

Thursday 18th & Friday 19th October 2007

1. Historical Background:

Pniel Mission Station

Having dominated the social and economic hierarchy for so long, farmers had little incentive to improve antiquated labour-intensive farming methods, nor to change their behaviour in order to foster good relations with their workers. This intransigence was one of the reasons why hundreds of freed slaves gravitated to mission stations, which became havens for those who were prepared to accept church discipline. Families were allocated small lots of land for planting and given access to communal grazing land. They were expected to build their own homes and encouraged to lead more or less self-sufficient lives.¹ The virtues of education, sobriety and domestic affection were emphasised, and deserving inhabitants could rely on the fatherly guidance and support of a sympathetic missionary. The benefits of living in a protective environment were offset by difficulties of accumulating capital and competing aggressively on the open market.

The Pniel Mission was established in the Dwars River Valley by the Revd. GW Stegmann of St Stephen's Church, Cape Town, in 1843.² By 1850 the Apostolic Union (a non-denominational protestant group founded by Stegmann and Dr James Adamson) had extended its missionary scope to rural communities in Clanwilliam, Wellington, Malmesbury, Caledon, Bain's Kloof, Beaufort West and Klipfontein on the Cape Flats.³ As was the case with all the mission stations, land was purchased by private means, and the inhabitants paid the loan back over time.⁴ In Pniel, provision was made for 99 residential sites and a portion of land was set aside to enable the inhabitants to grow vegetables and keep livestock. The station was an amalgamation of land formerly belonging to the owners of the nearby farms Rhone, Languedoc and Goede Hoop, which had been purchased 'through the assistance of a liberal Christian friend, for £800.'⁵

Many farmers were in two minds about mission stations, seeing them as useful reservoirs of labour, yet resenting their inability to control the inhabitants. Missionaries were believed to encourage notions of equality, idleness and disrespect, while the provision of education to mission children was seen as a threat to the privileged status which whites had always enjoyed. Although they were relieved of having to accommodate and pay temporary workers during the off-season, many farmers preferred binding contracts to casual labour.⁶

¹ Worden, N *Slavery In Dutch South Africa* (London:1985) in Clift, H *The Assimilation of the Khoikhoi*. Pg. 25.

² See Loos, Jackie, 'UCT founder once preached to ex-slaves' in *The Cape Argus* 19.7.2000, for a brief discussion of the establishment of the Union.

³ *Report of the missionary operations of the Apostolic Union* (Cape Town: Saul Solomon, 1851).

⁴ WCA CCP 4/19/1 Addendum to the Master and Servants Ordinance 1841: 'Memorials and reports by the Resident Magistrates on the Missionary Institutions with a summary of the whole' (1849).

⁵ *Report of the missionary operations of the Apostolic Union* (Cape Town: Saul Solomon, 1851). Repairs and alterations were said to have increased this amount considerably.

⁶ Bradlow, E, 'Capitalists and labourers in the post-emancipation rural Cape,' in *Historia* 30 (2), September 1985, pp.49, 58-59. Note also the attitude of K van Breda, resident magistrate of Paarl, in WCA CCP 4/19/1 Addendum to the Master and Servants Ordinance 1841: 'Memorials and reports by the Resident Magistrates on the Missionary Institutions with a summary of the whole' (1849), pp.50-51.

At this time, the Revd. JF Stegmann (son of the founder) recorded that there were about 200 men and women living on the mission station, 49 of whom were labouring at farms in Groot Drakenstein, such as Zandvliet/Delta, Boschendal, Lekkerwijn, Meerrust/Eenzaamhied and Bellingham, to name a few.⁷ Stegmann recorded that 43 men and six women were working for farmers in the Groot Drakenstein region on a daily or monthly basis. During the pressing season, Pniel residents would also work on a seasonal basis for farmers in the surrounding region. Those who helped reap corn during the harvest worked as far away as the *Koeberg*, *Blaauwberg*, *Kuilenburg*, *Zoethout Kloof*, *Botterberg*, *Groenberg*, *Zwartland* and *Phizante Kraal* districts.

Although most of the male residents were employed as labourers, a few men had special skills. Jos. Carolissen was a shoemaker, Nicolaas Heyns a cooper and Geduld Willems a mason (their toponymic names were apparently dropped at the time of emancipation). Out of these three identifiable skilled artisans, only Willems seemed to moonlight as a labourer during the harvest, working for up to four weeks on the farms of Hugo van Niekerk and Cornelis van Schoor in the Koeberg region, for wages varying from two to three shillings per day.⁸ Mission stations could often not directly support all their inhabitants with steady employment as teachers, shoemakers, coopers or masons, for even most of the time, as was the case with Geduld Willems. "The majority, at least of the men, had to find work outside on the farms. Those who were able returned to the stations every weekend, but many had to work at a greater distance, and were away from home for weeks at a time".⁹

Pniel's original inhabitants formed a mixed community that included Terry Flynn, who was born in England according to his 1884 death notice.¹⁰ Flynn, who hired himself out to wine and corn farmers on a seasonal basis, had apparently received some schooling, and both he and his wife Wilhelmina were recorded as being able to read. However, the majority of Pniel inhabitants were 'from age and circumstances, beyond learning to read; there are, however, upwards of thirty adults able to read their Bibles well; and instruction is given to all.'¹¹

Local farmers were said to be angry because mission children were prevented from working on their farms, but Stegmann defended the regulation that required them to attend school until the age of 15, and asked: '[W]hen otherwise are they to be taught? FREE MEN claim for their offspring instruction, before they are sent to earn their daily bread...'.¹²

A decade after the end of the apprenticeship period, the inhabitants of Pniel and the workers on Drakenstein farms may have gained some dignity and a few

⁷ Lucas, Gavin *An Archaeology of Colonial Identity: Power and Material Culture in the Dwars River Valley, South Africa* (New York: 2004). Table 4.1 Pg.147 From WCA CCP 4/19/1 Addendum to the Master and Servants Ordinance 1841: 'Memorials and reports by the Resident Magistrates on the Missionary Institutions with a summary of the whole' (1849). The official report was contested by the Revd. JF Stegmann, who repudiated Magistrate van Breda's scathing report on the management of the mission station.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ross, Robert "Rather Mental than Physical" in Worden & Crais (ed) *Breaking the Chains: Slavery and its legacy in the nineteenth-century Cape Colony* (Johannesburg 1994). Pg. 165

¹⁰ WCA MOOC 6/9/214 no.9463 [indexed as 'Jerry' Flynn].

¹¹ WCA CCP 4/19/1 Addendum to the Master and Servants Ordinance 1841: 'Memorials and reports by the Resident Magistrates on the Missionary Institutions with a summary of the whole' (1849), p.54.

¹² Ibid. Emphasis from original document.

minor advantages, but their lives were dominated by hard physical work and low rewards. The free choices which labourers had been able to exercise in 1839 were been whittled away by the harsh provisions of the Masters' and Servants' Ordinance of 1841, which regulated labour contracts and imposed certain obligations and duties on the contracting parties. Although the legislation provided workers with some protection, penalties for desertion, absenteeism, and breaches of discipline were harsh. Magistrates, judges and juries were seldom impartial, and the principle of equality before the law withered before it took root.

Farmers did not at first conform to their new circumstances, 'and were unwilling to offer such a rate of remuneration as would secure the services of the labour.'¹³ They sought to peg wages and limit mobility by controlling accommodation, dispensing cheap wine and advancing credit. Nor were those who lived on the mission stations truly free. Their gardens were generally too small to feed their families throughout the year, and they needed cash for rent, clothes and other basic necessities. They had no option but to sell their labour to make ends meet.

