

to become acquainted with Dr. Wellman and his wife. To-morrow we are to have two more weddings. Kanye, the Sunday-school Superintendent, is to marry Necemba. She is a good, strong girl for Christ, and exerts a great influence over the other girls. We will miss her on this side. There are some others, though, who are good girls. Musalo is a leader among the girls from her village. She became engaged to Sawimbu, who was here at the time in the class preparing for membership of the church. He became dissatisfied with work, and longed for the wicked village life. So he went often to sleep at the village without permission, drinking beer, dancing, etc. At last he left altogether, but Musalo would not go. It is now eight months, and he wants to hold her to her engagement. Mr. Currie and we have offered to help her pay the cloth given at the time. When her brother returns from the coast it will be settled. He and a friend of his (who is not considered good even amongst his own people) last week induced a younger brother to leave the station, and together they are using their influence in every way against us here, though to all appearance they are very nice and friendly. Musalo has resisted, but it is hard to be firm.

The girls who have not gone for to-morrow's brides are sitting round the table sewing; some of them have got quite large quilts sewn, and they seem to enjoy it. Three little girls sit on the floor looking at pictures. To-day the wood-boy and Wanga, our larger house boy, were all morning making starch from manioc, which is to be pared, scraped on a grater into water, then strained and allowed to settle; the water is poured off and the starch thoroughly dried. It is just as good as the "silver gloss," and is much cheaper. The natives also take the manioc, soak it for several days, roast it and consider it very good. A year ago to-morrow we started from the coast.

THURSDAY, Sept. 10th.

We just had letters from Miss Irwin and Miss Skinner, of the English Mission in the far interior. The latter has sent us a pair of birds, canaries I think. The men will probably bring them to-morrow. Mr. Smith, of the English Mission, is coming to remain here a while to teach the boys some work, carpentering, I think. He has been in very poor health in the interior, and probably will find the change beneficial.

We will be off for Kamundongo to-morrow early, as it is a nine or ten hours' ride, and we want to do it in one day. We have all been so well, and feel very thankful for it. How good it is to know that you are praying for us. We feel that it strengthens us to know it. Kindest regards to all friends.