

DEATH OF MRS. ADAMSON.

DR. SNYDER.

It becomes my painful duty to report to you the death of Mrs. Adamson, our co-worker, which occurred last Friday, February 16, at midnight, just five days after the fever's first attack. On the Sunday just previous to her death, she complained of slight fever, and though unable to go with us to Kasenga, still attended prayer-meeting in the evening. At that time she complained of much aching in the bones, but there were no symptoms to mark it as other than a usual African fever. Sunday night during an excitement caused by a theft committed by one of the people on the station, she was subjected to much excitement, besides exposed to the night air after having just arisen from a warm bed. Monday I had the misfortune

to be stung by a scorpion, and the news was carried to Mrs. A. that *both my wife and I had been bitten by a very poisonous snake*; naturally Mrs. A. was highly excited, and hastened across the station through the hot sun to see us. She stayed some time, assisting my wife in her attendance on me. *That night* she had an attack of *hæmaturia*. I tell you all this as tending to throw some light on this, the most mysterious of diseases, as it may be the means of guarding others against the danger of excitement and exposure. To live in Africa, one should look on hæmaturia as on a wild beast, and go *armed* all the while. Of course I applied the usual

remedies, and on the second day the hæmaturia ceased, but symptoms of a grave character showed themselves. First, there were two distinct rigors, about three hours apart, showing that the blood was poisoned. Again, the skin showed that a great drain had been made on the system. We hoped for the best, but feared the worst. Friday noon another change for the worse took place, and while the head grew hot the arms grew cold. Medicines failed to produce the desired effect, and at sunset she showed signs of

sinking. My wife was now also in bed with fever, and I divided my time between them, until I saw that the end was not far off. She gradually grew worse, and at midnight passed away. In my opinion the immediate cause of death was due



FUNERAL OF MRS. ADAMSON.
(From a photograph by Dr. Snyder.)

to the blood poisoning consequent on a severe attack of bilious hæmaturic fever. From what I have learned of hæmaturic fever since coming to Africa, it appears that but very few, if any, die during the hæmaturia, but generally two days *after* the hæmaturia ceases. I would deduce from this that all those who die, die because of vitiated blood, poisoned, perhaps, by uric acid. Those who recover suffer only from the loss of blood during the hæmorrhage, and the consequent weakness, but the blood not becoming poisoned, they quickly recover. Mrs. A. seemed as healthy as anyone on the station, and was the last one I would

have named as likely to die. In connection with this death, I venture to call your attention to the fact that there are only three missionaries at this station now, and there ought to be *six*. There is need of more prayer for *more laborers*. To-day we are all well, but who can say what next week will tell. Tell it out in *all* the churches that there is immediate need of help here.

I preached the funeral sermon to our people on Saturday; and a sermon at Kasenga on Sunday, from the text, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." God was with me, and I am sure the people's hearts were touched. Oh for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon this peo-

ple! Do not pray less for the missionaries, but *pray more* for the PEOPLE.

God has wonderfully upheld us in this trial, and we trustingly go on. I have been helped greatly by these three verses: "Trust in the Lord, and do good: so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord, and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass."

We are waiting for an outpouring of God's Spirit. He will come through prayer—through the prayer of those at home. Do they know the responsibility resting on *them* in this matter?

Luebo, Africa, Feb. 22, 1894.