During the 1840s the downtrodden inhabitants of Groot Drakenstein, who had been born into bondage, were free to forge stable family relationships and choose how to spend their limited means; but the majority were tied economically to former slave owners whose attitudes were largely untransformed and who appeared to believe that people of colour were duty-bound to serve them.¹⁴ On this basis, the next period in the history of the Drakenstein valley, and of all South Africa, was built.

¹³ WCA CO 5476. John Bell's Memorandum Book: Report for 1838, dated Dec 1839, p.129

¹⁴ Bradlow, E, 'Capitalists and labourers in the post-emancipation rural Cape,' in *Historia* 30 (2), September 1985, p.61; WCA CCP 4/19/1 Addendum to the Master and Servants Ordinance 1841: 'Memorials and reports by the Resident Magistrates on the Missionary Institutions with a summary of the whole' (1849), pp.50-51.

Life at the Mission Station in 1849

Language:

The Cape was a British Colony at this stage, **Afrikaans was not a written or official language** at this stage. English and Dutch was being taught in the schools- songs would have been English and Dutch (hymms). Afrikaans was the language of the streets and in the homes (Worden et al 'Cape Town: The Making of a City David Philip: Cape Town. 1998; Myrtle Edwards, Centre for Conservation Education pers comm.)

Education in School:

- Lessons focused on **Reading, Writing and Arithmetic**. Mathematical learning would have centred on rote learning of times table
- Focus of education also **on religious instruction**.
- In past learning agricultural skills and a trade would have been very important in order to **prepare child for labour market**. Education was perceived as an extremely important way of gaining employment. Today children take subjects such as technology, economics, management science...etc, but in the past the skills that these subjects now teach were part and parcel of a child's upbringing.
- During Victorian times **hygiene** and cleanliness was very important: checking of finger nails for dirt, head lice..etc.
- Achievements of time focused on "fine handwriting of its pupils" [Mantelli's school]

Some things to practice with the class before the Time Travel

- Lining up shortest to tallest, boys and girls in separate rows
- Saying 'Good morning Ma'am' or 'Good Morning Sir' in unison
- Standing and sitting in unison
- Sitting with their hands behind their backs
- Practise the singing of a hymn or song they particularly like
- Reading in unison
- Chanting tables
- Familiarizing the learners with pounds, shillings and pennies
- Spelling words out aloud eg. 'f-i-n-g-e-r FINGER'

Children of this period were expected to:

- Be respectful, obedient, polite and courteous
- Speak correct English/ Dutch (Afrikaans) and enunciate words clearly
- Not to speak unless spoken to
- Walk in straight lines to the classroom
- Wait behind their desks quietly until ordered to sit down
- Sit up straight, with their hands behind their backs or on the desks
- Refrain from touching anything on their desks unless told to
- Stand when an adult entered the room
- Stand to answer questions and wait permission to speak
- React instantly to instructions
- Ask only for materials (ie. Paper, ink pen), but not for information
- Wear clean clothes and have clean hands and finger nails
- Use the right hand at all times for writing
- Use ink with considerable care
- Be seen and not heard

After the visit

The experience of the Time Travel should not end with the conclusion of the day on the heritage site. In order to maximize learning, strategic follow up activities can be done within the classroom. Ie.

Life Orientation

- Discuss the visit. Children who have engaged empathetically in the lives of other people need time to reflect and talk about the experience
- Discuss the limited career options open to Victorian children, especially girls.

Language

- In their Pniel1849 character let the children write a letter to a relative or a friend about their school day and daily duties

2. Curriculum Applicability & Time Frame for Implementation:

History: Slides on slavery in Dwars River Valley & background on Establishment of Pniel; Collaboration between maths & history
[Milton van Wyk]

Grade 7 learning outcomes for Historical Enquiry:

Use enquiry skills to investigate past & present

- Finding sources
- Working with sources- asking questions, finding information, and organising , analysing and synthesising information
- Writing a piece of history (answering a question);
- Communicating historical knowledge and understanding (communicating an answer)

Demonstrate Historical knowledge & understanding dealing with

- chronology & time
- cause and effect
- similarity and difference

Interpret Aspects of History

- interpretation based on historical sources
- Understand there are issues that influence interpretation
- interpreting public representations of the past, archaeology & memory

Knowledge Focus for Grade 7:

- Early trading systems: Dutch settlement, the Indian Ocean slave trade and slavery at the Cape- 17th and 18th centuries
- Africa and the Atlantic slave trade- 16th to 19th centuries

Maths: Graphs and Tables based on Data from historical document
[Mr N van Graan]

English: Creation of role card/character for Time Travel event: based on historical document: perhaps for an oral: can talk a bit about who they are
[Mrs Solomons]

Arts & Culture: Singing and dancing: old Afrikaans liedtjies from the area?

FAK- Volksangbundle vir Afrikanse Federasie van Suid Afrika
- old Afrikaans music and liedjes in the book

[Mrs Salomon]

Woodwork/Technology: Making of name tags on wood: string going around their head; making of old fashioned instruments (can anyone play?)

3. Scenario for Time Travel

Important Issues to Discuss

On mission station: virtues encouraged: education, equality, sobriety and domestic cohesion

Deserving inhabitants could rely on fatherly guidance and support of a sympathetic missionary

Benefits of living in a protected environment offset by difficulties of accumulating capital and competing aggressively on the open market

Pniel: land purchased by private means, inhabitants paid the loan back over a period of time.

Pniel was “intended for the benefit of the coloured people of the neighbourhood, the object being to educate them in the Apostolic faith, to give them an ordinary elementary education and also to train them in agricultural pursuits with a view to making them useful labourers easily available for the owners of neighbouring estates”

Education: many of the adults were unable to read: upwards of 30 adults able to read the bible

Mission children prevented from working on farms until 15 years of age: made local farmers angry. Stegmann defended regulation that required children to attend school until the age of 15. Before that age neither they/their parents could engage the child to labour with any farmer without the consent of the Minister (Stegmann)

A decade after ending of apprenticeship period, lives of Pniel residents still dominated by hard physical work and low rewards

Those who lived on mission stations not truly free: gardens generally too small to feed families throughout the year, needed cash for rent, clothes and other basic necessities. No option but to save their labour for ends meat.

