

The Ghana Archive of the Basel Mission, 1829-1917

Contents of the microfilm collection
with an introduction by Dr. Paul
Jenkins, Archivist to the Basel Mission

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THE GHANA ARCHIVE OF THE BASEL MISSION, 1828 - 1918

1. INTRODUCTION

The Basel Mission had two main intentions in offering the facilities for making a microfilm of its Ghana Archive to 1918.

On the one hand, the principle has been adopted here that the Archive of a missionary society belongs equally to her successor churches - a principle which, both now and in the foreseeable future, can only be carried over into practise through some process of photographic reproduction, and we are taking the opportunity of the making of this microfilm to put a copy at the disposal of our Ghanaian successor church, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana.

On the other hand, it has long been accepted that the Basel Mission Archive belongs to the most important of the available sources on southern Ghana in the nineteenth century. Potential users have been discouraged, however, not only by the language problem, but also by the fact that Basel - and indeed, the German-speaking world in general - has lain so far from the world's main centres of African studies. It is hoped now that, with copies of this microfilm finding their way to other European centres, to Britain and the USA, as well as to Africa, scholars will find the use of the Basel Mission Archives on Ghana not only more possible, but also increasingly rewarding.

Inevitably, however, making the Basel Mission's Ghana Archive available in this form is not an easy or straightforward operation. The full Basel Mission collection on Ghana is more than twice as large as the materials microfilmed here ¹⁾. In making the selection for this publication we have concentrated on the primary sources available in Basel for the secular and ecclesiastical history of Ghana in the period of the Mission's most concentrated work there, among which series D-1, comprising more than a hundred substantial bound volumes of official correspondence from Ghana 1828-1914 takes pride of place.

What we have omitted - besides all reference to post-1918 history - is essentially sources concerned with the origins of the missionaries or Basel Mission policy as decided in Basel. The archive series involved here are above all

General Copy Books (Basel out-letters 1828 - 1850)

Home Board (Committee) Minutes

Personal Files of the missionaries

Series D-2 - Out-letters from Basel for Ghana 1850 - 1913

Technical problems were partly responsible for these omissions. In the case of the General Copy Books, the Home Board Minutes, and the Personal Files, the task of sorting out the material specific to Ghana was beyond our resources. With series D-2 the problem is that a wet-copy process was used in the Mission House from c. 1870 to the time of the First World War for obtaining copies of letters sent abroad. This has left us with

1) See appendix III for an overall picture of the Basel Mission Archive as it applies to Ghana

very illegible copies on very fragile tissued paper, and microfilming this series was not attempted because of the danger of further deterioration in the documents, and the unsatisfactory results which would have been obtained.

Normally one would be hesitant about reading letters which are a reply to initiatives from Basel without also reading the Basel out-correspondence. In the case, however, the omission of the Basel side of the documentation is justifiable on more than merely technical grounds. Many of the documents in the series D-1 are routine reporting, and not a response to a specific query from Basel. When queries are sent from Basel, these are often repeated in the replies sent from the field. This particularly applies where fundamental questions were posed by the leadership in Basel, for these were then usually discussed at length by the Mission's officials in Ghana, as well as by the Missionaries' General Conference there 2).

Indeed, while the process of policy-formation in Basel is imperfectly reflected in this microfilm, the alternative centre of gravity in the Mission - the consensus among senior missionaries in the field - is exhaustively documented. In this sense it would be only partially true to say that this microfilm, in concentrating on the Ghanaian side of the relationship, neglects the place of the Basel Mission in European history. It will soon become clear to the non-German or non-Swiss reader, that one is dealing with a distinctive form of mission organisation and a distinctive body of missionaries, and even on the basis of the materials offered here it would be possible to go some way towards making the characteristics of nineteenth-century Wurtemberg pietism in mission and colonisation concretely visible.

2) It should, in any case, be possible for the Basel Mission Archive to supply photocopies of specific out-letters from Basel, when these are necessary.

2. SOME REMARKS ON THE SERIES MICROFILMED

2.1 A SHORT HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

The first Basel Missionaries arrived in Basel in late 1828, but the following ten years were a time of almost unrelieved disaster for them. Of the ten missionaries and wives who arrived in Ghana before 1839 only two - Andreas Riis and his wife - survived more than a short time. Riis then led the re-establishment of the Mission in 1842, hoping that a group of ex-slaves recruited in the West Indies would provide the nucleus of a developing Christian community.

The work initiated in 1842 proved more robust, and the Mission and its church grew steadily until the internments of the First World War (by early 1918 even neutrals and British subjects among the Basel Missionaries had been deported) broke off the continuity of the Basel Mission presence. A statistical indication of this growth is provided in the accompanying graph, while the geography of Basel Mission work in Ghana to 1918 is outlined in the sketch map. With increasing size came an increase in the number of institutions run by the Mission, of especial importance being the boarding institutions (the Anstalts) which were founded almost everywhere where European missionaries were resident, either as boarding schools for girls or boys, or as training centres for future pastors, catechists, teachers or evangelists. There was also a very characteristic emphasis on agriculture and trade with, in Christiansborg, workshops where a technical training was provided.

In one respect this expansion seems to be gone forward in a very stable manner. A modern "constitutional" history of the Basel Mission remains to be written, but one would probably not be far wrong in assuming that the Mission's organisation in Ghana remained fundamentally unchanged from the 1850s to the First World War. Three officials - the Field Chairman (Präses), the Inspector of Schools and the Treasurer (Kassier) formed a Field Executive Committee (the "Ausschuss" or "Generalausschuss") with responsibility for the continuing administration, although the ultimate authority among the missionaries rested in theory with the (usually annual) Missionaries' General Conference. As the Mission grew, a Ga and a Twi District were organised, each with a parallel group of officials subordinate to those forming the Field Executive Committee. The formal competence of these organs must not be exaggerated, however. The final say in quite minor administrative issues, like promotions of teachers or incidental building expenses, lay with the Home Board in Basel.

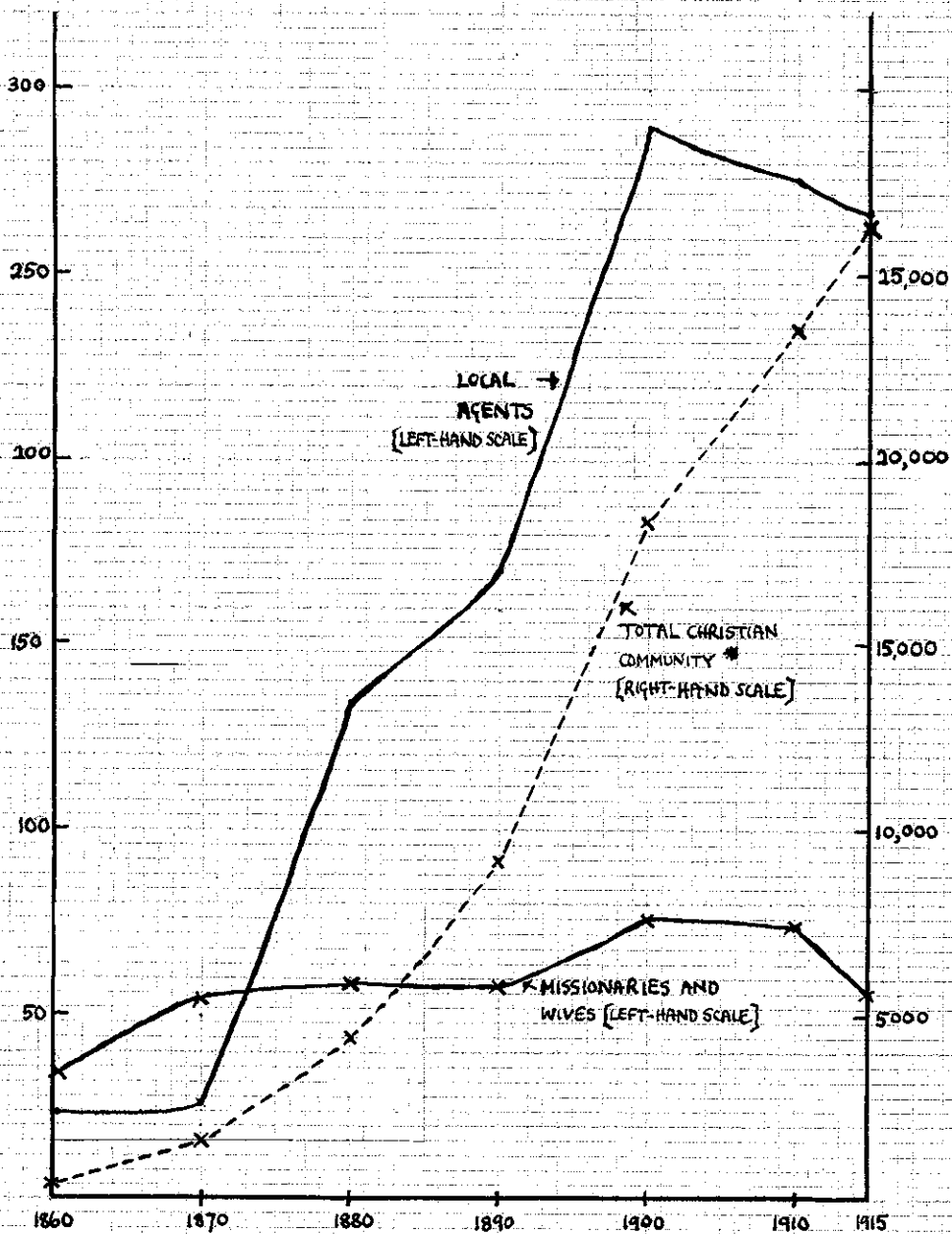
What has to be said of the missionaries and their officials in this respect has to be repeated and underlined for the Ghanaian membership of the Basel Mission Church, lay and clerical. Ghanaians had little if any say, formally, in the administration of the Mission, and though one speaks of a "Basel Mission Church" or a "German Evangelical Church" from the latter decades of the nineteenth century, there were almost no organs of Church government as such. From 1880 Synods were held occasionally, but only at the District level. The strength and the nature of Ghanaian opposition to this degree of formal - and probably actual - domination by the Mission and by missionaries, is a largely unwritten chapter in the history of Ghanaian nationalism.

