

Basel Mission Archives

"Süss to Basel"

Title: "Süss to Basel"

Ref. number: D-01.08.V..21

Date: Proper date: 28.12.1857

Description: (Süss returned to Gyadam at the end of October 1857). Announces the baptism of several people on Christmas Day. (1.) A man in his early 30s who had got keep into debt in trade, but had been working to pay off the debts and has now done so. Old name Mensa, new name Donyame Saneeki (which Süss explains in German would be Gottlob Wendeum). In his period of instruction he had at first taken up the attitude of the pharisee. (ii) The second is slave belonging, to a mulatto merchant called Hesse. His original name Dinipanim, his new name chosen for him by his master Joseph Hesse, 20-25 years old. (iii) A youth of 20 years from Gyadam, the son of an elder, old name Kwabena Boki, new Asemode Krongkrong. Süss builds up a picture of a light-hearted chattering character given to idleness, and hard to convince that these characteristics were wrong. Somewhat to Süss' surprise he has stayed the course of instruction, and a wait while Süss was away and returned. (iv) Süss' servant, a boy of about 12-15 years, an ex-slave bought free by Süss whose actual home Angwa several days journey to the east of Peki. One aspect of Süss' baptismal instructions was to forbid him from disputing too much, on the grounds that when his character was changed then it would be safe to free his mouth (Süss says that he had a very attractive way with people). Baptised name: Gottlob Sumye.

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