Religion: Instruction of bible given to all; Hymns sung at morning and evening prayers

Labour

1849: 200 men and women living on the station: 49 men and women labouring on farms in the Groot Drakenstein region on a permanent basis (43 men & 6 women)

Majority of residents employed as labourers: a few with special skills:

Pressing Season: Pniel residents work on a seasonal basis for farmers in the surrounding region such as the Koeberg...etc 39 men; 17 women; 15 boys and girls (btw. 12 and 17) assisted farmers with the vintage

Late Harvest: 50 men (some paid in cash, others in grain), 9 boys (12-17) itinerated from place to place, assisting farmers to gather crop

April 1839: 12 men left station for corn farms to make preparations for ploughing season

Men had to work outside of station in order to earn an income: those who could would return to the station every weekend but many had to work at a greater distance, away from home for many weeks at a time

Crops grown on Pniel: Maize, pumpkin, melon, beans: but insufficient to support numerous families a fortnight. But station did make provision for winter

Roles

Adult roles (held by Pniel Teachers, Solms-Delta Staff, members of the surrounding community, Provincial Museum services helpers and museum practitioners from Sweden)

From Pniel Mission

Rev. John Frederick Stegmann of Apostolic Union:

- Encouraged equality and education (Superintendent of Missionary)
- About 20 years of age when began at Mission Station
- Remained at Pniel throughout his whole life (65 years spent serving mission): dying 1910
- In charge of spiritual affairs of the mission
- Schoolmaster in charge of secular education
- Administrator of temporal affairs of the mission
- Mission children prevented from working on farms until 15 years of age: made local farmers angry. Stegmann defended regulation that required children to attend school until the age of 15

Sara Maria de Smit (Stegmann's wife)

- Ardent follower of G W Stegmann who set up St Stephen's church for freed slaves in Cape Town (& Apostolic Union)
- Intense interest in every member of the congregation: helped in promoting their spiritual and material welfare
- Ran piggeries on station as well as looking after fruit trees in the garden
- Held reins of needlework organisation with 'sisters of congregation' who took an active part (meetings held in the dining room: opened and closed with prayer and praise)
- Great lover of birds: had English canaries
- Had a Miss Scholtz in her service?

Helena de Smidt (Stegmann's mother-in-law)

- At some stage found a home at Pniel with her daughter and son in law
- in charge of all culinary affairs of mission
- took responsibility of garden and poultry
- Had her own gardener: an "aged native of uncertain race" who had been involved in the battle of Blouberg as a wagon driver

Susanne Stegmann (Superintendent's sister)

- Conducted small shop in Pniel
- Supplied only the barest of necessities of life: residents forbidden to indulge in snuff or tobacco
- Susanne married Isaac Minnaar of the region and then later remarried Mr. Roos of Paarl and gave up life on the Mission station

Directors of Mission Station:

- owners of nearby farms: Rhone, Languedoc and Goedehoop: Pieter Isaac de Villiers and Paul Retief of Goede Hoop (also known as 'Zilvermyn')
- Haupt owner of nearby farm
- 2 laymen residing in Cape Town: J G Steytler & Philip Dominicus Morgenrood
- 1 Minister of Apostolic Union: Stegmann
- 1 Minister of Presbyterian Church: Rev. James Adamson

Local Farmers:

- wanting labour from Pniel;
- land of Pniel previously belonging to the owners of nearby farms: Rhone, Languedoc and Goedehoop: Pieter Isaac de Villiers and Paul Retief of Goede Hoop (also known as 'Zilvermyn')
- farmers in two minds about mission station: they were useful reservoirs of labour but they resented inability to control inhabitants
- provision of education to mission station seen as a threat to privileged status of farm owners
- complain of idleness and insolence

Carolus Frieslich:

seeking a young girl of 13 to attend his wife and child for 6 days to Cape Town. Girls mother consented providing Stegmann concurred on the issue (mother would be paid). Stegmann declared that he would banish child from school if she went to work. Stegmann objected to age of girl (13) and another girl better qualified took her place

Mrs Marais:

complaint that superintendent prevented people of Pniel working for farmers unless paid 1 shilling per day with food, wine...etc. A girl that was regularly in her service left and never returned. Stegmann: case not true- the girl was not receiving wages and obtained work elsewhere.

Pniel Residents:

Lead more or less self-sufficient lives. Allotted a building site and a certain share in the garden sites. Each had to pay rental of their site of 3 shillings per month until they had paid the sum of £n18 in all: when he and his erf would be free from any further rental or compulsory contribution of any kind

After 1856 1 s 10d monthly had to be paid by each erfholder to provide stipend for the minister

200 men and women live on station

30 adults read the bible well: majority are unable to due to circumstances or age

15 Pniel residents in the service of Haupt and de Villiers

22 adults employed on the station in building (8 houses being built and 4 brick kilns are completed and burnt)

53 women on the station: 4 read the bible; 15 work for farmers

Also working for farmers of the region: 21 people from Moravian Institutions of Genadendal and Groenekloof

Children's roles

66 children: 54 above the age of 12 years
22 boys and 20 girls can read the bible: the rest belong to spelling and ABC classes

Girls

Klaressa Adams (f)

11 Years Old. Daughter of Mozes and Sabina Adams working at P J de Villiers. You have only been living at the Pniel mission station for the last 4 months so are still getting to know everyone and are a little bit shy, being the youngest of all your brothers and sisters. But already you and your sister Mina are working at the Groot Drakenstein farmer, P J de Villiers so that you can help to support your family. You have a large family and are very close with her sister Mina whose side you always stick by, and also with your brothers Arend, Adam and Hans Adams who also have to work for the local farmers during harvest season. Neither of your parents read. You like it here as it seems a good place where your family can all stay together.

Mina Adams (f)

13 Years Old. Daughter of Mozes and Sabina Adams working at P J de Villiers. You have only been living at the Pniel mission station for the last 4 months so are still getting to know everyone but you are very bold and outgoing as you like this place and want to make as many friends as possible. But already you and your sister Mina are working at the Groot Drakenstein farmer, P J de Villiers so that you can help to support your family. You have a large family and are very close with your sister Klaressa who is shy and also with your brothers Arend, Adam and Hans Adams who also have to work for the local farmers during harvest season. Neither of your parents read. You hope one day to marry a man with some skills and business savy so that you won't have to work so hard anymore. You look at all the boys who you go to school with. Perhaps the boy with the most awards is the one you must keep your eye on and chat to whenever you can.

Sabina Antony (f)

14 yrs old. Daughter of Adam and Catherine Antony and have been living at Pniel for the last 2 years. You come from a large family of seven brothers and sisters. You are working at the farmer Beyers in the region to earn a little extra money for the family. You know that your income is important to the family as everyone has to help, but at the same time you have a secret dream to be a famous painter or singer and you are quite good at both of these things, but you know there is no real future in these dreams. Your family depends on you and you have to help and that is all you must think of. But every once in a while the teacher will catch you drawing a picture of something you saw instead of practicing your writing skills.

Christina Antony (f)

10 yrs old. Daughter of Adam and Mina Antony. You don't work on the farms yet, but know that your time is coming soon. Every one else in your class talks about how hard it is to work after school and on weekends, but they always have lots of stories about the farmers and their wives that they work for and what happens in wealthy people's households. You also want to tell good stories, so you are looking forward to working like the older girls and boys do. At the same time you also love to play games and sing songs with your younger brothers and sisters, so perhaps waiting a little bit longer before having to work is not such a bad thing afterall!

Anetta Apollos (f)

14 yrs old. Daughter of Afrika and Catryn. You have been living at Pniel for almost a year now, and during that time have been working at the farmer de Wet helping with household chores and sewing to help support your family. Neither of your parents read- you are the only one in your family who can as your little brother and sister are too young and only learning to read now. You actually love sewing and make your clothes that everybody admires, even the farmer's wife is very pleased with your work and pays you a little extra every once in a while which you don't tell your parents about. Perhaps one day you will go to Cape Town and become a famous dress maker where everyone will wear beautiful clothes that you have made. Whenever the farmer you work has family that comes to visit from Cape Town you take notice of their clothing and any new styles so that you can copy it when making another dress or bonnet. At the moment, everyone in the family counts on you as you are the only one who can read and have to look after your brothers and sisters as well as earn a little income to help your mother and father. Your dreams will have to wait, but you think of them all the time.