BASEL MISSION CHURCH (GHANA)

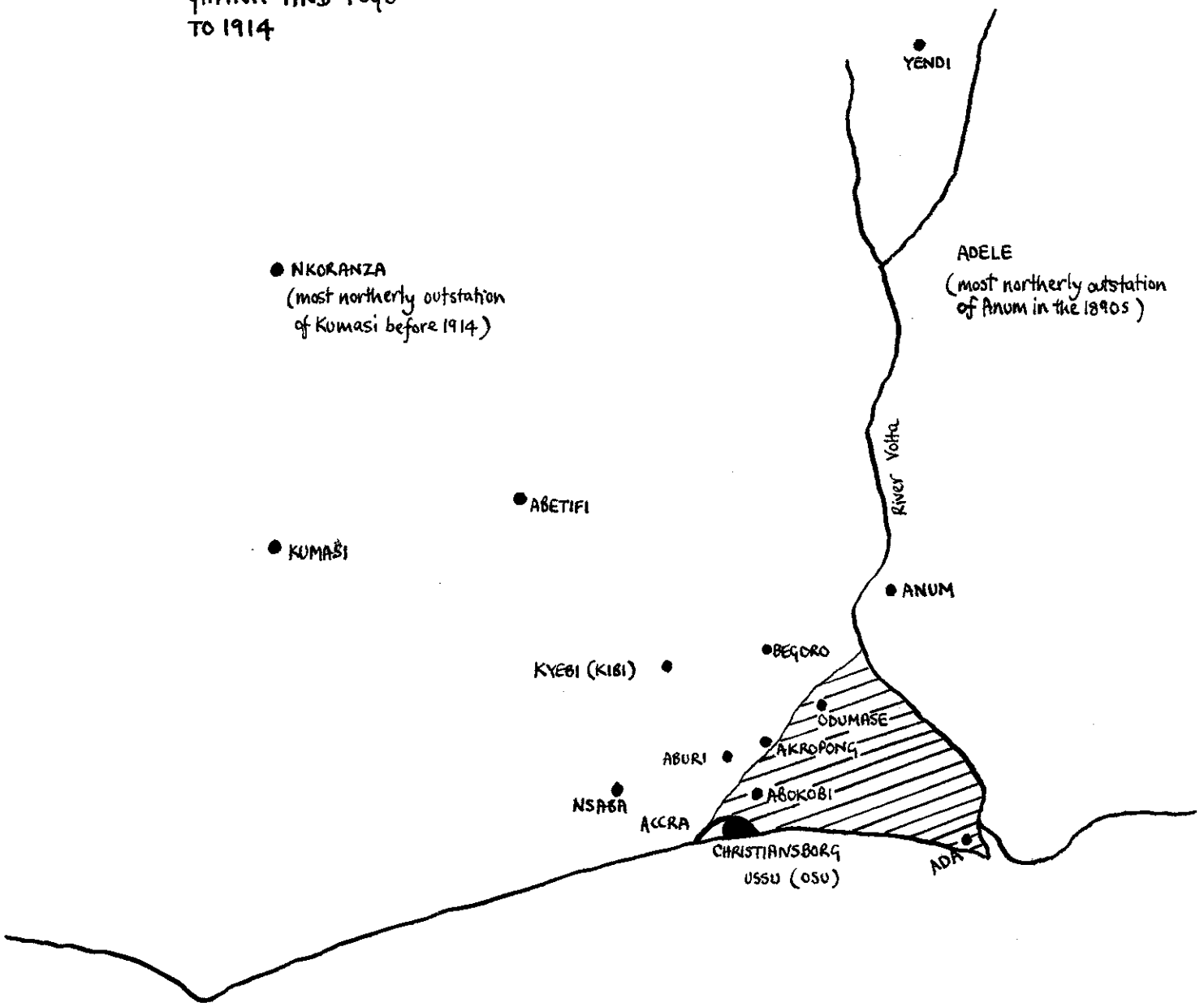
STATISTICS AT TEN-YEARLY INTERVALS,
1860-1910 (1915)

[Compiled from the printed Jahresberichte]

* I.E. COMMUNICANTS IN THE
BASEL MISSION CHURCH
PLUS THEIR CHILDREN
PLUS CATECHUMENS



SKETCH MAP TO SHOW
EXTENT OF BASEL MISSION WORK IN
GHANA AND TOGO
TO 1914



Approximate extent of Ga District

All other stations belonged to the
Twi District except:

Yendi, founded as the North Togo
Mission in 1912

Nsaba (Agona), which in some ways in
its early years (1886-92) is
treated as an offshoot of the
Ga District

Basel Mission work in German Togo
from Adele southwards was handed
over to the Bremen Mission in 1901-02

In one field, however, changes in the Mission's structure since 1918 have had a major impact on the shape of the Archive surviving from the pre-1918 period. From the middle of the nineteenth century a Handelskommission, which was later renamed the "Missionshandelsgesellschaft" built up an involvement in trade and industry in the two Basel Mission fields of Ghana and South-West India, one of the major examples of mission participation in the commercial sphere in the modern period. Already in the 1880s, however, something of a crisis occurred in the Mission's Basel leadership about the feasibility of combining mission and trade, and after the First World War a process of separation began between the Mission and the successor organisation of the Missionshandelsgesellschaft, the Union Trading Company / Basler Handelsgesellschaft. In this process most of the archival material from this sphere of activity in Ghana has found its way into the Archive of the Union Trading Company.

2.2. THE SERIES MICROFILMED

2.2.1 SERIES D-1

Official Correspondence from Ghana 1828-1914

This series represents the heart of the Ghana Archive, and is a formidable mass of documentation at first sight - 105 volumes, on average 5cm thick, photographed here on 114 rolls of microfilm. Yet the material in these volumes is well and simply organised, and reading the outline index in Appendix II in conjunction with the general remarks here should enable specific documents or specific areas of documentation to be found reasonably easily.

As we have already said, D-1 brings together official mission correspondence from Ghana, i.e. letters and reports addressed to the Mission administration in Basel. It is almost, but not quite, comprehensive - other correspondence and documentation from Ghana is collected in the two series D-6 and D-10, both partly included in this microfilm. The word "correspondence" here must be understood in its widest sense - alongside letters, Series D-1 includes many formal reports and the minutes of large numbers of meetings held at various levels in the Ghana Mission.

With the year 1857 the organisation of this series settles into a form that was not to alter in essentials till the beginning of the First World War (see Series D-3). (For documentation from the years preceding 1857 see the notes on volumes D-1.1 to D-1.7 in Appendix II.) With only three exceptions (D-1.103 to D-1.105, see Appendix II again) the volumes from D-1.8 on are made up as follows.

- 1) From 1857 to 1881 each year's correspondence is collected in one volume (exception: 1863 with 2 volumes). From 1882 on there are two volumes per year (exception: 1909 with 3 volumes). NB MS Annual Reports are bound with the year they refer to, although usually dated in the following year.

- 2) Within the individual volumes the correspondence is divided into SECTIONS, according to its organisational origins, usually in the following order:

Correspondence from the Mission's central apparatus in Ghana, the officials who made up the Field Executive Committee (Ausschuss).

Correspondence from Stations in what came to be called the Ga District: each station has an individual section.

Correspondence from Stations in what came to be called the Twi District.

If there are separate sections of correspondence from the Ga and Twi District Officials and Executive Committees, these are bound immediately before the correspondence from the District's Stations.

- 3) When two volumes per year become the rule, the first usually contains documentation from the Field Executive Committee plus those from the Ga District, the second containing correspondence from the - much larger - Twi District. Later still - 1907 - a distinction was made between the routine quarterly and annual reports, and other correspondence. The routine reports from all stations were then collected in the second of the annual volumes, all other correspondence in the first. The order of sections remains the same in both volumes, however.

From 1857 on one finds a detailed index at the head of each section in these volumes - on the microfilm they are made easy to find by being preceded by repeated frames with broad diagonals. In these indexes each document is given a serial number, which is then also written at the top right-hand corner of the first page of the document. It may be difficult to find these numbers on the photographs of the documents, since they are often small, and the red ink on the original is, of course, reproduced as black.

From 1857 to 1873 (exception: 1872) there is some danger that documents within a volume may be confused because each section is numbered separately and the section designated is not repeated on the document. But from 1874 this problem should not arise, since the documents are then numbered consecutively through each volume.

Readers interested in documents on a place or an area should first of all look at the relevant station reports. Outstation reports are filed with those of the responsible station. The location of stations and outstations in a given year can be read off in the statistics in the printed Annual Reports (Jahresberichte), see 2.2.4 below.

Readers interested in correspondence from individuals should first establish where they were stationed in the year in question (see the statistics in the printed Annual Reports, 2.2.4 below, once more), and again consult the relevant station reports.

The same procedure applies if one wishes to follow up the history of a mission institution, or a type of institution in the Mission, like Girls' Schools, or hospitals. The printed Annual Reports make it clear where institutions exist in a given year, and the relevant reports and correspondence are then to be found in the section on the station in question. This, incidentally, could well be an interesting line of study: a boarding school's annual report is usually a substantial document, including a list of the pupils and their marks. Towards the end of the nineteenth century a major part of the Akropong correspondence is taken up by the minutes of Staff Meetings in the Theological Seminary - the Protokoll of the Gesamtvorstand des Predigerseminars.

Problematic, however, for people following the history of a place or area, an individual, or an institution, are the following points:

- 1) When a missionary reported on people or events at another station, his letter is usually filed under his own station, and there are only very rarely cross-references in such cases.
- 2) When an area, a person, or an institution is discussed by the District or Field officials the resulting documentation is, once more, filed with the General Field or District correspondence, again without a cross-reference. This is an important point, since questions of principle and strategy are discussed at this level. People following up the biography of individual Ghanaians employed by the Mission should note that the appointment, posting, promotion and disciplining of local agents are handled at the Field or District level. Autobiographies written by pastors at the time of their ordination are usually filed with the correspondence of these officials.
- 3) Along with these comments about the significance of the sections of correspondence originated by the Field and District officials it is appropriate to mention the minutes (Protokoll) of the missionaries' General Conference, filed with the correspondence of the Field Officials, an important source for debates among missionaries, and necessary reading if one is trying to study the work of any one missionary - the opinions of each individual who spoke are usually recorded separately in these minutes.

