



MR. LINDFIELD PREACHING TO A WEDDING DANCE AT THE KRAAL OF INDUNA POMPE. LATER, MR. LINDFIELD WAS KILLED BY A CROCODILE

negro features—thick lips and broad noses—and have what might be termed classical features, yet they have the typical “kinky” hair of the negro, and not that of the Indian, which, so far as I have observed, always persists in the cross of these two races.

The people are tractable, industrious, courteous, hospitable, and apt in receiving the first fruits of civilisation. The young people learn to read and write in Zulu, showing decided ability, and are responsive to religious teaching. In these things they are in marked contrast with their uninviting Swazi and Zulu neighbours, while their home conduct is also more agreeable.

The Tonga home is called a Kraal, and may consist of only one or of many huts. The largest kraal in British Tongaland contains fifteen huts. The Tonga hut is far-famed for beauty and comfort, and is considered the finest native architecture in South Africa. The walls are circular and made of reeds five or six feet high, these being woven

to a wicker frame-work with the fibrous leaf of the palm tree. Many of the woven designs on walls and roof have a surprisingly fine, artistic effect, and go far to justify the high esteem in which the Tonga, as compared with other Africans, is held for his skill in art.

Stout posts are set around outside to support the wall. The roof, of woven twigs, is made separately, and presents the form of an inverted umbrella. It is taken

up bodily by, perhaps, a dozen men and women, who, groaning, yelling, and singing—shouting to the owner to get the beer ready!—place it upon the circular wall like a hat. A great cheer is given by all, and they jump and tear about like boys after successful sport. The roof is then thatched with grass, the door of reeds is made, and the hut is done, barring, of course, the “umqele” (crown), which helps to hold the thatch in position and adorns the top of the roof. When the owner of the hut dies this crown is



IN THE “BUSH VELDT” OF SWAZILAND

The author may be seen sitting on a bundle of thatching grass preaching in Zulu to the Swazies. In the foreground is the Kraal fence. Just behind the group of people are seen wind-breaks, which are built to protect the hut entrance and to form an “outside kitchen.”