Regina Cyster (f)

15 yrs old. Daughter of Zyster and Regina Bahns. Neither of your parents read. You work at the farmer de Villiers while your sister Wilhelmina works at Beyers' farm. You help in the kitchen of de Villiers house and help to make meals for the family and guests that visit. Your grandmother taught you all about spices and how to use them as she was a slave from India and she is very good at cooking. You make delicious dishes like babotie with spicy atjaars and blatjangs, sago pudding and milk tart with shavings of nutmet and cinnamon. Perhaps you will go to India one day and see where all these spices come from and where your grandparents were born. You always have interesting stories to tell as you notice everything that is going on in the household and some of the important visitors that you see. Your brothers Cyster and Hendrik Cyster also have to help support the family by working for farmers in the region and even working further afield in the Koeberg region for days at a time during the harvest season. You miss them so much during this time when they are away, as despite the fact they can be quite naughty, they are also great fun.

Wilhemina Cyster (f)

13 yrs old. Daughter of Zyster and Regina Bahns. Neither of your parents read. You work at the farmer Beyers while your sister Wilhelmina works at De Villiers farm. Your sister loves what she does and always has great stories to tell about the people who she works for, but you have a less exciting job having to help with the washing, ironing, mending and folding of clothes for the Beyers family. They never have any one interesting visit, but they have so many clothes to wash. Although you did hear the other day that the farmer that your sister works for is going bankrupt because he had a poor harvest and had taken out too many loans which he couldn't repay. His house is to be publicly auctioned off and all their household possessions are going to be put on sale for people to buy in front of their eyes. It surprises you as the de Villiers seem to be very wealthy people- they have many horses and carriages and huge and your sister tells you all the time about the luxurious food they eat. You must tell your sister as she might have to look for work somewhere else, and your family cannot do with having less money. For once at least you have an interesting story to tell.

Clara Carolissen (f)

15 yrs old. Daughter of Josua and Jacoba Carolissen. Both of your parents can read and your father is a shoe maker so you don't have to work at all. In fact you have high dreams that you want to be a nurse. You concentrate hard in class, and are the top girl student as you know that you must be able to show great skill in reading and writing in order to be accepted into nurses training one day. You know that spices from the East such a tamarind, cardomum, cinnamon, saffron, ginger and nutmeg can not only be used in cooking, but in the preparation of medicines to help with different sicknesses. You grandmother who was born in Indonesia and came out to the Cape taught you all about this as many of the other slaves used to come to her to be healed for their ailments. But you also want to learn more modern medicine, what the people in the cities of Europe get taught , so hopefully you will learn all about this when you become a nurse. You feel different to the other girls who have to work after school and on weekends to help their families bring in an income, but you try to be friends with them still as they are fun to be with and have interesting stories from the wealthy farmer households they come from.

Riana (Adriana) Davids (f)

11 yrs old. Daughter of September and Adriana Davids (who you were named after your mother but this gets confusing so everyone calls you Riana). You are not old enough to work yet, and are the oldest of your two younger brothers, so will have to start after your 12th birthday to earn some money for the family. Your mother is trying to organize that you work at the same farm as her so that you will be together. You could help looking after the farmer's children as you have been looking after your younger brothers for so many years now while your mother is at work, you know you are good at it as you are strict on them when they are naughty, but also kind as you always play games with them. In the meantime you like learning to read and write at school and will often go home and pretend to be a teacher and make up a story to read to your brothers or teach them to spell their name. Perhaps one day you will be a teacher like the Rev. Stegmann as he did say that if we all did our best in school we could have a chance of being more than a worker.

Maria Flynn (f)

10 yrs old. Daughter of Terry Flynn and Wilhelmina Fredricka Samuels. Your father was born in England, but came out to South Africa to try and make a new life for himself. Your mother, Wilhelmina Fredrika Samuels was born in this region to parents who had been slaves on the farm Boschendal. Your father came to work in this Valley due to the large demand for labour that the farmers needed during the harvest season and that is how your parents had met working on the same farm. After getting married they came to live at the Pniel station as your father did not have a house of his own. He can read and write and has taught you since you were a little girl. You are one of the youngest girls in the class, but are one of the top students.

Caatje Jacobs (f)

15 yrs old. Daughter of Job and Martha Jacobs. You have been living at Pniel for the last 4 years. Neither of your parents read or write and you are the oldest in your family and are working at the farmer A C de Villiers to earn some money for your family. You are often away from school as you have to look after all your brothers and sisters, as well as working at the farmer A C de Villiers where you cook and clean and help with the washing and ironing and the mending and folding of clothing. What time do you have after all of this to learn how to read and write. Your family needs the money you bring in and at the moment that is your main concern, more than having good handwriting. The work that you do with your hands is more valuable that being able to use a pen properly!

Rachel Lakey (f)

12 yrs old. Daughter of Abraham Lakey and Delia Arends. You have been living at Pniel for the last 2 years. You have a large family with 9 brothers and sisters and 6 of you are already working to earn an income for the family. You only just turned 12. Your brother is lucky as he is learning a trade, and with such a skill he will be able to open his own business one day- much of the family's hopes are on him for his future. But you also have dreams of your own which you keep to yourself- you don't know what you're good at or what you want to do, but you know you want to live in one of the big cities one day like Cape Town or even Stellenbosch.

Lea Manus (f)

14 yrs. You are the daughter of Rachel Manus, your father died when you were a little girl, leaving your mother to look after you and your 6 brothers and sisters. 2 of your brothers are involved in building houses on Pniel which is a great source of pride for your family. You are working at the farmer Brink's house on Zandvliet helping with the household chores. What an interesting farm you work for, there is always something going on, as they make wine and you like to watch as the workers crush the grapes with their feet and often sing songs. You are always finding pieces of broken porcelain on the ground and little pieces of sharp stones which look like they were made by a human (you keep some of them in your pocket like a lucky charm and like to show people). It would seem that people have been living on the farm for a long time for there to be so many broken pieces of plates and cups. You have a sick sister which you have to help look after too.

Delia November (f)

16 yrs. Daughter of Doortje November. Your father died when you were little and your mother was left to support 8 children. You and your brothers and sisters have been helping to support the family as best you can. You have been working at C Hupts with your mother since you were 12 yrs old. Your mother often speaks of the hard life she has led, that she was a slave that had come from a different part of Africa, a place called Mozambique. She was brought to the Cape when she was a little girl and purchased at an auction by Haupt's grandfather so that she could come work as a slave and knitting girl in his household. Your mother tells you the story of when the slaves were set free in December 1834. How they celebrated and danced and laughed and sang until the early hours of the morning. Unfortunately not too much changed, slaves still had to work for the same masters for another 4 year period until they could really consider themselves free to do what they want and go where they like. In the end, your mother never left the farmer who had bought her, after he died she carried on working for his son and now you work for his grandson. You don't like it much, but feel you cannot complain to your mother after all the sacrifices she has made and hard work to keep your family clothed and fed. You must carry on as she did and work hard and hope for the best. Now at least part of your mother's dream has come true as you don't live anymore at the house of the farmer who bought her all those years ago. You live in Pniel, a place of hope and in a house of your very own.

Sanna Samson (f)

16 yrs. Daughter of Moses and Dorenda Samson. Your family is one of the first families that settled on Pniel 5 years ago. You work after school on the farm of J P de Villiers and also worked during the pressing season for 2 weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day. You are a strong girl and know that with hard work comes pay, and rewards as your parents work very hard for the farmers of the region and now they have a house of their own in Pniel. You are hoping one day to become a teacher and you help the Rev. Stegmann a great deal in the class in the role of 'Pupil Teacher'.

