

Luebo, W. Co. Africa -
Congo Free State,
February, 4th, 1895-

Dear Sister Fauné:-

Your very interesting and very welcome letter of Aug. 12th '94 reached us last month. We were more than pleased that the letters from us were so fraught with healing powers. I wish that it might be so that we could administer that kind of medicine and with such good results, every time. We never suffer from a water famine. All our water comes from a spring about a quarter of a mile from the house; but as the natives bring it we do not, personally, mind the distance. How strange it sounds to read of little De Witt in pants, and yet time is passing rapidly, is it not? It is two years and six months since we were with you, and we have been in Africa two years the first of this month. Yes Fauné we are seeing some encouragement among our children, for instance one child who absolutely knew nothing of God or the Gospel, told me the other day, "I will tell you how it is with me doctor, I have a big heart here, putting his hand over the region of his heart, which tells me to do bad that is the Devil, and I have a small heart here, putting his fingers on his jugular vein in the neck where he could feel its pulsation, that tells me to do good, that is God." And another time he asked us if "Before Christ came to earth did men know the way to heaven?" Then most of our children can tell all the Bible stories in their own language. We do not teach them any English. And all have an intellectual knowledge of the Plan of Salvation. We hope to baptize

Our Cook David. He has developed ~~very~~ greatly in the last year. Matie will not be able to write for this. Nellie's letter will tell you what a terrible time we have had with sickness: and Matie is not fully recovered from it all. I will try and answer your part of the letter to her. The people of Kasanga wear cloth like the sample sent you. A loincloth is all they wear. The children of the village wear no clothes whatever until they are ten or twelve years old - some of them however are taking to wearing a small cloth. As we do not dress our children as they "used to dress" we make dresses for the girls and little suits for the boys for their Sunday dresses and week days, all but our house children are provided with a piece of Calico. Our house children wear dresses & suits most all the while. Matie cared for about 40 children, alone, for three yrs six months: but now we have three other ladies to help. Altho they are colored. Yes human nature is much the same the world over. We were much interested in that part of your letter where you wrote of "human nature".

We have heard from your box, to us, and hope to get it on the May boat. a little late for Christmas but none the less acceptable - Yes Tom we do pray for you, and realize that you have a hard road to live, but it is the Lord's will just as much as this is. We know but that your children may be Missions work on Tom yours is just as noble a calling as the model knows of. The care of ^{four} ~~four~~ sons - to be trained for Christ -
 You - Lenny Banta & Sam McLean & David