

"The people are beginning to gather about us, and I have no doubt they will soon be here in sufficient numbers. A few families are already settled, and there are always a good many men from the villages a few miles off, who are here for a few days or a month at a time assisting at the different works. Their rate of pay is half a yard of calico a day. The place is also becoming a centre for the sale of such goods as they have to offer in the shape of food. We require to be sparing of our European stores. When Mr. Cotterill and Mr. Thelwall arrive there will be seventeen white men on the station, and though the supply for these could be no cause of anxiety or difficulty at home, here in the wilderness it is. Every day now there are canoes coming and going with *malonda*, or things for sale—fowls, fish, sweet potatoes, maize, millet, etc., etc.

"This is just the sort of thing we want to encourage, and show them there is no use stealing and selling a man when they can get quite as much for a canoe load of potatoes. We are beginning also to grow for ourselves, but only beginning. The wheat last year was a failure. A little was grown, and we have got the beginning made to sugar cane. One import after another will thus be reduced. Ground nuts will soon supply us with oil, and native salt for the coarser purposes can be got here. There is also abundance of good fish in the lake, and with a good seine net, or one such as they use in the salmon fishings on the Tay, we could have abundance of fish every day. As it is, with native nets, short and poor, made of a fibre which grows on the hills behind, we have a few every day. The exceptional mornings are when the report is—no fish to-day.

"Missionary operations are not yet on a large scale, but they are begun. I was glad the day after our arrival to see a congregation of forty assemble to listen to a very simple address from Dr. Laws, with a Bible picture, the brazen serpent, as a subject. Generally the service begins with a few pictures to attract their attention. The congregation, such as it was, consists of those living on the place and of those who come to work. To some this audience may appear exceedingly small. To me it appeared very large, considering the rudimentary state of things here. I have been on a mission station established ten years, with a population of many thousands close by, and seen on a Sunday a congregation of not half that number. This was in Zululand. The secret was, the chief was hostile to the missionary's efforts, and a few private words to the head men are sufficient to reduce the numbers of listeners on the Sundays of many years to a mere handful.

"Dr. Laws has also had a few patients on whom he has practised and operated successfully. One was for tumor above the eye. The result