

Basel Mission Archives

"Mürdter to Basel"

Title: "Mürdter to Basel"

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Description: Everybody healthy. Birth of a daughter of Riis on 14th September. Their work: New carpenters shop and new goats stable and new boy's quarters built - old ones collapsed in rain and were attacked by white ants. New buildings with better wood. His work as a carpenter with the help of an African carpenter. Learning the language: Rev. Rigley, methodist missionary in Cape Coast, sent a Mulatto who knows English, Fanti and a little Ashanti. Preparation of a word list and difficulties of it. Is Ashanti the basic language of the Akan-languages? Help of an old slave of Ado Dankwa, a born Ashanti man. They do not see any fruits of their work but the Lord knows best. Palaver with the Governor: Mr. Lutterodt wanted to visit them and see the little daughter of Riis, but warned by Governor not to do so. Happy relations (letters) with the missionary in Cape Coast, and with Governor Maclean who always wanted Riis to come and settle on English territory. Needs for new workers: wait till palaver with governor settled. Need for a brother who would work on the language principally. Need for men well trained, especially absolute need for anybody coming to be proficient in English. Very few Africans know Danish, most Danes know German or English. Plan of a sawing mill: Unpracticable at Akropong, perhaps elsewhere. Plan of journey to Akwamu, perhaps also Ashanti. What will be the Governor's reactions?

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