Three final points need to be made about the Series D-1.

- 1) With such a mass of documentation it was not possible, during the making of the microfilm, to check the indexes against the actual contents of each volume and section. Extensive use of the Ghana Archive by a number of readers in the past few years suggests, however, that the indexes are largely reliable. The only persistent loss seems to have occurred among maps and plans sent to Basel, partly, perhaps, because of Christaller's preparation of a Map of Ghana in the 1880s for which we know he carried through some years of careful preparation, and partly because station plans valid in a court of law tended to be collected in a special fire-proof safe.

- 2) The most immediately accessible documents for many readers of this microfilm will be the reports written in English by Ghanaian pastors and teachers. These become common in the 1880s - in one year before 1914 indeed, they form one-third (by number, not by quantity) of the formal reports, although this high proportion may be somewhat unusual.
- 3) Where German typescripts exist as transcripts of documents in the old German handwriting, these have, as far as possible, been microfilmed immediately before the original. English abstracts of documents in this series have been collected in Series D-12 (see 2.2.3 below) as have printed versions of documents published in two of the Mission's periodicals (2.2.4).

2.2.2 SERIES D-3

IN- AND OUT-CORRESPONDENCE, GHANA, 1914-17(18)

From 1914/15 the main Ghana Archive is collected in Ring Books, in- and out-correspondence being filed together, at least in principle. The volumes are not uniformly organised, and only in volumes D-3.6, D-3.7 and D-3.8 are the individual documents indexed (see the detailed comments in Appendix II).

Naturally, much of the correspondence in Series D-3 concerns politics and the uneasy relationship between the Basel Mission in Ghana and the Colonial Government during the internment and expulsion of missionaries, which went on by stages from the beginning of the war till the early weeks of 1918. The last files in the series, indeed, contain reports and letters from missionaries back in Switzerland and Germany, or in internment camps, much concerned about the fact and manner of their expulsion. But such documents are not without interest. They reflect, for instance, on the stability of British colonial rule in this particular crisis, and on the reactions of Ghanaians to Europeans suddenly much weakened by their new status as nationals of a neutral or a hostile power. (Readers interested in the latter theme should, however, note that Ghanaian reactions after 1917 to the expulsion of the Basel Mission are documented in the Series D-4, not microfilmed here.) This series also offers much material on the nature, content and mechanisms of European nationalism at this time, especially the German nationalism current in circles from which members of the Basel Mission were drawn.

2.2.3 SERIES D-12

HELPS TO READING SERIES D-1, ENGLISH

Two separate elements have been microfilmed under this heading.

- I D-12.1 Ghana-Abstracts from correspondence in the Basel Mission Archives 1828 - 51 made by Dr. Hans Debrunner in 1956, 121 pages. This covers the correspondence of all stations which existed in these years, and includes material from missionaries' personal files and Basel copy-books of out-correspondence. The material is ordered chronologically. Readers should however note that the volumes of incoming Ghana correspondence have been renumbered since Hans Debrunner made his Abstracts. The volume he refers to as 'Afrika 2' has the reference number D-10.1 in this microfilm, 'Afrika 3' is D-10.2 and so on.
- II D-12.2 Ghana-Abstracts from correspondence in the Basel Mission 1852 1898, made by P. Jenkins, from 1970 on, approx. 700 pages. The correspondence abstracted here is almost exclusively from Series D-1, mainly from the Twi District frontier stations - Gyadam, Kyebi, Anum, Begoro, Abetifi, Kumase. An outline index and note of the make-up of these Abstracts is microfilmed after the title page.

2.2.4

GERMAN TRANSCRIPTIONS OF DOCUMENTS IN SERIES D-1 - i.e. SELECTED AFRICA MATERIAL IN BASEL MISSION PERIODICALS

This consists of three separate items:

A. FROM "DER EVANGELISCHE HEIDENBOTE" 1828 - 1918

"Der Evangelische Heidenbote" is a relatively rare periodical published monthly from 1828 for supporters of the Basel Mission. It mostly printed little-edited extracts from missionaries' reports, including, in its early decades, reports from Basel-trained missionaries serving with other societies.

Including this material in the microfilm has a dual purpose. Firstly, people still learning to read the German script may be helped by finding portions of specific reports in a printed form. (NB amendments and crossing-outs on documents in Series D-1 usually indicate that they were being prepared for publication in this periodical, or in the Jahresberichte - see B below.) Secondly, however, while bringing together the Ghana material in this periodical, it seemed a not unsuitable moment to microfilm the varied material on other parts of Black Africa besides Ghana - i.e. in the decades to 1850 especially South Africa and Ethiopia, and from 1885 Cameroon.

An outline English/German index of the articles microfilmed has been included at the head of material from each year.

It is tempting to regard the material in the Heidenbote as a usable summary of the whole of Series D-1, but this is inadvisable - the principles on which material was selected for publication by no means correspond to modern patterns of interest. An insight into the relationship between printed material and the full scope of MSS material in series D-1 may be obtained from D-12.2 (see above), where it is made clear which documents appear in Heidenbote, and what additional material in the original documents remained unpublished.

B. FROM THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE BASEL MISSION (THE JAHRESBERICHTE DER BASELER MISSION) 1853 - 1918

The Annual Report appears as a separate periodical from 1853, and again, material on the whole of Black Africa has been microfilmed - which in this case means material on the Cameroon field of the Basel Mission (begun in 1885) in addition to that from Ghana.

Much of the material resembles that in Der Evangelische Heidenbote - the tradition was to print a number of reports from the field as Beilage (Appendices) to the Annual Report itself. In addition, however, their format varying from decade to decade, the Annual Reports present a wealth of tables, which can be used as an index to people, places and institutions in series D-1, as well as providing most interesting biographical and statistical information in themselves.

As with Der Evangelische Heidenbote, an outline German/English index of the material microfilmed has been included at the head of each year.

C. ANNUAL REPORTS IN THE MAGAZIN FÜR DIE NEUESTE GESCHICHTE DER PROTESTANTISCHEN MISSIONS- UND BIBELGESELLSCHAFTEN, 1827 - 52

In the years before the Basel Mission's printed Annual Reports were issued separately, they were published as one of the quarterly numbers of the Magazin für die neueste Geschichte ..., a Basel Mission publication, and forerunner of Evangelisches Missions-Magazin. For the sake of completeness, the relevant parts of these reports have also been microfilmed.

It should be noted that this material is not a comprehensive collection of material on Africa in Basel Mission periodicals. A number of special mission groups within or related to the Basel Mission issued their own periodicals especially in the decades before the First World War, and we have as yet no full bibliography of such publications. We have also NOT included general African material from the periodical Magazin für die neueste Geschichte...../Evangelisches Missions-Magazin (see C above) on the grounds that, especially under its later name, this periodical is widely available in academic libraries.

2.2.5 SERIES D-6-3

JAHRESRECHNUNGEN/ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1842 - 1916

A series which, at a minimum, includes a detailed annual statement of expenditure from each station, and from the field as a whole. As time passes and as the documentation increases, these files come to include commentaries from the Field Treasurer and individual stations to particular points, as well as queries from Basel.

NB Financial correspondence is also to be found in series D-1 - this especially applies to the accounts of building projects.

We have, in fact, only microfilmed one-third of the financial records in the Ghana Archive from this period. In each year the stations, co-ordinated by the Treasurer, proposed a scale of expenditure which was then worked into an annual vote by the Basel Headquarters. These Voranschläge and Verwilligungen are each almost as bulky as the Annual Accounts, however, and in view of the amount of repetition involved in these three parallel sets of documentation, it was decided to concentrate on microfilming the reports of actual expenditure.

2.2.6 SERIES D-10

REMAINDER CATEGORY GHANA - MISCELLANEOUS MSS IN EUROPEAN LANGUAGES (SELECTION)

This series includes files and individual documents which, either because they have been in private hands, or for reasons which are obscure now, have not been bound with the main body of Ghana correspondence from the period under review.

Only a selection of the material in D-10 has been microfilmed, and the items involved are described in some detail in the index (Appendix II (f)), which repeats the English title preceding each document on the microfilm, though please note that ALL DOCUMENTS EXCEPT D-10.2,8 D-10.2,16 D-10.2,17 D-10.3,8 D-10.4,6 D-10.4,7 D-10.4,8 and parts of D-10.3,11 D-10.3,12 and D-10.3,14 ARE IN GERMAN.

The most significant of the documents microfilmed are probably those connected with Kühne's and the Ramseys' period of captivity in Kumase (1869-74), especially D-10.8 (Reel 153). This is an 800 page folio MS in German which evidently represents a stage in the production of the publication Ramseyer & Kühne, Vier Jahre in Asante, 256 pp., Basel, 1875 (English translation by Martha Weitbrecht Four Years in Asante, 320 pp., London, 1875.) The MS is important because it contains a considerable body of information which was not printed in the German version of the book, which is in turn substantially fuller than the English translation. On the other hand it is difficult to assess how close this MS stands to an original MS Diary kept in Kumase by Ramseyer. Ramseyer, from French speaking Switzerland, would probably have written an original in French, and this MS seems to lack some of the feeling of actuality one would have expected from a Diary.

3. ON READING A MISSION ARCHIVE

It would, perhaps, be easy to take the material in this microfilm for granted - to assume that every missionary society of substance has an archive and naturally welcomes the kind of academic interest which has enabled this particular project to be brought to fruition. But leaving on one side the existence of missionary societies without systematic archives, the history of the Basel Mission itself suggests that it is neither self-evident that such an archive would be assembled, nor that it would then be made publicly available in this way at this juncture.

The most recent documents microfilmed here are less than a lifetime old. Yet the changes which have taken place in these sixty years - two world wars with their traumatic defeats for Germany, the liquidation of all but a few remnants of formal colonialism, the growth of the ecumenical movement - are so revolutionary that the archive belongs to a quite foreign world, and its originators seem people such as one would hardly expect to meet today.

