**Isigidimi Sama-Xosa**

Ipepa Lama-Xosa Lenyanga] Pambili Nto Zak’wetu! [ Lihlaulelwa 5s. ngonyaka kwase Kuqaleni

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U Rev. Daniel Gezant.

Sibika ngosizi olukulu ukububa kuka. Rev. Daniel Gezant, umfundisi wase Ncisininde, Pesheya kwe Nciba. Siva ukuba ubube ngo Iwesi-Hlanu, ngomhla we 13 ku March, waza wancwatywa. ngo Mgqibelo, ngu Rev. Alex­ander Welsh, wase Mbulu, no Rev. James Maclaren, wase Blythswood.

Umfi lowo wazalelwa e Rini, ngabazali abangama Kristu, ngomnyaka we 1855 ; oko kukuti nbe kowamashumi omatatu umnyaka ubudala bake. Uqalele kwase Rini apo ukungena isikula, kwade kwaba se Mgwali, waza wafika apa e Lovedale ngo 24 ku July, 1866. Ukwazana away’enako oko kwaku kuncinane, epantse ukungabi nako nokulibala igama lake. Ubehle kodwa waqubela pambili, ngangokude ati ngo July 1871, angene kwi klasi ezipakamileyo, ahleli kuzo kwada kwangu mnyaka we 1874. Ngolandelayo unyaka ungene uviwo Iwakwa Rulumente, wafumana esona sipakamileyo isiqiniselo kwezi zo Titshala, ekutiwa yi “ *Elementary Teacher’s Certificate, with Honours.”* Ubizwe ke nge 1876 ngu mfu- ndisi wake wase Tunxe owamtumela apa, u Rev. John Chalmers, ukuke aye kuncedisa ekaya, afundise e Henderson Mission School. Uwu- pate lomsebenzi yada yangu nyaka we 1878, ewuhambisa ngokwanelisayo kanye. Nge 1879 wabuyela kwase Lovedale, ukuza kufunda izifundo ze “ *Theology ”* ezi zicaza izinto zasebu Tixweni, waye ekangele ke ebufundisini akuyifeza imfundo yake, kwimvaba yakowabo ye United Presbyterian. Ute ngeli xa ab’ elapa wapiwa umsebenzi wokufundisa kwi Sikula sabantwana, abe kodwa eziquba izifundo zake. Zihambise kakuhle intsapo pantsi kwe mfundiso yake, kwabe nokuzipata kwake emzini, kungumzekelo omhle kolunye ulutsha olufunda apa; ezinikele kunene kwimisebenzi encedisa intlalo entle yomzi, nokutobela imiteto, nemfundiso yawo.

Ubehle kodwa wesuswa, esuselwa kuqala ukuya kuba ngum-Vangeli pesheya kwe Nciba, kwa Gcaleka. Akubanga xesha lide kwavakala ukuba uza kutunyelwa e Kolejini yase Stellen­bosch ukuya kuquba nokufeza i *Theology* yake kona. Sikolwa ukuba waye enako ukukwenzelwa oku nalapa e Lovedale kungagxekeki nto, ize nendleko zingabi linani esikolwa ukuba kubizeke Iona ngokumtumela e Stellenbosch ; koko kwaye kuqala ngezo mini umoyana woku- gxeka, pofu kungeko sizatu, imfundiso yomzi lo, nge gukwe ebelibonakala ukuba liye linyu- ka ngokunyuka. Isi Ngesi abe esel’ esiteta ngo kukululekileyo usifunde apa e Lovedale; isi Grike nesi Hebere, waye esel’ enesiqanaqwana sazo ezonteto; sisi Bulu sodwa aye kusiqala e Stellenbosch, ebe singafundiswa apa ngelo xesha. Uhleli kona iminyaka emitatu. Kwi-

ncwadi ab’emana ukuzibalela emzini apa esese Stellenbosch, enye yezokugqibela yafaka lomda, —“ Ukuba bendikwazi konke endikwaziyo “ ngoku, nexabiso elilo i Lovedale kubafundi “ bayo, ngendizinikele ngentliziyo yam yonke “ kwizifundo zayo, nakumasiko ayo, ngexesha “ endandikwelo kaya liyakuhlala lilikaya kum, “ nokuba ndipina ezweni.”

Ugqibe ngo December 1883, imfundo yake e Stellenbosch, kanti koko nempilo yake seyi lixekexwa. Wakatazeka kakulu ngumkuhlane wodade wabo u Mrs. John Dukwana, ob’enesi sifo kutiwa yi “ *Consumption,”—*siti tina li *“ Pepa,”—*esesineziganeko ezikulu pakati kwa bantu bakowetu, nakuba kungekudala sabaqa- layo. U Mr. Gezani lo naye ubulewe siso.

Ngexesha ab’ese Stellenbosch siva ukuba ubezipete ngentobeko, waza ngoko wafumana imbeko, nokutandwa, ngaba mngqongileyo. Incwadi eyaka yatunyelwa apa ngomnye we Professor zakona, yaxela ukuba ub’ezinikele ezifundweni zake, nakuba kodwa eb’engemva kwinkoliso yab’efunda nabo, kuba inteto yesi Bulu ub’esayiqala. Kwintlanganiso zengxoxo kona ub’engomnye wabazipapeleyo, njengokuba eb’enjalo kwi Lovedale Literary Society. Sikolwa ukuba ub’ eke acelwe aye kushumayela kwenye yetyalike zama Ngesi e Cape Town.

Kwinyanga ezintandatu egodukile, akabanga nakwenza nto ngenxa yokungapili, eb’egulela e Mgwali. Kute ngo January walo nyaka kwabonakala ngati uyacaca, yaza nentlanganiso yaba Fundisi ngalo nyanga yammisela e Ncisininde. Ezo nyangana ntatu siva ukuba usebenze ngenkutalo enkulu. Intswela-mpilo yambanga ukuba azinikele okunye ekuqubeni umsebeni wake, wangati unesazela sokuba akaxesha lide emke elizweni,—ngoko makafeze oko akutunyiweyo, “ Asebenze umsebenzi ka Yise.” Kanti okwenene aliyi kuba lide.

Sifumene incwadi ivela komnye waba fundisi belo cala, esixelela ukuba elo xeshana lifutshane ab’epatiswe ngalo umsebenzi e Ncisininde, ubange ukuba atandwe ngabo bonke ab’ebasebenzela ; ukuba abekwe ngongu mginwa, nango ngum-Kristu.

Uwele eluhlwini ke, nje ngenjengele, umfo wasema Qocweni, efela emsebenzini we Nkosi yake, awawamkela ebuncinaneni, kodwa wazinikela ngokuncomekayo kuwo. Isifundo esisifumanayo sakucinga ngaye ngoku u “Ntanga” lowo, ekubekeni ilitye pezu kwencw'aba lake, sesi:—“ Makungabiko namnye ubudelayo ubuncinane bako, sukube ngumzekelo wabakolwayo, ngenteto, ngehambo, nge- ntando, ngomoya, ngenkolo, ngobunyulu.”— (1 Tim. iv. 12.)

Siyabakuza abazali nezihlobo zake, sivelana nabo koku. kubujelwa ngowabo otandekayo. Kodwa sibatutuzela ngeliti—“ Banetamsanqa abalele ubutongo e Nkosini.”