

Basel Mission Archives

"Mohr's Report for the Third Quarter of 1887"

Title: "Mohr's Report for the Third Quarter of 1887"

Ref. number: D-01.47.IV..95

Date: Proper date: 25.10.1887

Description: The report is also to be found in Heidenbote 1888 pp.9-11. Reports that it is three weeks since they heard news that the Christians were to return to Kibi, but Lethridge is involved on a journey via Akyeaae to Asuum and this is delaying developments. The Wankyi chief had had to be arrested in the centre of Klbi, in the face of his supporters, oath that they would fight if that happened. Mohr is uncertain if, in the general reckoning - the Asuum ones will be settled, but he hopes so. Mohr had had to pay 334 Marks on behalf of Christians to bring the case to court, the £50 fine for contumacious conduct following the non-appearance of the accused in the Supreme Court has paid, and several messengers have been to the village to present the Supreme Court's formally. In fact since the Chief Justice wants to make an example, since recently people from Awenare and Apapam have refused to attend the court as well. Mohr also reports that in conversations with Rottmann at the end of September and the beginning of October Acting Governor White had given him permission to reside in Begoro and go anywhere but not Kibi. Mohr regards this as adequate permission for the moment - one cannot expect White to contradict the orders of Governor Griffith entirely. He reports consternation in the royal family that the Christians are returning to Kibi after all. Ampofowa, Ata's mother, and her son Kwasi Kuma both wanted to leave Kibi as soon as the news broke, but were prevented by the other chiefs. They wanted to go to Bansa. The chiefs are still not united on the choice of Kwasi Kuma. However, since his mother has the stool property and will not let it go the poor nephew Dante has little hope. 'He has not the means to keep up a show' which is certainly expected from an African prince. Anyway he could hardly be independent of the influence of his grandmother Ampofoma and his uncle. Rösler is waiting the signal to go to Kibi, in Asiakwa, and other employees are in Asiakwa and Asafo. Added to the printed part of his report about his dealings in Asiakwa is a half—paragraph about an elder. He had already been deprived of his office once by Huppenbauer in 1885. He had been maintained in office by the community however, partly because they feared him, and partly because, as a man of means, he had so many of them in his pocket. There were two other sturdy Christians appointed presbyters, and there was constant battle. However Mohr has taken away his office again because he has just married one of his grown up daughters to a heathen. Unfortunately it often happens that a community will chose a man of a 'noble' family as an elder, rather than the most capable.

Subject: [Archives catalogue]: Guides / Finding aids: Archives: D - Ghana: D-01 - Incoming correspondence from Ghana up to the outbreak of the First World War: D-01.47 - Ghana 1887: D-01.47.IV. - Begoro

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