Over the years in fact the Mission's attitude to its Archive has not been constant. As we have seen, the many thousands of documents in the Archives up to 1914 are - with very few exceptions - indexed individually and bound for posterity. The investment of time and effort this involved should not be underestimated. With 1914, however, the standard of preservation drops abruptly, and since the Ghana archive continued to be run in a rather lax and unsystematic way into the 1920s and 1930s, it appears that this change was not just due to shortage of money or personnel during the war. In other words the existence of the massive series of bound volumes microfilmed here under reference D-1 is in itself evidence for a particular state of morale and a particular perception of history in the organisation before 1914, and far from being simply an outcome of the existence of a mission with work overseas.

If the present day and nineteenth century Basel Missions have in common a practical respect for this part of the archive, their motivations for this are rather different. In the nineteenth century letters and reports were preserved partly out of a respect for those who had died, whose time in Ghana - sometimes it was only counted in weeks - could at least be commemorated in this form. The Archive was, too, part of the apparatus of the authority which the headquarters of the mission exercised over the churches developing in the field. But there was also, one senses, a triumphalism behind the painstaking compilation of the archive, a belief that it was a record of the way truth was being spread in the world by God's chosen people acting in the framework of an explicitly and peculiarly Christian culture.

Today there is still a real piety in our attitudes towards people who were prepared to lay down their lives for their beliefs. But there is no triumphalism - rather the uneasy acknowledgement that the European trappings of mission have played an important part in limiting the spread of the gospel. There is the wish that the missionaries of the nineteenth century should be given their true place in the history of Ghana and the Ghanaian churches. But there is a consciousness that they were a very different group of people, and a residual worry that because of this, a thorough-going critical and a historical reading of the Archive could still cast a deep shadow over the present day reputation of the mission.

The nineteenth century missionaries themselves would not of course be surprised to learn that their letters and reports are, at some cost, being duplicated for more general study. They were, after all, the students of S.E. Ghanaian life and culture in the second half of the nineteenth century - a numerous group of Europeans, living for the most part beyond frontiers of other types of European settlement, and competent in one of the two main vernaculars of their area. Among them you can find the dictionary makers, and the people who conducted the preliminary dialogue with religion in this area, and thus helped to fix the vocabulary of Christianity in Twi and Ga. Among them were people whose concern to promote new patterns of trade and agriculture involved them in long-term observations of traditional patterns in this field. Together they were, for some decades at least, more numerous and a more consistent presence than the colonial officials, with a much more comprehensive interest in the future of the area, symbolised by their school system and the Christian quarters they tried to set up alongside the traditional towns and villages. The formulation bears repeating, that when J.G. Christaller, the compiler of the standard Twi Dictionary, retired to the country parish of Schorndorf in Wurtemberg, his study, the focus of a web of correspondence with former colleagues, black and white, became probably the most notable centre of Ghana research anywhere until the founding of the University of Ghana three-quarters of a century later.

The old missionaries would, however, probably find some of our attitudes to their enterprise disconcerting, if not wounding. To their eye our reading of their documents would be rather indiscriminate. For instance, we do not concentrate on the reports from missionaries of long-standing, whose powerful views helped to define the general policy of the mission. We have also a very positive interest in their less "successful" colleagues, precisely because in their difficulties they may reveal elements of the social situation which are otherwise invisible. With all charity we do not, for example, take Fritz Ramseyer at his own self-estimate, and precisely because he found his colleague Jakob Tschopp somewhat incompetent, we turn to Tschopp with heightened interest, and hope from his reports to see late nineteenth century Kwahu through a somewhat different pair of spectacles.

Or again, even the most pro-missionary-society people among us now see the growth of a local church as the key development in mission, and conversation between local people - in this case Ghanaians - as the first essential in the process of mission. We look with understanding, for example, at the phenomenal growth of the Larteh congregation in the nineteenth century, in comparison with Akropong, for the Larteh congregation was led throughout by Ghanaian pastors, while Akropong was the great missionary stronghold. And we tend to see the Basel Mission church discipline - still famous in the oral tradition of the villages of south-eastern Ghana - as something rather dysfunctional for the growth of a healthy church, and that in a way the missionaries would not have expected. For where the missionaries were on the whole against mass conversion, and feared the impact on church life if it became fashionable

to become Christian, we see in the continuing losses through discipline among trained catechists and teachers a symptom of the underlying condition that, in this period, Ghanaian initiative was not valued enough, and that the missionaries' Ghanaian colleagues (as we would now say) did not feel free enough to develop their own autonomous response to the Gospel.

Our attitudes and our environment are so different to those of our ancestors that it would be possible to read this Archive from within a missionary society with an acute and mounting discomfort. It is not so much specific individual lapses among missionaries which trouble us as their endemic tendency to conflict, among themselves and their tendency towards overbearing attitudes to local people, whether they were acting as colleagues, as pastors and superiors, or as evangelists. Faced with the detailed records in this Archive it is sometimes hard not to come to the demoralising conclusion that a specific and in many ways laudably Christian movement showed fundamental weaknesses in the history of the Basel Mission in Ghana to 1917 which it scarcely came to recognise, let alone correct - a conclusion which would probably fit most missionary societies in this period.

Of course, it is possible to write a valid apologia for both conflict and paternalism. The nature of these missionaries' piety, the social patterns of the families where they grew up, all made them into characters of great strength of will. And climate, overwork, illness and anxiety all inevitably led to tensions and clashes. If they tended to be domineering then this too can be understood as a product of insecurity and of the difficulty of building up what they would have regarded as satisfying standards of Christian piety and behaviour in their congregations.

A fundamental and humane apologia, however, starts with a truism. These were children of their time. But precisely there one has to understand that the Pietists of Wurtemberg, who form the bulk of the missionaries in this period, did not unthinkingly take over an established pattern of norms and values. They were primarily committed to a Christian critique of life in the towns and villages of Wurtemberg, and, in a communitarian tradition, to the building up of visible expressions of the kingdom of God. As such they had more than a tendency to try to work towards establishing stable populations of Christian farming families. They were always liable to attack an exploitative colonialism, as happened repeatedly during the period of German rule in Cameroon, with its tendency to regard the local population as a potential labour force for a plantation economy. They had also a high sense of the calling of colonial governments as bringers of peace and as creators of the opportunity for groups like the Basel Mission to build up Christian-social work in security. This would express itself in Ghana in attacks on the British colonial tendency towards indirect rule as an abdication of responsibility.

Taking the proposition seriously that the missionaries were children of a reform movement in a specific social context would open up many interesting perspectives. For instance, for many of them the father-figure they knew and which they would themselves have wanted to emulate was the master-craftsman farmer of the Wurtemberg countryside. Around him his extended family of children, servants and apprentices gathered every day for family prayers. It was his duty to dominate and correct in this circle, if necessary by exercising the full force of his personality. Thus, if one regards the paternalism of the Basel Mission before 1917 as dysfunctional for the growth of the Basel Mission's church in Ghana, one is by no means automatically arguing that the missionaries acted towards their African congregations in a way which can be regarded as specifically racist. Rather, they took with them the authority patterns they already knew in their homeland, which were regarded in Pietism as one of the means by which the Christian community was to be built up. And bringing a critique of such authority patterns into the history of the Basel Mission in Ghana before 1917 is to link a specific episode in African church history to a major and tragic theme in the history of the modern German-speaking world.

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Coming to terms with the missionaries of a century ago, of course, is not simply a question of finding an approach to attitudes within the realm of church and mission which we find hard to understand or share. It is certainly a hope here in Basel that this microfilm will come to be a widely-used source on the secular - and especially social - history of south-eastern Ghana. But behind much of the Missionaries' writing about the traditional society one can also detect the triumphalism which we have already mentioned. The opposite side of the coin to believing that European models had to prevail in the church was a very critical attitude to many aspects of the traditional culture - marriage, the institutions of religion, the way chiefs ruled. And this historic condemnation - for the language used is often strong enough in part to warrant the word - calls forth a present day counter-condemnation, that the missionaries were totally wrong-headed in their attitude to the cultures they met, and that as a result, what they had to say about them is very untrustworthy. This is a serious challenge, but it can be adequately answered.

Cornelia Vogelsanger's recent thesis on the Basel Mission and domestic slavery in Ghana offers the beginning of an answer here.* She shows that missionaries were not unanimous in their attitudes. On a subject like domestic slavery their judgements could differ as widely as could the information on the basis of which they formulated their views. Indeed, one of the key figures in her presentation, Johannes Zimmermann, has turned out to be a man who, according to oral tradition, worked in close and cordial contact with the traditional ruler in the area where he was stationed, and his observations have clearly, in principle, a corresponding authority. If there was conflict among missionaries about their policy, and debate - open or implied - about their understanding of their economic and cultural environment, then there is obviously considerable scope for differential critique of individual missionaries as sources.

* Vogelsanger, C.M.R., "Pietismus und afrikanische Kultur an der Goldküste. Die Einstellung der Basler Mission zur Haussklaverei" 175pp, Zürich, 1977.

There is a further point at stake here. The reports and letters of these missionaries must be regarded as for the most part first-hand sources. Even where they offer what is in its formulations an interpretation, they usually themselves had the first-hand experiences which form the basis of their interpretations. It can, at the very least, be held as a tenable scientific attitude, that it is in the first instance not the source which has to be judged, but the individual observation. And that therefore what any missionary reports is to be read with as much scepticism - on principle no more, and no less - than any other reports of first-hand observations.

There are some fields, indeed, where these missionary observations of the secular environment can usually be taken at face value - in what they report, directly or indirectly, about patterns of internal trade, for instance. In other fields their perspectives lie somewhat athwart our interests - it is as if they are using a sort of old-fashioned X-ray machine which worked best when it looked at the body from angles which do not help us directly. But even here one can expect that these archives will have their place in future major revisions of Ghanaian social history. The missionaries' frequent battle with the Christians' wish for loans, for instance, is very persuasive evidence, by implication, of the importance of patronage in Ghanaian society in this period, and the way lending and borrowing money was understood to create ties of dependence and loyalty. There are perhaps other fields - observations on traditional religion, for instance - where aspects of the average missionary observation may be unacceptable to many Ghanaian readers at first sight. But the Archive will probably yield most to people who are prepared to accept that the missionaries may well have seen what they claim to have seen, and who approach these reports with the assumption that the local history of south-eastern Ghana in the decades before the systematic imposition of colonial rule has some considerable surprises in wait for the historian.