Clara Robyn

14 yrs. Daughter of Carolus and Delia Robyn. You have been living on Pniel for the last 4 years. You and your sister Regina work ay J P de Villiers as help in the kitchen and fetching water from the river and well and wood from the forest for the fires. To earn a little extra money you also worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer Jacob Scholtz for 2 weeks at 4 ½ d per day during the last pressing season. You and your sister are always singing songs and playing tricks on people- the one time you dipped the bottom of your younger sister's hair in the ink at school and got into huge trouble as it made a mess of all her clothes. You are much better now as after all the hard work you do to help with the family you are sometimes too tired to event think up new tricks to play. But you still sing, you always have the energy to sing, and love it when the whole of Pniel is in church on a Sunday singing a hymn in unison.

Regina Robyn

13 yrs. Daughter of Carolus and Delia Robyn. You have been living on Pniel for the last 4 years. You and your sister Regina work ay J P de Villiers as help in the kitchen and fetching water from the river and well and wood from the forest for the fires. To earn a little extra money you also work with Groot Drakenstein farmer Stephanus de Villiers for 2 weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season. All the money that you earned went straight to your parents as you need to help with the house and everyone is outgrowing their old shoes and needs a new pair. You are always dreaming of what the future might be like and imagining silly inventions that would make life easier. You imagine as you spend the day washing the clothes in the river and drying them that one day might be an instrument that does it all for you while you sit back and relax. People think you are crazy when you tell them of these sorts of ideas, but still it is something to think of while washing the clothing and leaving it out to dry.

Elizabeth Robyn

12 yrs. Daughter of Carolus and Delia Robyn. You have been living on Pniel for the last 4 years. Your sisters and brother have been working for farmers in the region since you moved here, but you have just started to work for the farmer Jan de Wet for 4 shillings and 6 pennies per month. You don't actually get any of the money as you have to hand it over to your parents, which seems a little unfair to you, but it is the same for all the children who help to support their family. Despite the fact that all of you work so hard in the family, there never seems enough food to feed everyone, and the last time you had a new pair of shoes was two years ago. You don't wear shoes at all now unless going to church or school as they are precious and you don't want them to get dirty while you work as it might still be a long time before you get another pair.

Rozet Salomon (f)

10 yrs. Daughter of Isaac and Sara Salomon. Your family moved to Pniel 3 years ago. Your mother works in the service of the Rev. Stegmann and you spend time helping her after school is finished by sewing and looking after the church garden and grounds. You like to run errands all over Pniel as you get to chat to all the people in the different houses. Sometimes it makes you sad to do this as you see so many of the people of Pniel working so hard for the surrounding farmers and still they have very little to feed their families on. The Reverend says that for some one so young you are very bright, and if you work hard at school and be obedient and good, you might become a teacher or nurse one day like some of the older girls in the school. You see the good work that the Rev. and your mother do by caring for people, and you would like to be able to help people to as you can see it makes them happy to have someone who cares about their troubles and their cares. You are always asking your fellow classmates how they are doing and asking them about themselves so that you can practice helping people out like the Reverend and your mother.

Saartje Zwarts (f)

13 years. You are an orphan that was taken into the home of Gedult and Klara Willems. Gedult is a mason on the station and is involved in the supervision of the building on the station, but he also has to work for the surrounding farmers during harvest season to earn a little extra money. They don't have any children of their own yet, but they feel as much a family to you as you have ever had. You also wanted to help out in the household and so you offered to labour with Groot Drakenstein farmer Piet Louw for 2 days at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season. You felt very proud that you could contribute to the household. Even though times are tough for all the households, especially during winter when there never seems to be enough wood to keep the houses warm. Seeing that Gedult is a mason and so much building work of new houses going on the mission station, you

Boys

Stemmer Salomon

14 years old. You are old enough now to work with your father doing harvesting, pruning and planting on the farms in the region. You proudly laboured with Groot Drakenstein farmer David de Villiers for 2 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season, and with farmer Stephanus de Villiers for 1 week also earning 6 pennies per day. You also helped to reap corn on the Koeberg farms of Jacobus van der Spuy and the Widow of D Theunissen for 4 weeks earning 1 shilling and 6 pennies per day during the last Harvest Season. You like these times away from home as you get to see a bit of the world out there- what lies beyond the place where you were born. When you were a little boy you followed your friends on a dare up to climb up the 'Silvermine' mountain above the farm 'Goedehoop'. You had all heard that there were deep passages and tunnels there where some of the boys had said they were made by moles and rats the size of cattle! But you know better as your father had told you that those tunnels were manmade and many years ago people had dug them out the mountainside in the hope that they could mine silver (and that's how the place got its name). Now you climb up there just so that you can see in every direction what is out there- towards Stellenbosch and Cape Town and Paarl. One day you hope to visit all those places. In the meantime, it is just exciting to go as far as the Koeberg Mountains

Arend Adams

16 years old. This is your last day at school, you are now old enough to work fulltime for the farmers in the region which is a good thing as you like nothing better than to grow and plant things. Everything can be made with your hands that can feed your belly. If you have soil and sunlight and some seeds you can grow pumpkin and maize and melon and feed your family. All you need is a little hard work to make these things grow, and what more could you need to feed your family or sell some produce on the market in Stellenbosch. You worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer David de Villiers for 2 weeks at 9 pennies per day during the last pressing season and are hoping that due to your hard work he will employ you fulltime on his farm. All you need now is to keep a look out for a wife- one that is good in the kitchen, but who can also sew and make clothing as then the two of them will be able to provide everything they need. Your brothers Adam Hans Adams also work for farmers in the region, but they don't want to stay here like you.

Adam Adams

14 years old. While you have worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer David de Villiers for 2 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season, its not what you really want to do in life. While your brother Arend is happy to work the earth with his hands, you couldn't think of anything worse. For the last year or so you have been working as an errand boy for the fodder and feed farmers in the area and going on trips to help the farmers of this region sell their wine to Cape Town. You have already seen such amazing things: the Sea!!!! None of your brother's and sisters have seen the ocean. You can remember the first time you saw it, when you accompanied the don of De Villiers to Cape Town to complete an order of wine onto a ship headed towards Mauritius and France. At first you couldn't believe your eyes, so much water it seemed never to end! And Cape Town itself is probably the most exciting place he has ever been. Everywhere the place is full of people going about their job: their were people catching fish in Table Bay and walking through the streets shouting their prices, people in long gowns and silk umbrellas walking through the gardens, men running this way and that, all sorts of colours and people and spices and things for sale. You are the most popular boy in class as even though you often miss a day or two here and there, everyone always wants to know where you've been and what you saw.

Jefta Jacobs

17 years. This is your last year at school and about time! You have worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer Abraham C. de Villiers for 5 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season and also been reaped corn on the Koeberg farm of Jacobus van der Spuy for 4 days at 1shilling and 6 pennies per day during the last Harvest Season. You to become apprenticed to the Pniel shoemaker Joshua Carolissen and feel very lucky as it was just the right time that he was looking for someone to help him with all the business he was getting. You had worked very hard during the year, both at school and at the farmers in the region where you could, and the Reverend Stegmann had himself recommended you to the shoemaker. Your family is very proud of you as this is a great opportunity and now you really look forward to making this new start in life.

