart
To cause us a moment's pain?
Ah! no, but He saw through the present
cross
The bliss of eternal gain.

So He waited there with a watchful eye,
With a love that is *strong* and *sure*,
And His gold did not suffer a whit more
heat
Than was needed to make it pure.

And not *by* the furnace, but *thro'* the
midst
Passed a thorn-crowned and kingly Form,
The fire had no power on the gleaming
gold
So close to His bosom borne.—*Selected.*

A Visit to the Wilgehoek Church.

IT was a real pleasure to me to
visit the Wilgehoek Church during
the time of their quarterly meeting
occasion. On account of it being
harvest time none of the members
living at a distance were able to
attend. Those living near came and
brought their friends on the Sabbath
and remained all day.

In the afternoon the ordinances of
the Lord's house were celebrated, and
the Lord witnessed by the presence
of His Spirit to the expressions of
renewed consecration on the part of
His people.

The church society was cleared of
debt here also, even though the debt
was a small one, and decided to work
on a cash basis in the future.

The work among the coloured
brethren and sisters is going steadily
forward. We held one meeting with
them, and talked over some plans
which we hope will result in providing
a church-school for their children.

How it rejoices the heart to see
our churches growing spiritually, and
with their interest all centred in
the message. This condition will
continue to be more and more
apparent the nearer we draw to the
end of our work. God grant that we
may each live every day where we
can pray from the heart "Lord, haste
that day."

From this place I go to Grahams-
town and Rokeby Park for mid week
and for the Sabbath and Sunday.
On the 19th my wife will meet me at
Alice, and together with Doctor

Thomason and wife, Pastor
W. S. Hyatt and family will give us
a ten days' trip in Kaffirland, that
we may see and know the needs of
that people by actual contact with
them. We are looking forward to
this occasion with much interest.

R. C. PORTER.

Maranatha Mission.

DURING the last few weeks I have
been able to spend some time assist-
ing in the work in Grahamstown.
On Sabbath, December 17th, it was
my privilege to baptise two sisters
who united with the church at that
place. One of these, a young sister
who is a teacher, heard her first
Adventist sermon at this time. She
and her mother have kept the
Sabbath for many years at Cradock;
and, to the best of our knowledge,
they have been faithful witnesses for
the truth.

Two weeks later we had another
very pleasant time in town. Ten
persons who accepted the truth
during our meetings in the location
were baptised. At the waters edge,
and under the shade of large willow
trees, a goodly number of people
gathered and listened to our reasons
for baptising in the water rather than
to bring up a cup of water and
sprinkle it on them. After this the
believers, in a few words, gave their
reasons for uniting with this people.
Many gave very good and clear
reasons for so doing.

Since there are five of those
baptised who are now living near the
mission, it seemed best to us to have

a church at this place in which all these could unite. Accordingly on Sabbath, January 7th, we organised a church of twenty-three members, fifteen of whom are natives. Recently several natives living in this vicinity have begun to keep the Sabbath, and the interest seems to be spreading.

Since we now have a church at the mission we can gather the scattered native Sabbath-keepers into it that they may feel that they have a place among us. We have felt the need of this for some time. We are thankful that we can have a part in the work of gathering a people out from the midst of all nations to meet Jesus at His coming.

W. S. HYATT.

**Extracts from a Letter from
Brother E. C. Silsbée.**

BROTHER SILSBÉE is writing while visiting the out-stations of the Barotseland Mission.

"I will write while I am waiting for my dinner to cook. I wish you could step in and take dinner with me. We have corn-bread, corn-meal porridge, potatoes roasted in the ashes, peanuts and milk. Occasionally we must do without the potatoes, porridge and milk, and have peanuts and corn-bread for a change. But I am feeling fine over it. My house is a mud hut, and at night my bed is poles across forked posts in the ground, and course grass on top for a mattress. It is a splendid scheme to help one wake up early in the morning,—if he be the kind that likes to sleep late. Another advantage this "bed" has over an ordinary one is, that it may also be used for a table; at least I make that use of it. My chair is a native stool cut out of a log. It has three legs and may be used either end up. This is the extent of my furniture.

