

Basel Mission Archives

"Hans Niclay Riis to Basel"

Title: "Hans Niclay Riis to Basel"

Ref. number: D-01.02.(1846).II.,05

Date: Proper date: 04.03.1846

Description: Touching account of the death of Sebald (pp 1-2). His own sickness (pp 2-3). Request for more missionaries and why Aburi is a good mission station (p 3). Lessons with Alexander Clerk and Jonas Hosford. Hosford urges to be allowed to go to Antigua to find a wife, but he is even not yet confirmed. Has started a new life now to some extent (p 3). Has required schoolbooks from London. News about the Ashanti school and the timetable: Biblical history 3 periods; reading first class 2 periods, second class 5 periods, arithmetic 4 periods; writing 2 periods, excercises in spelling 2 periods, memorizing 2 periods, English 3 periods for the top class. Hymn singing is not on the timetable, but they sing before and after classes each day. This is due to the fact that he isn't a good enough singer to teach them singing properly. They know and use gladly the Lord's prayer also at home. For religious instruction he combines the two schools. The children repeat nicely the stories telling them in their own way. Only three little ones cannot be brought to narrate the stories they had heard. The Bible pictures are very useful. He wants to teach some Geography but there is a lack of a proper wall map of the world, which is indispensable. About the West Indian school. Methods used and those of Zeller (pp 4-5). About his studying of the language: Grammatical particularities (p 6). Spiritual difficulties of mission work (pp 6-7). Ritual murder, rumours of cannibalism (p 7).

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