Damon Hall

16 years. You came to Pniel after having lost both of your parents to a terrible illness. You stay with the November family who kindly took you in, but you have to earn your keep which is why you worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer Hendrik de Villiers for 3 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season. You also corn on the Koeberg farm of Jacobus van der Spuy for 8 weeks when other younger children were playing at home during the holidays. But at least you were paid 1 and 2 shillings per day during the last Harvest Season which is an excellent rate. You will be leaving school this year and will continue to work for the farmers in the region as you have a good reputation now and everyone is enquiring how they can hire you. Perhaps you can even have a house of your own in Pniel one day.

Stemmers November

16 years. You are very proud of your name as it shows the strong heritage you came from. Your father's name is November, it was a name that was given to him when he arrived at the Cape as a little boy with his mother from the island of Madagascar. The name his mother had given to him when he was born had been too difficult for the farmer that bought him and his mother to pronounce. Hence he was called November as this was the month that the ship they had sailed upon had arrived at the Cape. When his father was freed from slavery, he no longer called himself November van Madagascar, simply just November. When you were born, your father decided to give you his own name as your surname and now you are Stemmers November. You take great pride in your name as it is always a reminder of your father and where he came from with your grandmother- small African island called Madagascar very far from where you are living today. You often think of this in times when you work during the harvest season in Groot Drakenstein. During the last pressing season you had worked for farmer Carel Albregt Haupt for 3 weeks at 6 pennies per day and it amazes you to think that here you are in the making wine at the Cape when you could have been born on an Island off the coast of Africa

Adam Bahouss

17 years. This is your last year at school and soon you will be going to live in Paarl to learn how to be a wagon maker. You are excited to leave Pniel. While it has been your home for so many years and you have enjoyed living here and going to school and learn, you know that your opportunities are limited in this small mission station. Everyone here has dreams of becoming something, but how much chance will they get to do it if they continue to get paid so little from the surrounding farmers. You see your only future as having to leave this place or you worry that you will be a labourer forever. You worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer David Beyers for 3 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season, and for all for the last 4 seasons before that. You want to be able to have a business of your own one day, perhaps in a larger town like Paarl or Wellington. You will miss living here, but will look forward to a new future and must think only of what lies ahead, not what you might be leaving behind.

Adam Heins (or Hans)

15 years. Everyone says that you are an extremely hard worker for your age. You worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer Jakob Scholtz for 2 ½ weeks at 9 pennies per day during the last pressing season. You additionally reaped corn on the Koeberg farms of Melt van der Spuy and the Cornelis van Schoor for 8 weeks at 1 and 2 shillings per day during the last Harvest Season. You don't really like being away from home on the station for such long periods of time as you miss your family. But you can now be considered a grown man and must think only of working hard so that you too can provide for a family of your own one day. You don't see much point in learning how to read and write even though you must as it seems the only work that people want to hire you for is for what your hands can fetch, carry, lift, reap and sow, not for what they can write. None the less at least learning the mathematics has helped you make sure nobody cheats you when they pay you as you know exactly what is owed to you and how much might have accumulated over time. You always pay very good attention in the mathematics portion of the lesson.

Stemmer Africa

12 years. You are young, but very strong and have helped your family out by working with Groot Drakenstein farmer Johannes Phils. De Villiers for 3 weeks at 6d per day during the last pressing season. You also reaped corn on the Koeberg farm of Hugo Niekerk for 17 days at 1s6d per day; as well as on that of Cornelis vn Schoor for 6 days at 1s6d per day; at Willem Louw for 1 day at 1s6d per day; at Hendrik de Vos of the farm Klabas Kraal for 3 days at 1s per day; and at the farm of Albert Mostert for 4 days at 1s.6d per day during the last Harvest Season. Aside from all this other work, the thing you are best at is herding cattle. You work for many farmers in the region looking after as a shepherd to their herds to different grazing grounds during summer and winter. Your father was a good Shepard as was your grandfather before him. Your mother tells you this is because you are descended from the indigenous pastoralist communities know as the 'Khoekhoe' that once lived in this area in their own kraals herding cattle seasonally around the western Cape. Perhaps those talents were handed down from generation to generation as you understand the landscape in different ways. You know from a distance what is good and bad pasturage for the cattle, where to find water, when they are disturbed by a wild animal, how to tell the difference between herds, and even can predict when a storm is coming just by looking at the wind and clouds in the sky and watching the patterns of the birds. Your father taught you this, and his father taught him, and you hope that everything you have learned you can pass on one day too as it is a gift and an honour to come from such a people.

Aaron Job

15 years. Laboured with Groot Drakenstein farmer Daniel Marais Senior for 1 ½ weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season. You have always helped on the farm and enjoy see something that was in the ground get turned into wine. You helped to prune the vines and nurture them during winter and autumn. During harvest season you helped to pick the grapes carefully off the vine so as not to bruise them and then you helped to crush them in large vats with your feet and watched the various processes as the juice and skins of the grape were turned into white and red wine. You hope one day to be a wine farmer too, perhaps even to own land in this Valley so that you can make your own wine and sell it on the market at Cape Town. People tell you all the time that it will never happen as you are just a worker and your parents were just workers and their parents were slaves and that is how it will always be. But you don't see why not- you ask what makes you so different to the farmer's son, why can't you have the same opportunities in life?

August

11 years. You have already worked with Groot Drakenstein farmer David de Villiers for 2 weeks at 6 pennies per day during the last pressing season, and are looking forward to taking on more duties and responsibilities in order to help in looking after your household. Your father is away for long periods at a time and it is you that looks after your mother and sisters while he is away. You love to read and enjoy school, especially when you are told of all the other countries in the world and what type of minerals and animals live there. But there is never too much time to read as you have to focus on looking after the family and doing small chores to help your mother like chopping wood for the stove and fireplace, fetching and carrying water from the river, looking after your family's vegetable plot on the mission- you are learning all about how to grow melons and pumpkin and maize. Sometimes when all your chores are done you get to play a game with your sisters, but more often than not there are always things to do.

Cyster Cysters

14 years. You are a skilled craftsman with wood and are very good at carving not only toys as you did when you were a little boy, but now even making simple chairs and tables. You hope one day to be a cabinet maker as then you could do what you are good at. You went on an errand for farmer de Villiers to take a note to the magistrates house and saw a cabinet being auctioned at a public sale for many pounds which is a fortune. You worked with Groot Drakenstein Widow of Jacobus de Wet for 1 ½ weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season and also worked for Piet Louw for 1 week at 4 ½ pennies per day, so you realize how much money this cabinet is worth. Your mother tells you that you come from a line of skilled craftsmen. Your great grandfather was a master furniture maker in Indonesia as was your grandfather who was brought out to the Cape as a slave when the Dutch ruled the Cape. Your father taught you what he knew and now perhaps you can make a livelihood doing this one day. It is better than when you had to reap corn on the Phizante kraal farm of Jan Louw for 21 days at 1 and 1 shilling and 6 pennies per day during the last Harvest Season.

Hans Adams

12 years. You have two sisters and two brothers who are also working and at school with you. Like them you pull your weight in the household even though you are the youngest. You worked with Groot Drakenstein Widow of Jacobus de Wet for 1 ½ weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season. You don't get much chance to play as everyone in your family is always doing chores or working to earn extra money. Your parents said you must think of something to do one day- perhaps to get a skill. You have an uncle who lives in Wellington who is an apprentice at a tannery, and perhaps you can go work there with him one day, although you have heard it is hard work and you need to have a sound stomach in order to work the skins of animals into leather. Perhaps you should rather think of becoming a saddler as everyone rides horses and will always do so to get around so that might be a good business to be in.

