

AN AFRICAN PRAYER MEETING.

A missionary of the American Board in East Central Africa gives in a letter a verbatim report of things said in one of his prayer meetings. How simple, fresh, and strong are the words of the converts. The missionary says: "I send this to let you know a little of what our people say in meetings. There are others who usually speak but I do not think they understand what religion is and I did not write their words."

Temba, twenty-three years old, who professed conversion two years ago at Christmas, prayed thus: "we thank thee, O God. Thou hast helped us to-day; thou hast helped many days in many ways. Put thy truth in our ears; remember us surely. Give us good hearts, Father, to hear thy truth. Take us out of the weeds and off from the rocks. Help everybody and teach them. Thou art able to and the missionaries, let them come in plenty. We worship thee; we serve thee; wash our hearts, all of us; make us to understand thy truth; do not forget us; lead us in thy pleasant paths. Help all people to understand and obey thy words. We thank thee in Christ's name. Amen."

Farangwana, about twenty-five years old, professed conversion two years ago, and has always been active in the meetings. He said: I remember Christ's words, 'Ye cannot serve God and mammon.' There are many lands; but we do not see these lands, and only know them by seeing the people. We see the Mfundisi and then we know there is a land where people like him dwell. So with Portuguese, Mussulman, Gitwa, and Mangunu. So we see all people and we know in this way their lands. In this same way we know Matthew, John, Moses, and Elijah, for we read their words. So we know Christ himself, from the letters he has had written for us. He knows, and he says we cannot serve two Gods. He left everything in heaven for us, left houses, lands, and every animal of wealth, and became poor because he loved us. We cannot do everything, but we can do good; we cannot serve everybody, but we can serve God. The white man knows these things; he studies. You sit here and refuse to study; how can you surpass the white man? Christ came to teach and to save. He teaches and saves. He is always near by; if we fall into a hole, he is there to

help us; if we fall into the sea, he is there too. He cares for us like a herder for his little flock. We cannot fall out of his remembrance. I love God. His way is good and right. I will not leave him; no."

Makahlule, twenty years old, converted two years ago, and always faithful; "We are in thy house, O God. Thou art the King of all lands and all people. Let down thy strength among us to save us. Abide with us; we love thee. Put good things into our hearts and mouths; save her and make her well who is sick (Mrs. Richards) Help her much. Show us thy path, for we stay in the forest like animals. Keep us; save us from evil within and without. Wash us thoroughly with strong soap, we love thee, care for us. We ask it earnestly in Christ's name. Amen."

Temba. "I love the King, in truth I do."

Perengi, twenty-five years old, converted two years ago, has usually attended meetings and taken part. He said: I have often left the King, but I have eaten bitter fruit. I have often stayed well in my heart. I am happy now. I am now the King's. I love his word and his law. I will not again leave him."

Fanyero, sixteen years old, began to confess Christ eighteen months ago. "I used to drink and fight and sin much; but it was before I did not know any better. but God sent his missionary, and now I know and am taught, and I like all I have heard about Christ."

Farangwana prayed: "We have knelt before thee, Father. Build us on the rock. Do not let us get shaken by wind or flood. Give us what is good in thine eyes. Remember us; Save our sick one. Teach us thy word; remember our brethren to save them; make us witnesses among many people; follow us always; pour thy Spirit over our hearts, thy words into our ears, thy strength into our bodies. We worship thee, for thou lovest us today. We ask it all in the name of our Redeemer. Amen."

Marengisi, twenty years old, one of those who confessed Christ two years ago, said: "I know that the Gitwa people ran away from their homes and came here among us because the Mangunu killed them and ate up their gardens. They came to the white man because he was better than the Mangunu. Now I think God is better than the white man and so