I learned a lesson on my first trip alone to the out-stations, and I now try to look after my health better, as you will see by my dinner menu. I have been looking for a lion ever since my first experience with one,

but have not seen another. I have seen their fresh tracks, and heard rumours of them near at hand, but they have kept out of sight.

I had a pleasant trip a few days ago to one of our schools that is not in the line of these schools I am now visiting. Some people think Central Africa is all desert, or wilderness, or jungle, but I found on this trip that we have pretty places here as well as elsewhere. . . . The path to this station leads one directly to the hills. A few hours' ride on the mule, and I was going up hill and down dale in a way that was new to me up in this country, and made me think of "ups" and "downs" of life. After camping and taking lunch in a pretty little vale that sloped gently down to a small stream of water, we crossed the little valley, and started up the hill on the other side. I noticed that it was getting suddenly dark, and on looking up I saw one of those black thunder-storm clouds coming, which are common here this time of year. These storms being local, I pushed on hoping to get beyond the hardest of it, but failed, for down came the rain. It was like a young cloud-burst. Our path was soon like a small stream six to eight inches deep, and three or four feet wide. The storm continued for about a half hour without abating. The flashing of the lightning, and the loud peals of thunder among the hills was certainly inspiring. I knew I was in the keeping of one who controls the storms, so I sat still on the mule under a tree, this being my only shelter. After a time the storm passed, and we had an easy rain for about an hour. My raincoat had kept me dry so that I was comfortable. After this the atmosphere was cool and clear. I could look away across a pretty valley to another range of hills.

I took shelter that night in a native village that was beautifully situated on the top of a high hill, giving one a splendid view of the surrounding country. At first the chief wanted to put me in his only spare bed-chamber, a hut where two

calves were tied, and had evidently been kept there for some weeks, I declined, so he showed me the verandah of his hut. This was under the eaves of another, so I slept sheltered from the rain that came down nearly all night. I brought no money with which to pay hotel bills, but the Lord provided pay by giving us a couple of reed-buck, for the chief.

When I came back from finding the bucks, the chief's herdboys had come with the cattle—it was yet early morning—saying that a lion had tried to kill an ox as he was herding them. I thought sure that I would see one now, as this is a country sparsely settled, so I went with the boy to where he had said he saw two lions. As we came near the place I thought of how good it would be to rid the country of such pests, and at the same time secure a nice rug for my wife. I was asking the boy particularly just where he had seen the lions, when suddenly he pointed across a little open space in the bush, saying "Banyama! banyama! oys! oys! (animals, animals, there, there). Instantly my rifle was ready, and I looked in the direction he indicated only to see three jackals, or wild dogs, they call them here. I was disappointed and also disgusted, and yet I could not help feeling just a little relieved. After looking after the school interests there I returned home.

Truly the Lord is good to us. I can begin to see now why the mission board are particular about sending out workers who have a good degree of health. These trips to the out-stations, sleeping wherever night overtakes one, and oftentimes going on short rations, or none, besides long, hard, hot walks or rides, would be very fatiguing to one not of robust health; it would be positively dangerous.

The battle cry for Prince Immanuel is onward. We are planting the banner of the cross in new places here in the heart of the enemy's territory, and establishing those places where it has already been planted.

E. C. SILSBÉE.

Some Mission Problems.

THE great problem—one of them at least—is to provide for our converts and trained helpers. In Nyasaland our schools have been blessed with a large attendance. A considerable part of our scholars have stayed with us two and three years, until now we have fifty or more qualified as evangelists, teachers and assistants. Nearly as many more are employed in the various lines of profitable industries.