Coming to the history of the Akan and Ga-Adangme world with some acquaintance with the Basel Mission Archives, indeed, it seems that modern historical studies in southern Ghana suffer from a double discontinuity. If Rattray is the pivotal figure in English-language re-assessments of Akan history, then - leaving aside the question of the bias he wrote into his work because of the imperatives and the romanticisms of British Colonial rule in Asante - one problem is that he did not write with a detailed knowledge of Basel Mission observations of some Akan areas in the early stages of colonial contact. On the other hand the modern campaign to collect oral tradition has been, at least in its early stages, vulnerable to the criticism that it was not conscious enough of the normative element in oral tradition, to see the value of documentary sources with detailed local information dating back to periods which are the subject of oral research. Both discontinuities can now, we hope, be overcome to the extent that the body of Basel Mission observations on nineteenth and early twentieth century Ghana is becoming widely available, and can be applied to a re-reading of Rattray or used as an instrument to sharpen the techniques of collecting oral tradition.

This is simply to say that it is the hope of the Basel Mission that this microfilm will find its proper level among the sources available for historical research in Ghana whatever that level may be. And perhaps,

indeed, one can best sum up the uncertain potential of the contents of this archive in this way. It is clear that before the First World War a significant sector of intellectual life in Ghana existed in the framework of the Basel Mission Church, and was conducted in the Ga, Twi and German languages. The impact of the First World War was not just to stop this tradition developing, but virtually to brick it up, so that what it had already produced in publications and archives was able to influence the ongoing study of the history and cultures of south-eastern Ghana only in a very truncated and partial way. Twi and Ga gave ground to English in Ghanaian intellectual life, and to understand German came to be well down in the list of desiderata for people hoping to conduct research in Ghana. When the modern investigation of Ghanaian history began in the 1950s, it started, broadly speaking, in ignorance even of important parts of Basel Mission printed materials. We can, however, now begin to pose the question how different the shape of modern Ghanaian history writing would have been, if this Ga-Twi-German intellectual tradition could have been incorporated in it right from the beginning.

Appendix I

THE OLD GERMAN HANDWRITING WITH EXAMPLES FROM THE ARCHIVE

- 1 Perhaps the most difficult handwriting of all the Ghana missionaries -
J.A. MADER (see Ex. 1 below, page 22)

Transcription of Ex. 1

Beiliegendes Schreiben Br. J. Zimmermann's kam nach einem langen Irrweg (?) mit der Bemerkung Br. Müller's hier an, dass es am Besten sei, man lasse solches heimgehen, (i)ndem es die Sache von der Aussenstation Yilosi in die Länge (u.) Breite der verehrt. Committee darlegt. Ich meinesteils (m)öchte die Bitte Zimmermanns unterstützen, indem mit dem (a)lten verschmutzten Ologo nicht viel zu machen ist, u. sich unter den Kindern desselben sich doch etwas anbahnt.

- 2 A very clear handwriting -
J.C. DIETERLE (see Ex. 2 below, page 23)

Transcription of Ex. 2

Seit Mose Ayesu als Lehrerpr^äparant hier (seit Aug. 1864) angestellt ist habe ich nicht nur keine Klage gegen ihn, weder in Beziehung auf seine Arbeit, noch auch auf seinen Lebenswandel, sondern in Beziehung auf den Unterricht in der Schule kann* ich sagen dass er treu und fleissig und durch seinen stillen Wandel, sowohl in seinem häuslichen Leben, obwohl er da viel Noth hat, als auch im Verhalten gegen Christen und Heiden der Gemeinde ein gutes Beispiel ist, was ich zu berücksichtigen bitten möchte. Herzlich grüssend

*Note in the original that a dash over the single "n" indicates a double letter - "nn". This is a typical abbreviation, and occurs in the handwriting of many of these missionaries.

This extract can also be taken to illustrate the point that by no means all missionaries wrote perfect grammatical German all the time....

3 A clear handwriting -

J.G. CHRISTALLER (see Ex. 3 below, page 24)

Transcription of Ex. 3

In meinen sprachlichen Arbeiten, insbesondere der Bibelübersetzung,
bleiben einer-/
seits meine Fortschritte hinter dem Gehofften und* Gewünschten
zurück, andererseits erfuhr ich/
reichlich und trotz der Lust zur Arbeit oft, ja täglich, bis zur
Ermüdung, die Schwierigkeiten,/
die Dornen und Disteln, die auch auf dem Gebiet der sprachlichen
Arbeit sich finden, die Steine/
und Felsen, die Dürre und Unfruchtbarkeit, die ausgetretenen schmalen
und schlechten Wege der/
Landessprache als des Ackerfeldes oder Buschlandes, in welches neue
Gottespflanzen und menschliche Cultur-/
pflanzen versetzt werden sollen. Doch bin ich dankbar für das was
ich arbeiten konnte und durfte/

*The abbreviation u. (= und) is used by many missionaries.

4 A more difficult handwriting -

E. SCHRENK (see Ex. 4 below, page 25)

Transcription of Ex. 4

Der Generalcassier Br. Müller übergab mir das Committeeschreiben
A, 100, Fol. 127 betreffend die Anstellung Paulo Mohenu als
Reiseprediger, damit ich meine Meinung über die Sache abgebe, was
ich hiermit/
thue:

- a, Ich halte Mohenu auch für den passendsten Mann als Reiseprediger.
- b, Bitte ich die Committee dafür zu sorgen, dass er ganz der
Reisepredigt/
leben darf, d.h. keine Nebenbeschäftigung hat. Nur dann kann er
etwas ausrichten.
- c, Sein District sollte nicht mehr in sich schliessen, als die
Bevölkerung/
von Christiansborg nach Ada. Gibt man ihm mehr, so kann seine
Arbeit weder biblisch gründlich noch fruchtbar sein. Kann ein
Reiseprediger sich der Seelen nicht auch einzeln annehmen, wenn seine
Predigt einschlägt, so wirft er wohl das Netz aus, kommt aber nicht
zum Fischen,

- 5 A difficult but important handwriting -
J. ZIMMERMANN (see Ex. 5 below, page 26)

Transcription of Ex. 5

der der Aelteste von allen und schon vor seiner Bekanntschaft mit
Aber es kam ihm, dem Christentum an natürl.* Erleuchtung, Weisheit,
Mässigung, Frieden, Ruhe** seinem Geschlechte voran war, keiner
gleich. So wurden die Missionare noch von keinem aufgenommen, gehegt,
gepflegt, geliebt und behandelt. Der Herr lasse ihn dafür Barmherzigkeit
finden an Seinem Tage!*** - Als wir vor 12 Jahren das erste Mal zum
Umschauen nach Platz zu einer neuen Station hieher kamen,**** er uns
nicht nur mit sm***** Volk auf wie Engel Gottes, sond.***** gab
uns Unbekannten auch sofort seinen Sohn (Christian) Tei

- * natürliche - Zimmermann's manuscripts are characterised by
very frequent use of abbreviations - one important one which
does not occur here is ö as an abbreviation for "not".
- ** I am not sure what these marks indicate - perhaps "usw". (= etc.)
- *** The quotation marks presumably go with the underlined text in
which case the writer forgot to put them in at the beginning
of the text.
- **** On the original the last word of this line is also very
indistinct - it presumably indicates "nahm".
- ***** Abbreviation for "seinem"
- ***** "sond.", obviously an abbreviation for "sondern".

I 19

Afrika.

Der Statuten Gen. Conf. Aussd. an die corresp. Committee
der Evangelischen Missions-Gesellschaft in Basel

Aktung, den 4. Sept. 1867.

Ganzeln Committee!

Beiliegendes Schreiben des J. Zimmermann's kam nach
einer langen Versetzung mit der Genehmigung des Müller's
für aus, dass es nun besser sei, einen solchen Freund zu sein,
denn die Frage von der Ausbeutung der Erde in die Länge
beide der corresp. Committee dazugehört. Auf mein Verlangen
ist die Bitte Zimmermann's zurückgeführt, indem mit dem
dem veröffentlichten Plago nicht mehr zu tun sein kann.
Für den Freund des Gutes ist das alles nicht unbekannt. Das
Zimmermann's Handwritten haben wir ihm den besten von
ihm. Die Briefe liegt bei. Die Freundschaften

Ex. 2 D-1,19 Aburi 5

Au dem Tiefenpflanzhause der Mader in Akropang.

Zügnis für Mose Ayese Lefungzignarant in Aburi.

Zeit Mose Ayese als Lefungzignarant sein (Freitag 1864.)
ausgesprochen haben ich weiß nicht, wie klein klug gegen ihn, was er
in Lefungzignis auf seine Arbeit, was er auf seine Lebensweise,
sondern in Lefungzignis auf den Dankschreiben in der Pfälz. Kra
ist gegen das an ihm und flüchtig und durch seine kleine
Minder, sondern in seinem jämmerlichen Leben, obwohl er
nicht Kraft hat, als er im Hofe gegen Geistern und
Göttern der Gemeinde ein gutes Beispiel ist, was ich zu
berücksichtigen bitten möchte. Herzlich grüßend

Aburi den 20. May 1864.

J. Chr. Dieterle.

Afrika.

1623.

Station Akropong, Akwapem, Br. J. Christaller an
die verehrte Committee der E. Missions Gesellschaft in Basel.

III. Quartalbrief von 1867.

Akropong, 30 Sept 1867.

Worseta Committee!

Abgemalt sind 3 Monate dahin, für die Gott zu loben ist, die so, und so allein,
muss Alles allzeit recht, von Ihm glauben, wissen & verstehen: so ist es bei uns
Gott und ist kein Zweifel an Ihm (5 Mos. 32, 3. 4.). Aber auf jedem, besonders in den fernen
Ländern, auf da wo Mission gehen wird, steht oft noch so ein göttlich an, das man
wissen muss: ob das, was so lange? man will das einmal recht verstehen? ob das
in der Heimat zuversicht & fester steht! - Und das fingenboran vom Vater, welcher
Gnade & Gnade, ist ja so abgelaufen, so lang, & erfüllt uns noch seiner
Minderheit. Alles dies sein Nachsicht, & das ist noch so wenig feil. Das Leben
auf Erden, so wenig göttlich. In der großen der Menschen Kinder, & das liegt ab
immer noch darauf an, was davon da ist zu lösen & zu retten. - Das, ist soll bringen.

