

Luebo, N. C. Africa
Congo Free State.

May. 8, 1895.

Dear Sister Lillie:-

Your letter with no date to it came to us awhile ago and to night I want to answer it. You wrote of having been to see the Tarpon Springs people. We were glad to know you had an enjoyable time with your old time friends. We do not quite understand your allusion to a certain Captain and the hint of marrying him. We hope dear Sister, some time to see you well married to some good, Christian man. We have thought much of you of late and prayed that you would give your heart to God. Oh Lillie I would be happy to know that you had found peace with your Saviour, and shall never forget you in my prayers. God is very near to us out here and has indeed visited us, for we have had thirty-seven who have joined the church in the past three months. Is it not a matter for rejoicing? Only a year or so ago and they were so-called dumb idols and now praising God. I am sure I wrote Madge of the terrible sickness that came to Matie, the Haematoc...

ever and how for three days we despaired of her life, but God in his mercy spared her to me.

We are all alone here yet as regards white people. Mr. & Mrs. Sheppard are with us as also a Miss Thomas & a Miss Fearing from America but they are all colored, true they are educated, but even then they are not such companions as white people make.

We have had quite exciting times since last we wrote. One night a Leopard visited us and walked all over Mr Sheppard's house and through the grounds. Then snakes; we have seen plenty of these. One I found in our pantry one night, six foot long - two we shot in our yard and one in the pigeon cot.

One day when Marie was returning from one of the Native Villages, a snake fell down from a tree right in front of her and showed fight; but God has cared for us through all.

One village of about 1000 inhabitants lies about a quarter of a mile from us and to it we go nearly every day to hold meetings. They do not respond freely to our call, in fact they would rather die in their

sins, but we have faith to believe that in
 time they will heed the call. The other day
 when we were holding our meeting they
 tried, as they have before, to break up the
 meeting. A person, dressed up in leaves and
 grass cloth, and wearing a hideous head-
 dress, which entirely concealed his features, and
 who is called by the natives Muzunga, or Spirit,
 came running past and the poor de-
 luded people believing it to be a spirit fled
 away. This was noticeably so with the younger
 portion of the audience, and even our own
 children seemed to fear it, I was naturally
 indignant and when it passed us again
 I called out to it to stop, but as it would
 not, I gave chase and overtaking it tore off
 the mask and revealed to the astonished natives
 a man - I came near getting in trouble
 over it all, but our people will not
 have any more superstitious fear of it.

We are all well at present. Give our
 love to all. and write to us often
 and dear Sister wont you read and
 think well over the verse in the Bible

John 3-16 - Matie sends lots of
 love - Your loving Brother DeWitt
 Kiss Matie for me.