There are opportunities to enter new territory and to increase schools in our old territory. Right here certain difficulties confront us which must be solved. Let me state one of them,—the amount of wages paid and required by our native workers. Up to the present our average wage has been five shillings a month with food or garden provided. And this has been thought sufficient, as the average labourer's wage is three shillings with food. One shilling a month is added each year of service of the teacher.

Perhaps I shall be able to make plain the standpoint of the native teacher which causes him to think he now requires higher wages. Every owner of a house must pay a yearly tax of three shillings. Perhaps the teacher has an old father who always expects his son to furnish taxes for the father, and possibly for the houses of several wives. Very likely two or three aunts or uncles expect the same thing. If the teacher also has a wife and children to feed and clothe and tax to pay, all these things become quite a heavy burden.

In case he has no father or mother to support, he may have sick or lazy brothers and sisters, and they are always demanding of a boy educated at a mission. A few days ago one of our best teachers came with the touching story of the death of his parents who left eight children all too young to work for a living. He felt that the burden of caring for them rested upon him, and he must

Weekly Report of Book and Paper Sales.

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending January 6, 1911.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Mission Company,	Jo'burg	Miscellaneous	375	9 0 9
Mrs. van der Molen,	Dundee,	"	66	1 4 0
Mrs. E. Armer,	Johannesburg,	"	391	5 15 6
Mrs. Crouch,	Pretoria,	"	48	1 4 0
Hessie Johnson,	Durban,	"	65	0 14 9
A. W. Tickton,	Durban,	"	676	10 12 10
Totals,	Agents, 6		1621	£28 11 10

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending January 6, 1911

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company,	Jo'burg,	S. P.	71	20	6 10 0	19 0	7 9 0	16 0 2
E. van der Molen,	Dundee,	P. P.	24	1	1 1 0	10 6	1 11 6	6 15 0
Health Institute,	Mtzburg,	M.H.	33	4	1 10 0		1 10 0	5 12 6
Totals,	Agents, 3		128	25	£9 1 0	£1 9 6	£10 10 6	£28 7 8

Cape Colony Conference, for week ending January 6, 1911.

J. F. Terry,	Beaconsfield,	C.O.S.	12	8	1 8 0	0 18 0	2 6 0	2 6 0
G. W. Shone,	various places,	Mis.				6 4 0	6 4 0	6 4 0
P. Tarr,	Somerset Strand and Gordau's Bay	C.K.	14	1	7 0		7 0	
Andrew Wessels,	Worcester	G.C.	18					
Totals,	Agents, 4		44	9	£1 15 0	£7 2 0	£8 17 0	£8 10 0

go elsewhere to work for higher pay. The wage of this teacher was seven shillings a month. It is well to remember that a shilling goes as far to supply the native's needs here as a dollar in America. We reasoned with him that no doubt he would be obliged to work on the Sabbath. His only answer was, "I must try to help those eight children. They are now with strangers who will not care for them well without pay." But the Lord will find some way for you to help them and still continue in his work. In saying this we intended to give personally to help the children, and told him so a little later. He replied, "But you have many schools and teachers and they also have people to support, so all your money will be needed for them." Then we put him off for a week, praying much for some light that would keep our teacher. But nothing seemed to move him from his purpose, so he is gone from us.

Perhaps we were more than usually affected by this one because of having laboured harder for him than others. None had caused so

much trouble and care in training. This was his fourth year with us. And he is one of five who have gone for money within a few months. We cannot know whether selfish ambition and desire for worldly advancement may have more or less influence in these cases. But we cannot get away from these conditions. We must face them and overcome them. As civilization and education advance, the wants of the people increase.

What steps should be taken under our present difficulties? One of three courses may be taken. We can curtail our schools work and the opening of new work in order to pay our present teachers better; we can increase the appropriation for teachers, or we can ignore the situation and let those go who want to go. We feel that our brethren must help us to solve this problem in the right way. You have helped us liberally in the past, and God has caused the seed to grow and bear fruit. What shall we do with the fruit?