Hendrik Cyster

12 years. Your brother Cyster is very good at woodwork and carving which your mother said is a family skill that has been handed down from generation to generation. You have no interest in woodcarving at all, however. You don't even know what you are good at yet or what you might like to do. But you ask people lots of questions about what they do. You have spoken to the shoemaker and blacksmith and mason situated in Pniel and you are still not sure. You know one thing that you don't want to be working as a labourer forever. You worked with the Groot Drakenstein Widow of Jacobus de Wet for 1 ½ weeks at 4 ½ pennies per day during the last pressing season. You also reaped corn on the Koeberg farm of the widow of D Theunissen for 9 days at 1 shilling and 6 pennies per day; as well as on the farm Phizante Kraal of Cornelis van Schoor for 9 days at 1 shilling per day during the last Harvest Season. Despite the work, you enjoyed traveling around and seeing different places and people and asking them questions about what they do. At least you have a little bit more choice than your parents who were born into slavery and are still working for the same family they had under slavery. It is because of them and their sacrifices that you get more of a choice to decide what you want to do these days, as long as you still bring money into the household.

Piet August

15 years. Your family is very poor and you have no choice but to work for farmers in the surrounding region like your brothers and sisters. You reaped corn on the Koeberg farm of Jacobus van der Spuy for 34 days at 1shilling and 6 pennies per day, and at the farm of the widow of D Theunissen for 3 days at 1shilling and 2shilling per day during the last Harvest Season. This money helps a great deal in the house, and while other boys your age work half as hard as you do, you know that the harder you work the more food you have on the table and the sooner you might get new shoes without holes on your feet. Everyone at the mission has dreams of what their life might be like, but while they are doing all that dreaming, you are working hard and making money.

Manuel Manuels

13 years. You haven't been living on the station for long with your family and hope that this is good move for your family. You had been living in the Tulbagh district your whole life living on the property of the farmers there since your great great grandmother had come to the colony as a slave from a small island in Indonesia. Your great grandmother was actually of Muslim faith and tried to practice it as best she could, but living on a rural farm with no mosque and no surrounding Muslim community, she let it fall by the wayside. Now your family is Christian as this is what the mission station is all about. The Reverend Stegmann teaches you not only about reading, writing and arithmetic, but also of the ways of god and the sacrifices Jesus made on the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins. And now you are in Pniel to make a new start with your family. You even reaped corn on the Groot Drakenstein farm of the Widow of Jan Haupt for 2 weeks at 6d and 1s per day during the last Harvest Season as soon as you arrived on the station. Now you know everyone like old friends.

Mozes Heskwa

You are the only son of Susanna Heskwa, a former Khoekhoe or 'Hottentot' worker from the surrounding region. You have a different background to some of the other children who live on Pniel- your ancestors were not slaves that came from the East, but your family has been here for generations and generations. You are of this land and you feel connected to it. Your mother has taught you a great deal about plants and nature- the things that were handed down from her mother. You know what is poisonous and you know what plants in this region can heal you. While you are different in these ways, you and your mother like the other inhabitants of Pniel had to work for the farmers in this region to earn money.

Your family could no longer support itself by living in a traditional kraal- all the European people had taken the grazing land of your cattle as your own, and now only you and your mother have gone out into the world to start a new life and future. Now you have been living at Pniel mission station for the last three years which is a good place. You and your mother has a house of your own, but you both work very hard to stay here and be a success. Your mother works during the pressing season at the farm of Stephanus de Villiers while you work at the farm of David Beyers throughout the year and also go away for long periods of time to reap corn at farmers in the Koeberg region. You don't know your exact age as you and your mother measure time in different ways- by the change in seasons and the number of droughts over time, but you are strong and capable and feel you can do anything. You like to tell people your story so you don't forget where you came from.

Eduard Flynn

11 years old. You can read and write very well for your age and hope one day to be in an important profession such as being a clerk in municipal offices or working at the Bank. Your father, Terry Flynn, was born in England and came out to work at the Cape as he could find no work in England and thought he might have better opportunities here. Your mother, Wilhelmina Fredrika Samuels was born in this region to parents who had been slaves on the farm Boschendal. Your father came to work in this Valley due to the large demand for labour that farmers needed during the harvest season and that is how your parents had met working on the same farm. After getting married they came to live at the Pniel station as your father did not have a house of his own. You don't want to work on a farm when you're older, but rather to be an important person who doesn't have to rely on the labour of his hands, but the knowledge in his mind. Education is very important to you as you feel it is the only way to make something of yourself.

Dirk Claasen

16 years. You have only been at the station for one year with your family. Your parents were former slaves born at the Cape who lived in the Worcester District, but after the last master they worked for died they decided to make a new start in a different region. Your parents had believed that society is still the same as it was under slavery, and that life is not any better. But life at Pniel has changed their opinions a little. You are enrolled in school and even your parents are being given the opportunity to learn to read and write. At the same time they work just as hard as they used to in the fields and houses of the farmers in the region as they did under slavery, but at least you all live in a house of your own at the mission station, with your own piece of garden to plant with vegetables and grazing area for any cattle you can afford one day.

Stuurman Windvogel

13 yrs. You are a popular member out of all the boys your age as you traveled all over the Cape with your family before you came to settle at Pniel. Once your parents were freed from slavery they tried to make a new life for themselves in many different towns, but finding work was difficult so in the end you have come to settle in Pniel which seems to be quite a nice place to be. You have been to Cape Town and seen the busy city with all its noises, smells and people; you've been to Stellenbosch and seen how people sell their produce at the huge weekly market. At least Pniel seems to be a place of opportunity- you can learn to read and write and if you cannot survive by a business or skill of your own there is always a farmer who needs an extra hand during harvest season. This seems a good place to settle, and all the people who live here have similar backgrounds- people who were former slaves or Khoekhoe labourers to the region looking for somewhere of their own to stay. It is difficult to survive in the world out there on your own, there aren't too many people looking after you.

Some things to practice with the class before the Time Travel

- Lining up shortest to tallest, boys and girls in separate rows
- Saying 'Good morning Ma'am' or 'Good Morning Sir' in unison
- Standing and sitting in unison
- Sitting with their hands behind their backs
- Practise the singing of a hymn or song they particularly like
- Reading in unison
- Chanting tables
- Familiarizing the learners with pounds, shillings and pennies
- Spelling words out aloud eg. 'f-i-n-g-e-r FINGER'

Children of this period were expected to:

- Be respectful, obedient, polite and courteous
- Speak correct English/ Dutch (Afrikaans) and enunciate words clearly
- Not to speak unless spoken to
- Walk in straight lines to the classroom
- Wait behind their desks quietly until ordered to sit down
- Sit up straight, with their hands behind their backs or on the desks
- Refrain from touching anything on their desks unless told to
- Stand when an adult entered the room
- Stand to answer questions and wait permission to speak
- React instantly to instructions
- Ask only for materials (ie. Paper, ink pen), but not for information
- Wear clean clothes and have clean hands and finger nails
- Use the right hand at all times for writing
- Use ink with considerable care
- Be seen and not heard

After the visit

The experience of the Time Travel should not end with the conclusion of the day on the heritage site. In order to maximize learning, strategic follow up activities can be done within the classroom. I.e.

Life Orientation

- Discuss the visit. Children who have engaged empathetically in the lives of other people need time to reflect and talk about the experience
- Discuss the limited career options open to Victorian children, especially girls.

