



A Letter from Kuwait

Kuwait, March 29, '17.

Dear Gleaner Friends:

Yes, I am really writing "Kuwait" at the head of this letter. Furlough days are over and we are "on the field" once more. Sometimes I wonder if this can be the same place of which I used to tell my friends in America. The native house in which we used to live—I have not seen it since our return. Instead, we have our delightful, new six-roomed house, which so many of you helped to build. We are out on the edge of town, with the seashore in front of our house, and the wonderful ever-changing sea and sky as the view from our front veranda.

I used to tell you that Kuwait was a place in which you see "never a tree nor a patch of green." Since then I have made the acquaintance of the desert, which stretches unobstructed for miles beyond our house. Since the winter rains have ceased, a carpet of little green plants has sprung up all over the sand, and we can enjoy the freshness for several weeks until the sun scorches them at the beginning of the really hot weather.



THE NEWLY FINISHED RESIDENCE AT KUWEIT,
NOW OCCUPIED BY THE CALVERLEYS

The days of the tumble-down dispensary, with its pink calico curtain, have passed too. Instead, we are sharing with Dr. Mylrea the fine new hospital, with its splendid operating room and equipment. To-day the first shovelful of earth was turned in preparation for the building of the new woman's dispensary. We are a bit crowded for room in the hospital now, but when the new woman's quarters are finished, we shall be comfortable indeed!

The church services and school are still held in a native house in the middle of the town. In the school some of the finest young men and boys in the town are daily coming under Christian influence. On Sunday our Arabic service is attended by a great crowd of Moslems, from eighty to a hundred men, women and children, and this in spite of tremendous opposition to our work on the part of the more fanatical men of the town. We used to be elated if one or two Moslems came to hear the preaching.

Mrs. Mylrea and Miss Schafheitlin have made great numbers of new friends during the last two years. Many of the women in this

part of the town look upon me as a stranger, but they almost all know Mrs. Mylrea and Miss Schafheitlin. Day after day the crowd of women in the dispensary has been listening to the old, old story from the lips of the women missionaries. The Moslem assistant, who has been with us since those first days in Kuwait, has heard the Gospel hundreds and hundreds of times. A few days ago, after hearing a talk on the "fall" of Adam and Eve, she said to Miss Schafheitlin: "Just think, Khatoon, if Adam and Eve had not disobeyed God we should have had no sickness, no trouble, no death in this world. The things you tell us are very interesting, and the teaching is very good, but there is one mistake which every one of you makes. You say that the Prophet Jesus died, and that cannot be true. It could not be possible that God would let His enemies kill Him. He did not die; the Koran says He was taken up to Heaven alive, and God put on the Cross some one else who looked like Him to deceive His enemies. In that one thing you are mistaken."

And so the evil one seems to snatch away the seed we sow. But we shall continue to sow beside all waters, and in due season we *shall* reap if we faint not. By your prayers we shall not faint!

ELEANOR T. CALVERLEY. *The Mission Gleaner.*

As For Ishmael "I have heard Thee"

(Gen. 17:21)

NOTE. Concerning the following article Miss Gertrude Schafheitlin writes:

"We were very happy to read this little article about a Madina convert, which appeared in the Egypt General Mission News. As the readers of Neglected Arabia probably do not see this paper, I made a copy of it. *We are glad that one of our Bahrein colporteurs was used by Him in this conversion.*"

At one of our days of prayer last spring we were led to cry to God for Arabia, for Mecca, where Muhammad was born, and for Madina, where he lies buried, for the Arab in his darkness and need, and that the political changes taking place in Arabia might tend to the opening of doors there and the furtherance of the Gospel. "O that Ishmael might live before Thee!" was the desire of our hearts. We pleaded specially that as Mecca and Madina were fast closed to Christian effort, God would Himself raise up witnesses in these cities from amongst the inhabitants who would fearlessly confess Christ.

A few weeks ago the news came of an interesting convert, who had turned up at one of our stations. A wonderful story his of suffering for the sake of the Name, and deliverance from the hands of his enemies. "He has suffered more than any converts from Islam I have heard of, and if ever we can publish his story, you will agree that it is almost like a chapter out of the Acts of the Apostles." He is wonderfully bold in his confession of Christ, and fear does not seem to enter into his composition.

Well, this convert is *a native of Madina*. He was a pearl merchant, and went to Bahrein, on the Persian Gulf, to buy pearls at the fish-

eries, and there he found the Pearl of Great Price. The instrument in his conversion being another Arab convert, who used to come to our conferences at Zeitoun, and is now working as an evangelist with the Arabian Mission at Bahrein. The new convert returned to Madina to get his wife and family, but persecution broke out, and he only just escaped with his life. He had been sentenced to death, but his mother, who was loyal to him, provided him with money and helped him to get away. He turned up at our station quite destitute, and, although he has evidently been a man of good position, he is content to work as sweeper and door-keeper of the girls' school. Wherever he goes in the village he bears fearless testimony, and much opposition and persecution resulted. Many have been praying for him, and that the enemy is really alarmed is evident from the fact that our compound was broken into, and a determined attempt made to take his life. It was on a Sunday evening, when our workers were busy with a meeting for British soldiers, that the murderous attack was made, and when he was found he was lying on the ground in a terrible condition. His mouth had been filled with mud, there were marks of attempted strangling on his neck, and his ribs had been badly battered. When he was restored to consciousness, he said two men had attacked him; they have since been captured, and the government inspector is determined that nothing of the sort shall happen again. All through the affair this Arab convert has shown the most loving and forgiving spirit towards his persecutors.

Pray for him, that he may be kept for Jesus Christ; that wisdom may be given in all our dealings with him, that he may be filled with the Holy Ghost and become spiritual and able to stand against all the awful temptations that assail the convert from Islam. Pray, too, for Arabia and its need; that soon the doors may open, and that this man and many like him may enter in as ambassadors for Christ.—(*Egypt General Mission News.*)

Kuweit Medical Work, 1915-1916

DR. C. STANLEY G. MYLREA



DR. C. STANLEY G. MYLREA

Before proceeding to discuss the year's work it must be pointed out that the actual working year has been very materially bitten into by unavoidable delays and duties outside of medical work pure and simple. In the first place annual meeting at Bahrein delayed us several weeks, so that (owing to lack of steamer connections) we did not get back to Kuwait until December 14th—a clear loss of six weeks' time. Then in April I was again absent twelve days in connection with Dr. Chamberlain's visit. All through the year the building of the Kuwait second residence took up a great deal of my spare time, and the final plastering and finishing work of this house during the sum-