JOEL C. ROGERS,

Malamulo Mission.

South African Missionary

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE
South African Union Conference
of Seventh-Day Adventists.

Editor: - - Mrs. R. C. Porter.
Kenilworth, Cape.

Annual Conference.

NOTICE is hereby given that the seventeenth annual session of the Cape Colony Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will convene at Bloemfontein, March 16th to 26th, 1911, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

Churches Attention.

THE churches in the Cape Colony Conference are hereby requested to elect their delegates to the Conference at Bloemfontein at once, and forward their names to the Secretary, J. V. Willson, 56 Roeland St., Cape Town.

There should be one delegate elected for each church, and one additional delegate for each ten members.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

South African Union Conference.

NOTICE is hereby given that the fifth session of the South African Union Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will be held in connection with the camp-meeting at Bloemfontein, March 16th to 26th, 1911, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

Rates to Camp Meeting.

THE South African Railways have granted the usual concession, to delegates attending our coming camp-meeting, viz.: one fare for the double journey. Full particulars will be given later. In the application it was stated that the Conference would begin the evening of the 16th and close the morning of the 27th, and that this would be followed by a convention lasting 14 days. Request was made that time enough be given on the tickets so as to allow the delegates to get there the day before the meeting, and to get home after the convention.

J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

Notes.

—Cards are in circulation announcing the marriage of Brother J. Victor Wilson, and Miss Jane Page, the 24th inst., in the Claremont Church.

—Brother Eric Smith, a Union College student, has spent his vacation largely, assisting Brother J. V. Willson in the office. Both the secretary and the assistant have been benefited thereby.

—The Claremont church building will soon undergo some changes for the better under the enthusiastic committee of Brethren H. S. Beckner and R. G. Ryan, Sisters I. J. Hankins, J. H. Ryan, and M. K. Schmidt.

—Brother David Groenewald and wife are getting well started in their treatment rooms at Bloemfontein. They are receiving patronage from the best citizens of Bloemfontein. Their collections for one day last week were £7 10 0.

—It is now time that all our people in South Africa begin to lay plans to attend the coming camp-meeting to be held at Bloemfontein, March 16-26. Three meetings in one—Union, Natal, and Cape, typical of a tripple blessing for all who attend.—R. C. Porter.

—Brother Philip Venter, of Wilgehoek, is doing good work in bringing students to the college for the coming year. Pastor Porter sincerely hopes that other students are taking similar interest in educational work among the youth of South Africa.

—While at Bethlehem Pastor Porter and some of the members from Heisterbach Church met with an isolated family of Sabbath-keepers and celebrated the ordinance of the Lord's house. The Lord gave them a special blessing.

—Sister M. E. Emmerson has returned to her mission home after enjoying a vacation of a few weeks at East London with her mother. She returns greatly refreshed and to take hold of the work on the mission with renewed vigour.

—Mrs. Porter and Doctor and Mrs. Thomason left Cape Town, Tuesday evening, by train for Alice, where they will be joined by Elder Porter. Elder and Mrs. Hyatt will meet them there with the waggon, and the party will proceed on a trip through Kaffirland. We trust they will have a pleasant and profitable journey, and that the readers of the MISSIONARY may have some of their impressions later.

“De Wachter” Publication Guarantee Fund for 1911.

[ALL moneys pledged under this head are due and payable to the Union Conference treasury.]

Amount previously acknowledged	£58	17	0
C. D. Kearney, Komgna	...	1	4
R. C. Porter...	...	1	0
			0
			£61 1 0

Excess Postage.

I am now informed by the postal authorities that the *Sentinal* sent in “clubs” must pay *book post*; that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d per 4 ozs. covers *single* copies only. So newspaper rates are really no benefit to us. Sorry. This explains why some have been charged excess. We learn by experience.

I. J. HANKINS.