Language

- In their Pniel1849 character let the children write a letter to a relative or a friend about their school day and daily duties

Time Plan

Wednesday 17th October: props dropped off Pniel Church

Thursday 18th and Friday 19th October: Time Travel for Schools

07:30 Preparation of site

08:00 Children arrive at school

08:50 Learners Arrive

09:00 Introduction & role cards

09:15 Changing of clothes

09:30 Presentation of characters. Rules. Ceremony to begin Time Travel

10:00 Morning session in Church with Reverend Stegman- song, scripture reading, prayer. Discussion of days events.

10:15 School class activities in 1846

10:45 Outside to perform duties for the day to earn money

11:30 Roosterkoek & Coffee (playing old fashioned games)
-Roosterkoek needs time to rise...etc how much time to make mix,
recipe & ingredients, spices...etc

11:50 Resume Activities

12:30 Meal & Singing & Dancing; Judgement of work done for the day

13:00 End & Short Reflection

13:30 Children leave for home

Friday 19th October: 13:30 Collection of Props from Pniel Church

Activities:

Sermon & hymns in Pniel Church (10mins)

- Boys & girls to line up outside church/class room; shortest to tallest in separate rows

Classroom Activities (30mins)

- Take register of children present (answering present 'Ma'am or Sir)
- Absence of children explained
- No shoes to be worn by children: many children went to school barefoot (perhaps one or two of wealthier children wore shoes)
- Arithmetic on slate boards or
- Copy books to practice cursive script with ink (Writing with the right hand only)
- Spelling or dictation to be done
- Chanting times tables
- Reading Dutch and English text
- Repetition of sayings "Children should be seen and not heard"⁷
- Singing
- Awards for the day: for neat handwriting, good behaviour, class as a whole on good attendance
- A girl that is learning to be a teacher is given tasks to do: older, more accomplished student
- Some of pupils leaving school soon: tell class what they will be doing, where they will be going

Outdoor Duties:

[girls]: Making roosterkoek & coffee
Churning butter
Washing clothing & hanging out to dry
Mending clothing & knitting and sewing (embroidery & French knitting?)
Playing old fashioned games
Singing & dancing during coffee and lunch break
Helping to make stew & rice for lunch

[boys]: Peg making
Mixing of paint to paint toilet [At the Cape: lime washing/white washing]
Cutting grass & cleaning up garden
Planting of flowers for church?
Chopping firewood for fire
Blacksmith work?
Shoe making: Tulbagh Museum shoe factory?
Wellington Tannery/ Make or fix riempie stool with leather
Singing during coffee and lunch break
Playing old fashioned games

Costumes

Props

Morning Service: Bibles & hymns to be sung on piece of paper

Classroom Activities: Blackboard & Chalk (R38) or Ink pen and blotting paper (R10) Photocopied examples of cursive writing [other examples from Centre for Nature Conservation]; old educational books

The meal preparation: Tables, benches, tablecloths, plates, knives/spoons, cups, jugs, dishes, blankets to sit on, butter churn, ingredients for roosterkoek, coffee and stew, Gallons of water, potje pots, fire grills, cooking utensils, wood & matches, cutting boards, cutting knives, spices, baskets & crates

Washing Clothing: Tubs for washing clothing in (wooden cleaning equipment); soap, rope for washing line, pegs

Mending & knitting: Old ripped clothing to mend, sewing needles & thread (at least 10 needles and 2 or 3 types of thread); knitting needles, yarn, and wool wooden spindles to do French knitting

Playing old fashioned Games: Centre for Conservation education for ideas? Other ideas?

Peg making: Wooden blocks (museum technical services: yusief), knives for making pegs, bucket to store it in, examples of made-up one

Cutting grass,
Cleaning equipment
& gardening tools: Flowers & plants to be planted, buckets, spades, rakes, garden scissors for pruning, sickle,

Chopping of Firewood: Axe & wood to chop, cutting block

Blacksmith work: Aprons, Equipment (Tongs...etc), Wood for fire, Metal to work

Vineyard Maintenance: Check with Marianne

Singing: Children who can play instruments

4. Organisation:

Funding

Cape Winelands District Municipality cover costs of Transport & food:
Liase with Elizabeth Nicholls in advance

Co-operation of outside bodies

Pensioner society to help?
Minister to give sermon?
Who to help from W P Museums?

Booking of Venues needed

Church & grounds

Numbers of children & sizes...etc: 40 children per class per day

Approx. 80 children: 1 class: 18 girls, 20 boys in class
2nd class: 19 girls, 20 boys [42 girls in total?]

Ingredients required for the day: Ginger beer made in advance

Props required from Western Province Museum Services:

- 1 Braairooster, silver
- 2 Coolerboxes (groen met wit deksel)
- 3 Waterkanne, plasaties, 25l elk
- 2 Wateremmers, silwer met handvatsels
- 2 Driepootstaanders, klein
- 1 Rol Hessian gare
- Hessian sake
- 2 Ysterpote (driepoot) 2 x No.3 and 1 x No.4
- 4 Rottangmandjies
- 6 Hout naelborseltjies
- 37 Borde, enamel
- 6 Bakkies, enamel
- 31 Bekers, groot enamel
- 14 Bekertjies, klein enamel
- 6 Ice bricks, medium
- 47 soplepels, s/steele
- 5 Houtlepels
- 3 Hout roerspane met groewe
- 1 Houtspaan sonder groewe
- 8 Messe, tafel, s/steele
- 7 Messe, dessert, s/steele
- 1 Blikoopermaker, butterfly
- 1 Kombuissker
- 8 Vurke, steak, s/steele
- 36 Teelepels, s/steele
- 1 Skottelgoedborsel
- 2 Oven gloves
- 5 Kombuishanddoeke (blou en wit strepe)
- 1 Vatlappe
- 5 Broodborde, houd, 3 met handvatsels
- 1 stel William James Pastoral Symphony (blou en wit motief)
- 6 koppies, 6 pierings, 1 suikerpot met deksel, 1 koekbordjie, 6 eetborde, 1 opskepbord

- 5 Komberse
- 3 Baddens, sink
- 1 krat, rooi, plastiese
- 2 Koffieketels, blou, enamel
- 1 Koffieketel, wit, enamel
- 1 Swart houer
- 1 Houtkerfstelletjie
- 22 Wasgoedpennetjies, hout
- 3 Tolletjies, gare
- 4 Naelde
- 4 Seep, klein
- 1 Seep, groot

Klerelys

Wellington Museum

- 3 Bloese, langmou wit
- 3 Blouse, kortmou, wit
- 1 Rok, wit, oopknoop, kortmou
- 1 Baadje (blou)
- 1 Onderbaadjie, grys
- 17 Langbroeke, seuns
- 12 Keppies, dogters
- 1 Rok
- 1 Onderrok
- 13 Voorskote
- 1 Rok met borsie

Kleinplasia

- 1 Karton dames huurklere

Additional Props required:

Benches to sit on (at least 4 or 5) perhaps from Pniel school?

Toilet rolls & dishwashing liquid- included in funding for food...etc.

Large individual blackboard with old fashioned writing on it – perhaps a bible verse and an English saying of the time: “What a tangled web we weave when first we learn to deceive”

School room slates and slate pencils & cloths for wiping slates clean; ink pens?

Working butter churn

Clothing: shirts for boys and pants? waistcoats

Skirts, dresses, aprons & hats for group