

this truly excellent man, the United Presbyterian Church and the Free Church—as if in *anticipation* of a future blessed union—had actually contributed, each its due share. The early education which fitted him for receiving the higher theological training in Scotland, was obtained in the Lovedale Seminary of the Free Church in British Caffraria.

‘Mr. Chalmers, another missionary of the United Presbyterian Church, and the son of a former missionary, whose acquaintance I had the privilege of making at Lovedale, very kindly came to King William’s Town, the capital of British Caffraria, to conduct me to the Umgwali, Tiyo Soga’s station, distant a good day’s journey to the N.E. of the capital.

‘Never can I forget the joy which thrilled through my soul on first meeting with the first native Kaffir ordained minister of the everlasting gospel, in his own comfortable manse, close to a spacious and well fitted-up church, and surrounded by Kaffir kraals, partly Christian and partly heathen. It was, altogether, a spectacle which I felt it was worth while travelling all the way from Cape Town to witness.

‘And the pleasure was enhanced, when, on the following day, I found a goodly number of the native Christians, male and female, assembled in the church, in decent attire, and manifesting all the decorum and propriety of an audience in the long christianized British Isles. On the same occasion were assembled the boys of two schools, and the pupils of the Central Girl’s School. All of these were examined in the subjects of their respective studies, and showed that the foundations of a good elementary education were laid. It is to be hoped that means will be found for raising the more capable or select few to a higher standard.

‘After this examination, I was asked to address the adult audience, which I did at some length, through Mr. Brownlee, the magistrate, who acted as interpreter. And here, in passing, I cannot help remarking that in this gentleman the mission has one of its ablest and most powerful supporters. His devoted father, still living, is the patriarch of Caffrarian missions. To the piety of the father, the son superadds an *official ability*, which, with his thorough mastery of the native language, native manners, habits, and customs, ought long ere now, if intrinsic merit carried the prize, to have raised him to the lieutenant-governorship of British Caffraria.

‘But to pass on. If the members of the United Presbyterian Church at home could only witness with their own eyes, and hear with their own ears, what I was privileged to witness and to hear on that day, I am confident they would feel that, had they spent ten times the amount of pecuniary

means on that mission which they have done, they would have been more than amply recompensed. I am bound to add, that throughout the whole of South Africa, I found no mission station conducted in a more orderly, vigorous, systematic way, than that of my admirable friend and brother, the Rev. Tiyo Soga, the native Kaffir ordained minister of the Umgwali.

‘Until within a recent period, with him was associated another missionary—whom I learnt also to admire, respect, and love—the excellent Mr. Chalmers. In order to extend the mission, he left the Umgwali, and fixed on another station about a day’s journey to the north, in a region of hitherto unbroken heathenism. Severely afflicted by the loss of his partner in life, he proved his devotedness by proceeding to this outlandish station *alone*, and actually taking up his abode in a wretched Kaffir hut. It is a grand field on which he has thus heroically planted the standard of the Cross, though one encompassed with prodigious difficulties. Surely he will not be allowed long to labour on there *alone*. At all events, he will not surely be long allowed to peril his precious life by the discomforts of a Kaffir hut for his dwelling, and the imperfect shade of a thorny tree for his church. He is truly a noble laborer—pious, earnest, devoted, self-denying, and indefatigable; and thoroughly acquainted with the native language, manners, habits, and usages. Such a laborer is beyond all price. All “the golden sands” down which “roll Africa’s sunny fountains” could not produce his like. Surely, then, the instant his case comes to be adequately realized, the members of the United Presbyterian Church at home will rush forth, contending for the honor of providing such a laborer with a manse and church!

‘Excuse me for writing thus warmly. I write simply because I feel, and as I feel. A nobler pair of missionaries than Mr. Chalmers and Mr. Tiyo Soga it would be difficult anywhere to meet with. I scarcely know which of them to admire most. But having learnt so greatly to admire both, I pray God that their valuable lives may be long spared, and that the United Presbyterian Church, with its wonted liberality, may strengthen their hands with all needful support.

‘Yours very sincerely,

ALEXANDER DUFF.’

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Rome.

Intelligence of great importance reaches us from Rome. The French Emperor has pledged himself by his treaty to relinquish his hold on Rome at the end of two years. The Pope will then be left to his own