→ In meinem persönlichen Arbeiten, insbesondere der bibelübersetzung, bin ich neuer-
pult meine Fortschritte weiter den Gesetzen & Grundsätzen zu rück, insbesondere rechtlich
richtig & hoch die Zeit zur Arbeit oft ja taglos, bis zur Ermüdung, der Unmöglichkeit,
die Frauen & Kinder, die auf auf dem Gebiet der praktischen Arbeit sein werden, ihr Thun
in. Sollen, die durch die Unmöglichkeit der ungetreuen zu machen & flachen Wege der
Landesprache alle die Unvollständigkeit in mehrerlei Gottespflanzen & menschliche Kultur-
pflanzen wachsen sollen. Das bin ich dankbar für das was ich arbeiten kann & das
Mon 8-26 Juli & 10-30 Sept. & besetzt ist mit meinem Gesellen Riob 19-42, & des 1-18.
Zunächst nur wenig Monat, das aber, mir überlässt das ganze Vierteljahr, so in
richtig & mit Arbeit & Arbeitsbefriedigung ausgefüllt war. In der ersten Zeit des
Lebens bin ich vom 1. d. d. an, in der so der nötigen Abmässigung & Pflege fähig

I

1.

Der General-Konferenz-Ausschuss, Prieses Hr. Widmann.

Lieber Herr!

Der General-Konferenz Hr. Müller übergibt mir das Committee-schreiben
N. 100, Fol. 127 betreffend die Aufstellung Pauls Mobergs als Reis-
geordneter damit ich meine Meinung über die Sache abgebe, was ich folgender-
maßen:

- a, Ich halte Moberg auch für den geeigneten Mann als Reisgeordneter
- b, Bitte ich die Committee dafür zu sorgen, dass er ganz der Reisgeordneter
leben darf, d. h. keine Nebenbeschäftigung hat. Nur dann kann er
seiner Arbeit nachkommen.
- c, Mein District sollte wissen, in wie weit, dass die Landeskirche
von Christiansburg auch da. Gibt man ihm mehr, so kann seine
Arbeit weiter bis tief in die Provinz hinein sein. Dann ein Reise-
geordneter ist der Pastor nicht auf irgend eine Weise, wenn er nicht
unabhängig, so muss er auch das Geld verdienen, damit er nicht zum Stipend-
d. h. er arbeitet, wie man in dem Reisepatent schon angegeben
hat, aber er muss auch nicht aufpassen auf sein Gut
- d, Wenn Professor sollte sein, wenn doch auch sollte er arbeiten
wie haben in Teschi schon ein paar gegeben, haben aber ein paar
kann Catechisten für eine Mission gegeben. Dort findet
Moberg am meisten Ansehen, und ich, ich muss zu dem
von dem, so kann ich die Gelegenheit auf die erste Linie bringen
flüssig machen.
- e, Als Salary sollte man nicht £ 30 -- Sterb. genug sein, muss
er nicht, so gibt man ihm mehr. Reisebudget 6 Pf. Tag.

(Der Herr ist nunmehr in seinem Krebs-Bett u. auf der Krebs-
Mission einen großen Riß gerissen u. am 26. Sept. Abends
5½ Uhr im Herrn l. alten König unversehrt pflegt u. auf
eine 4 tägige Krankheit, absoff im Frieden l. bei vollen
Lebenskräften, abgegangen. So hat, wie er gelebt, still, fried-
lich, geachtet, als ein unerschütterter. Dennoch lässt er die
Moralität, besonders in dieser anarchischen Zeit l. Grundsätze
in so pflichtgemäß mit dem ganzen Land l. Volk, fest in
Leben, wie es gut ist, wie in Westafrika! Die Zungen-
die er ihm gegeben, das ist in 17 Jahren davon circa 20
tausend Leute (mit ihm hat die erste in Protectorate
u. 2 Könige v. Asante in der Provinz fast die ganze
Bevölkerung) u. unter ihnen auf alle getauft = 2000 u. mehr, die
die Botschaft von allen ^{Stämmen} u. so seine Lebensweise mit
den Grundsätzen an moralischer Erziehung, Wissenschaft, Ma-
nufaktur, Handel, Kunst, seinen Geistesleben davon das, wie
es glänzt. So werden die Missionen noch von ihm l. können
aufgenommen, geachtet, gepflegt, geliebt u. befördert.
Der Herr hat ihm diese Lebensweise finden an ihm
nam Tage! — Alle die vor 12 Jahren das erste Mal zum
ersten Mal auf Platz zu einer neuen Station seiner Leben, auf
u. und nicht nur mit ihm hatte auf ihm sogar Gottesdienst,
gab mit Unbekannt auf selbst seinen Sohn (Christen) bei
mit, das noch im selben Jahr der Festung der Krebs-Miss-
stände, ihm folgend im nächsten Jahr schon vorübergehend
von. Noa u. Peter u. nachher, jetzt steht die neue, die
an dieser Seite der Land, das andere in der, alle Lebenskräfte
u. die 3. Christen bei, das aber dem Fröhen-Seminar und
u. einem anderen u. noch bei seiner Lebensweise l. ganz anders
als, ist an die 3. Seite nach Aden bestimmt, 120 Tausend werden
so getauft, 50 Tausend u. mehr in der Provinz u. seit ihm hat
das König seine Land, Ländchen l. wie ganz andere Land

Appendix II

MICROFILM: CONTENTS

II (a) Series D-1

Volume D-1.1 1829 - 39

Christiansborg 1829 - 1836; Akropong 1836 - 39.
NB Riis' journey to Kumase in 1839 is reported in the
documents 1839 Nos. 7 and 8.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 1

Volume D-1.2 1842 - 48

July 1842 - Feb. 1843 - 19 letters concerning the
recruitment of ex-slaves for the Christian colony in
Akropong.

1843 - 45, letters from Akropong and Christiansborg
bound together.

1846 - 48 letters from Akropong and Christiansborg
bound separately. Correspondence from Christiansborg
in 1848 is divided into two sections with letters from
Schiedt in the first and from Stanger & Meischel in
the second.

The sections "Christiansborg 1847" and "Stanger &
Meischel 1848" include a few letters written in Aburi,
and eight written in Amamfu.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 1 (to 1845 No. 10)

Reel 2 (from 1845 No. 11 on)

Volumes D-1.3 1849 - 51

In 1849 the documents are arranged in three sections -
Christiansborg, Akropong (NB owing to a mistake in
binding documents 15 - 26 occur before 1 - 14 in this
section) and Abude (=Aburi).

In 1850 there are two sections of correspondence from
Christiansborg, the first marked "Stanger", and one
from Akropong: there is no individual section on Aburi.

In this volume only two sections of documents from 1851
are found, both from Christiansborg, the first marked
"correspondence", the second "reports".

NB correspondence from the year 1851 goes on in vol.
D-1.4.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 3 (to end of 1850)

Reel 4 (1851)

Volume D-1.4

1851 - 53

Exceptionally in this volume the letters are not bound in sections according to station and year - they are numbered consecutively 1 to 216, and are bound in a roughly chronological order as follows:

Akropong	1851	Nos. 1 - 40
Akropong	1852	Nos. 41 - 75
Akropong	1853	Nos. 76 - 126
Christiansborg	1852	Nos. 127 - 156
Christiansborg	1853	Nos. 157 - 216

The ordering is by no means perfect, however, and it is well to consult the index, which in this case stands at the front of the volume, to identify documents not bound according to this plan.

NB Volume D-1.5 contains some documents which are effectively reports for the second half year of 1853.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 4 (to document 100)

Reel 5 (from document 101 on)

Volume D-1.5

1853 - 54

The correspondence in this volume is divided into three sections, Field Executive Committee, Christiansborg and Akropong.

NB the section headed "Field Executive Committee" is, in this volume, divided into two, "Christiansborg 1853" and "Akropong 1853" and mostly consists of reports for the second half year of 1853.

In this volume first occur reports from Stüss in GYADAM, grouped with the Akropong correspondence.

As with volume D-1.4 the detailed index is given at the head of the volume, rather than at the head of the individual sections.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 6

Volume D-1.6

1855

Make-up as volume D-1.5, with detailed index at front of volume, except that from here on a section of correspondence from ABOKOBI is bound between the sections from Christiansborg and Akropong.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 6 (to end of the Abokobi section)

Reel 7 (from beginning of the
Akropong section on)

Volume D-1.7

1856

Make-up as Volume D-1.5. Letters from ABURI (still spelt "Abude") begin in this year grouped with the Akropong correspondence. Towards the end of the year Süss is writing from DAUROMADAM. Letters from C.C. Reindorf in DAMFA are grouped with the Akropong correspondence.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 7 (after the completing of D-1.6)

Volume D-1.8

1857

This volume marks the beginning of the "normal" organisation of each volume - the letters divided by station of origin (NB the section FIELD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE is absent in this year), with a detailed index bound at the head of each section.

In this year separate sections begin for ABURI and GYADAM, and the order of sections is: Christiansborg, Abokobi, Aburi, Akropong, Gyadam.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 8

Volume D-1.9

1858

Organisation as Volume D-1.8, except that at the head of the volume stands a collection of Conference minutes, separately organised. (NB the Akwapim District Conference minutes from the meetings in June and August 1858 are bound immediately before the Aburi correspondence and after Abokobi Nr. 36, and appear in no index).

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 8 (to Christiansborg Nr. 37)

Reel 9 (from Christiansborg Nr. 38 on)

Volume D-1.10

1859

Organised as the previous volume, except that in this year a separate section begins for ODUMASE/KROBO, bound at the end of the volume after the Gyadam section. Minutes of a Missionaries' General Conference and a Ga-District Missionaries Conference occur at the beginning of the volume.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 9 (to Christiansborg Nr. 12)

Reel 10 (from Christiansborg Nr. 13 on)

Volume D-1.11

1860

Organised as previous volume except that the Odumase section is bound after Abokobi. The minutes of the General and Ga-District Conferences are at the front of volume, Akwapim District Conference Minutes immediately before the Akropong section.

