

Basel Mission Archives

"Protokoll der Industriekommission / Protocol of the Industry Commission"

Title: "Protokoll der Industriekommission / Protocol of the Industry Commission"

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Description: Die Missionsindustrie bestand in Indien und Westafrika bereits vor der Gründung der Missionshandelsgesellschaft. In Indien diente die Industrie unter anderem dazu, den aufgrund der Bekehrung zum Christentum kastenlos gewordenen Einheimischen mit Webereien und Ziegeleien eine neue Existenzgrundlage zu sichern. In Westafrika waren dagegen vor allem Missionare industriell tätig, um den Bau ihrer benötigten Gebäude zu ermöglichen. Nach einer Reise des Inspektors Joseph Josenhans nach Indien beschloss das Missionskomitee am 24. November 1852 die Gründung einer Industriekommission. Das Ziel dieser Kommission bestand fortan darin, die Industriestätten aller Missionsstationen miteinander zu koordinieren und dadurch deren Produktionskraft zu optimieren. Die Industriekommission war nur in Indien dank Spendengeldern finanziell unabhängig von der Basler Mission. In Westafrika wurde sie hingegen von der Missionskasse mitfinanziert. Am 30. Mai 1882 wurde die Industriekommission aufgrund eines Komiteebeschlusses Teil der Missionshandelsgesellschaft. Industrie und Handel liefen von da an innerhalb der MHG zusammen. The mission industry existed in India and West Africa prior to the establishment of the mission trading company. In India, the industry was used, amongst other things, to provide the natives, who had become caste-less as a result of their conversion to Christianity, a new livelihood by setting up weaving mills and brickworks. In West Africa, on the other hand, missionaries in particular were engaged in industrial activities to enable the construction of necessary buildings. After a trip by Inspector Joseph Josenhans to India, the mission committee decided to establish an industrial commission on 24 November 1852. From then on, the aim of this commission was to coordinate the industrial sites of all the mission stations with each other, thereby optimizing their production capacity. The Industry Commission was financially independent of the Basel Mission only in India thanks to donations. In West Africa, by contrast, it was co-financed by the Mission treasury. On 30 May 1882, the Industry Commission became part of the Mission Trading Company by a committee decision. From then on, industry and trade converged within the MHG.

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