With the destruction of GYADAM, the GYADAM section is now headed AKIM, most of the letters in this year being written from KUKURANTUMI. A few letters from Süss in DAUROMADAM are bound at the end of the Odumase section.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 11 (to Akropong 39)

Reel 12 (from Akropong 40 on)

Volume D-1.12

1861

In principle organised as volume D-1.11, but confusion during binding resulted in groups of letters appearing in the wrong sections. The order in which the documents are bound is as follows:

General Conference Minutes 1 - 10 (complete)

Christiansborg 1 - 36 (continues below)

Abokobi 26 - 34 (1 - 25 see below)

Odumase 1 - 24 (complete)

Akropong 1 - 40 (continues below)

Christiansborg 37 - 67

Abokobi 1 - 25

Akropong 41 - 62

Aburi 1 - 19 (complete)

Akim 1 - 23 (complete)

NB in this volume a specific discussion of the question of slave emancipation begins.

Five letters from Süss in DAUROMADAM are bound with the Odumase section.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 12

Reel 13

Volume D-1.13

1862

As volume D-1.11, but at the beginning of the volume there are now separate sections for the General Conference, the Field Executive Committee and the Slave-Emancipation Commission. Akwapim District Conference Minutes are bound at the beginning of the Akwapim section, but without a serial number.

There appears to be no further correspondence from Süss or DAUROMADAM.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 13 (to end of the section Field Executive Committee)

Reel 14 (Section "Slave Emancipation Commission" to end of Odumase Section)

Reel 15 (from the beginning of the Akwapim Section on)

Volume D-1.14

1863 - 1

With its companion volume D-1.15, this volume corresponds to the established organisation, containing the correspondence of the central apparatus, along with the station correspondence from Christiansborg and Abokobi.

NB the correspondence and minutes of the field of officials is here organised under three headings:

Field Executive Committee

Slave Emancipation Commission

School Inspector

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 15 (to Christiansborg 9)

Reel 16 (from Christiansborg 10 on)

Volume D-1.15

1863 - 2

Continues the correspondence for 1863 with the sections for Odumase and the stations of the Twi-speaking area.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 16 (to Akropong 39)

Reel 17 (from Akropong 40 (sic) on)

Volume D-1.16

1864

As volume D-1.11, but

- I) The three general sections at the beginning of the volume are headed:
 - General Conference & Executive Committee
 - Slave-Emancipation Commission
 - General Visitation, October & November
- II) Instead of being put after Abokobi as the last Ga-District station, the ODUMASE section is bound after Aburi.
- III) A separate ANUM section starts in this year.

The station sections are bound in the following order:
Christiansborg, Abokobi, Akropong, Aburi, Odumase, Akim, Anum.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 17 (to "Afrika" Executive Committee) Nr. 40
- Reel 18 (from "Afrika" 41 to Aburi 29)
- Reel 19 (from Aburi 30 on)

Volume D-1.17

1865

As D-1.16, except that there are only two general sections:

Executive Committee

Slave Emancipation Commission

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 19 (to end of the Abokobi Section)
- Reel 20 (from the beginning of the Akropong Section on)

Volume D-1.18

1866

As D-1.16, except that after the Slave Emancipation Commission 4 letters are bound under the separate heading ROAD-MAKING.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 20 (to "Strassenbauwesen" 22)
- Reel 21 (from the beginning of the Ga-District section to the end of the Odumase section)
- Reel 22 (from the end of the Akim section on)

Volume D-1.19

1867

As D-1.16, except that

- I) There is no separate section for correspondence on road-making.
- II) A report from the School Inspector is bound at the end of the documents from the Slave Emancipation Commission without being indexed.
- III) Akropong documents 38b to 66 have been accidentally bound in front of the Akropong index-page.
- IV) A separate section for ADA starts in this year.

The order of the station sections is unaltered, ADA being bound after ANUM.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 22 (up to the Akropong index)
- Reel 23 (from the Akropong index on)

Volume D-1.20

1868

As D-1.19, except that

- I) There is no separate section for the SLAVE EMANCIPATION COMMISSION.
- II) The ABURI section is brought before the Akropong section.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 23 (to Christiansborg 20)
- Reel 24 (from Christiansborg 21 to end of the Odumase section)
- Reel 25 (from the Anum section on)

Volume D-1.21

1869

As D-1.20. This is the last year till 1881 in which there are letters from Anum, a section entitled "Anum" in D-1.23 containing letters from the captives in Kumase in 1871.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 25 (to Akropong 27)
- Reel 26 (from Akropong 28 on)

Volume D-1.22

1870

As D-1.21, less the Anum section

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

- Reel 26 (to Christiansborg 30)
- Reel 27 (from Christiansborg 31 on)

Volume D-1.23 1871

As D-1.21. At the end of the volume under the heading ANUM are collected 12 letters from the missionaries held in KUMASE.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 28 (up to Odumase 10)

Reel 29 (from Odumase 11 on)

Volume D-1.24 1872

The sections occur in the same order as in volume D-1.21, but the documents are numbered consecutively 1 to 203 through the volume.

Following the section for General Conference correspondence, there is a short section for the correspondence of the Ga and Akwapim and Akim District Conference which seems however mostly to contain reports from the Inspector of Schools.

There is no separate section with letters from the missionaries in KUMASE.

Letters written in KUKURANTUMI are filed in a separate section after those from KYEBI.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 29 (up to Akropong No. 153)

Reel 30 (from Kyebi No. 154 on)

Volume D-1.25 1873

In this volume the sections are organised in the following order:

- I) General (General Conference, followed by correspondence of the district conferences)
- II) Ga District Stations (Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumase, Ada)
- III) Twi District Stations (Akropong, Aburi, Kyebi/Kukurantumi)

In contrast to D-1.24, the letters are numbered only in the individual sections, and not consecutively through the whole volume.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 30 (up to Christiansborg 55)

Reel 31 (from Christiansborg 56 to end)

Volume D-1.26 1874

In this volume the sections for letters from ODUMASE and ADA are once more located at the end of the volume, i.e. after the section of correspondence from Kyebi.

The section of general correspondence at the head of the volume is subdivided into correspondence of the Field Executive Committee, of the Prases (Local Chairman), of the Inspector of Schools, of the Treasurer and of the Executive Committee of the Ga and Adangme District.

The letters are again numbered consecutively through the whole volume.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 32 (up to (Akropong) 202)

Reel 33 (from (Akropong) 203)

Volume D-1.27 1875

The sections again occur in a different order:

General (subdivided into Local Chairman, Inspector of Schools, Treasurer, (Two) Reports on Self-Support and Self-Government in the congregations)

Christiansborg, Abokobi

Ga-Adangme District

Odumase, Ada

Akwapim-Akyem District

Akropong, Aburi, Kyebi, BEGORO, ABETIFI (NB

separate correspondence from Begoro and Abetifi begins in this year.

The documents are once more numbered consecutively through the whole volume.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 33 (up to (Ga District) 141)

Reel 34 (from (Odumase) 142 on)

Volume D-1.28 1876

Organised as volume D-1.27, except that there are no sections for District correspondence, and the section for Aburi is brought before that for Akropong.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 34 (up to Christiansborg 74)

Reel 35 (from Christiansborg 75 to end)

Volume D-1.29 1877

Organised as volume D-1.27, with a general index on the first page naming the sections of correspondence and locating them.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 36 (up to Akropong 217)

Reel 37 (from Akropong 218 on)

Volume D-1.30 1878

Organised as volume D-1.27. The sections for District correspondence are rather more extensive, and include in each case subsections for the District Executive Committee, the District Chairman, and the District School Inspector.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 37 (up to Aburi 150)

Reel 38 (from Akropong 151)

Volume D-1.31 1879

Organised as volume D-1.27

NB nine documents from a discussion over the years 1872 - 1878 on the possibility of setting up mission stations in Kumasi, Elmina and Begoro, and of establishing branches of the Mission Trading Organisation in Akropong and Elmina should be filed at the end of this volume (Nos. 169 to 177) - but 174 to 77 are missing.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 38 (up to Aburi 79)

Reel 39 (from Aburi 80 on)

Volume D-1.32 1880

Organised as volume D-1.27

At the end of this volume (Nos. 163 - 73) are a group of documents, primarily minutes of the (missionaries') District Conferences held in 1880, but also including the minutes of the first SYNODS of the Ga and Akwapim-Akyem Districts.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 39 (up to Aburi 95)

Reel 40 (from Aburi 96 on)

Volume D-1.33 1881

Organised as volume D-1.27, with once more a separate section of letters from ANUM, filed at the end of the volume, i.e. after the Abetifi section.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 40 (up to Local Chairman 58)

Reel 41 (from Executive Committee 61 (NB there are no documents Nos. 59 and 60) to Begoro 236)

Reel 42 (from Begoro 326 on)

Volume D-1.34 1882 - 1

Organised as volume D-1.27, except that in this year the annual correspondence is bound in two volumes, with the first containing the General correspondence (under the headings Field Executive Committee and Treasurer) and the correspondence of the Ga-District and its stations. (Ga District correspondence in general is filed after Abokobi and before Odumase). There is a section index at the beginning of the volume.

The Ada section contains 48 letters written over the years 1879 - 1882 and concerned with the Ada congregation's conflict with the mission leadership.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 42 (after the completion of volume D-1.33)

Volume D-1.35 1882 - 2

Organised as volume D-1.29, this comprising the section part of the year's correspondence, that originating in the Akwapim-Akyem district, with its individual stations.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 43

Volume D-1.36 1883 - 1

As volume D-1.34.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 43 (up to Odumase 94)

Reel 44 (from Odumase 95)

Volume D-1.37 1883 - 2

As volume D-1.35.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 44 (complete, but sandwiched between the end of volume D-1.36 and the beginning of D-1.38)

Volume D-1.38 Correspondence of the Praetorius Inspection 1882-3
This "volume" (in fact a loose-leaf file) contains correspondence and papers concerning the visit to Ghana in 1882-3 of Inspector Praetorius, at that time responsible for the African field of the Basel Mission. A detailed German/English index occurs at the front of the file, and has been microfilmed. The sections are as follows:

- A-I Minutes of a meeting with the Executive Committee
- A-II Rough notes made by Praetorius
- A-III) Minutes of the Akwapim and Akyem SYNODS
- A-IV)
- A-V Minutes of the Missionaries' General Conference
- A-VI Official report on the tour
- B/a-B/g Minutes of Stations' Conference Meetings and Sessions Meetings at Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumase. Ada, Aburi, Akropong and Kyebi, respectively.
- C Minutes and Notes on conferences with catechists and teachers
- D Petitions and complaints

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 44 (to end of section A-IV)

Reel 45 (from A-V onwards)

Volume D-1.39 Correspondence of the Praetorius Inspection 1882-3
As volume D-1.38. The sections are as follows:

- E Notes on examinations conducted in schools, and minutes of a conference held on the schools
- F Praetorius' letters to Basel, speeches at his grave (he died in Christiansborg), letters of condolence, Praetorius' own speeches in Ghana (English texts)
- G Miscellaneous letters received by Praetorius
- H Trading and Industrial Activities
- I Medical
- K Documents reflecting Dr. Mähly's investigation of medical matters (Mähly accompanied Praetorius).

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 45 (to end of section E)

Reel 46 (from beginning of section F to end of section G)

Reel 47 (from beginning of section H on)

Volume D-1.40 1884 - 1

As volume D-1.34. A discussion of the extension of mission work into AGONA is filed under Abokobi (documents 64-69).

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 47

Volume D-1.41 1884 - 2

As volume D-1.35, except that with the withdrawal of missionaries from Kyebi there is now only one AKYEM section under the heading BEGORO.

Some material on AGONA is found in documents 71-3.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 47
Reel 48

Volume D-1.42 1885 - 1

As volume D-1.34

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 48 (up to Christiansborg 60)

Reel 49 (from Christiansborg 61)

Volume D-1.43 1885 - 2

As volume D-1.41

In the section of Aburi correspondence there are seven letters 1883-5 on the building of a sanatorium in Aburi. In the Akyem letters there is a special sub-section of 17 letters on the resignation of the missionaries Marquart and Baur.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 49 (up to Begoro 100)

Reel 50 (from Begoro 101 on)

Volume D-1.44 1886 - 1

As volume D-1.34, with the addition of a special section AGONA-FANTE after the Abokobi section.

Ga-District SYNOD minutes are at No. 94 in the section of general Ga-District correspondence.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 50 (after the end of D-1.43)

Volume D-1.45 1886 - 2

As volume D-1.41 NB documents concerning the mission in AGONA-FANTE are filed in D-1.44.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 51

Volume D-1.46 1887 - 1
As volume D-1.44
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 51 (to Christiansborg 99)
Reel 52 (from Christiansborg 100 on)

Volume D-1.47 1887 - 2
As volume D-1.41
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 52 (to Akropong 90)
Reel 53 (from Akropong 91 on)

Volume D-1.48 1888 - 1
As volume D-1.44
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 53 (after the end of volume D-1.47)

Volume D-1.49 1888 - 2
As volume D-1.41
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 54

Volume D-1.50 1889 - 1
As volume D-1.44
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 54 (to Christiansborg 60)
Reel 55 (from Christiansborg 61)

Volume D-1.51 1889 - 2
As volume D-1.41
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 55 (to Akropong 62)
Reel 56 (from Begoro 63 on)

Volume D-1.52 1890 - 1
As volume D-1.44
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 56 (to Denkira (=Agona) 160)
Reel 57 (from Denkira (=Agona) 161 on)

Volume D-1.53 1890 - 2
As volume D-1.41
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 57 (to Begoro 117)
Reel 58 (from Begoro 118)

Volume D-1.54 1891 - 1

As volume D-1.44

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 58 (to Odumase 160)

Reel 59 (from Odumase 161 on)

Volume D-1.55 1891 - 2

As volume D-1.41

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 59 (from end of D-1.54 on)

Volume D-1.56 1892 - 1

As volume D-1.44, except that the section of letters from AGONA (now referred to as NSABA) is from this year included in the Twi-District correspondence - see D-1.57.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 60

Volume D-1.57 1892 - 2

The organisation of volume D-1.41 is changed in this volume to the extent that the section of correspondence from AGONA (now called NSABA) is included with the Twi-District, after the general district correspondence and before the Aburi section. The station sections are bound in the following order: Nsaba, Aburi, Akropong, Begoro, Abetifi, Anum.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 60 (to Aburi 52)

Reel 61 (from Akropong 53 on)

Volume D-1.58 1893 - 1

As volume D-1.56

The question of whether it would be suitable to set up a home for freed slaves is discussed in documents 62-74 in the section of Field Executive Committee correspondence.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 61 (from Treasurer 80)

Reel 62 (from Treasurer 81 on)

Volume D-1.59 1893 - 2

As volume D-1.57

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 62 (to Akropong 90)

Reel 63 (from Akropong 91 on)

Volume D-1.60 1894 - 1

As volume D-1.56, except that the Ga-District correspondence is now brought forward and filed before the Christiansborg station correspondence. Order of the sections now: Field Executive Committee, Executive Committee for the Ga-District, Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumase, Ada.

The Ga-District correspondence includes the minutes of a Ga District SYNOD.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 63 (to Christiansborg 90)

Reel 64 (from Christiansborg 91 on)

Volume D-1.61 1894 - 2

As volume D-1.57

The Twi District correspondence includes the minutes of a Twi District SYNOD.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 64 (to the end of the Twi District Executive Committee minutes)

Reel 65 (from the beginning of the Nsaba section to Anum 146)

Reel 66 (from Anum 147 on)

Volume D-1.62 1895 - 1

As volume D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 66 (to the end of the Odumase section)

Volume D-1.63 1895 - 2

As volume D-1.57

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 67 (to Anum 138)

Reel 68 (from Anum 139 on)

Volume D-1.64 1896 - 1

As volume D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 68 (to Odumase 150)

Reel 69 (from Odumase 151 on)

Volume D-1.65 1896 - 2

As volume D-1.57, except that a section KUMASE now occurs between the sections Abetifi and Anum.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 69 (to Begoro 100)

Reel 70 (from Begoro 101)

Volume D-1.66 1897 - 1

As volume D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 70 (to Executive Committee 80)

Reel 71 (from Executive Committee 81 on)

Volume D-1.67 1897 - 2

As volume D-1.65

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 71 (to Aburi 29)

Reel 72 (from Aburi 30 to Anum 190)

Reel 73 (from Anum 191 on)

Volume D-1.68 1898 - 1

As volume D-1.60, except that after the section of correspondence under the heading Field Executive Committee there is a special section for the GENERAL CONFERENCE held in that year, with 52 documents in it: this conference discussed a wide range of issues in mission policy at length.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 72 (to General Conference 111)

Reel 73 (from General Conference 112 on)

Volume D-1.69 1898 - 2

As volume D-1.65

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 74 (to Aburi 34)

Reel 75 (from Aburi 35 to Anum 173)

Reel 76 (from Anum 174 on)

Volume D-1.70 1899 - 1

As volume D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 76 (to Abokobi 170)

Reel 77 (from Abokobi 171 on)

Volume D-1.71 1899 - 2

The stations of the Twi District are bound here in a new order: ABURI, AKROPONG, ANUM, NSABA, BEGORO, ABETIF1, KUMAS1.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 77 (to Anum 107)

Reel 78 (from Anum 107a on)

Volume D-1.72

1900 - 1

As volume D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 79

Volume D-1.73

1900 - 2

The Twi District correspondence is once more re-organised in this volume, according to a plan to divide the Twi District into two parts. The correspondence sections occur in the following order:

Eastern Twi District: Executive Committee, Aburi,
Akropong, Anum.

Western Twi District: Nsaba, Begoro-Kyebe, Abetifi,
Kumasi.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 79 (to Akropong 40a)

Reel 80 (from Akropong 41 to Begoro 150)

Reel 81 (from Begoro 151 on)

Volume D-1.74

1901 - 1

As volume D-1.60

Documents 69 to 79 in the correspondence of the Executive Committee concern themselves with the hand-over of Basel Mission stations in German Togo to the Bremen Mission.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 81 (to Executive Committee 100)

Reel 82 (from Executive Committee 101 on)

Volume D-1.75

1901 - 2

As D-1.73, except that KYEBI now has a separate section again following the Begoro correspondence.

NB for discussion of the proposal to hand over Basel Mission work in German Togo (i.e. part of the ANUM station area) to the Bremen Mission, s. volume D-1.74.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 82 (to Akropong 70)

Reel 83 (from Akropong 71 to Kumase 182)

Reel 84 (from Kumase 183 on)

Volume D-1.76 1902 - 1

As D-1.60, except that a special section is bound after the Executive Committee section and concerned with the handing-over of the work in German Togo to the Bremen Mission - documents 107 - 119.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 84 (to Abokobi 180)

Reel 85 (from Abokobi 181 on)

Volume D-1.77 1902 - 2

As D-1.75

For documents on the handing-over of Basel Mission work in German Togo (ANUM station area) to the Bremen Mission, s. D-1.76.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 85 (to Begoro 90)

Reel 86 (from Begoro 91 on)

Volume D-1.78 1903 - 1

As D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 86 (to Field Executive Committee 40)

Reel 87 (from Field Executive Committee 41 on)

Volume D-1.79 1903 - 2

As D-1.75

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 87 (to Akropong 42)

Reel 88 (from Akropong 43 on)

Volume D-1.80 1904 - 1

As D-1.60

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 89

Volume D-1.81 1904 - 2 Part I

With D-1.82 this volume follows the pattern of D-1.75, containing the correspondence of the Eastern Twi District Executive Committee, the correspondence of the stations Aburi, Akropong, Anum, the correspondence of the Western Twi District Executive Committee and of the Nsaba station.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 89 (to Aburi 30)

Reel 90 (from Aburi 31 on)

Volume D-1.82

1904 - 2 Part II

Contains correspondence of the stations Begoro, Kyebi, Abetifi and Kumase.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 90 (to Abetifi 118)

Reel 91 (from Abetifi 119 on)

Volume D-1.83

1905 - 1

As D-1.60, though as in 1898 (D-1.68) there is a special section for correspondence about the General Conference bound after the section of correspondence from the members of the Executive Committee.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 91 (to General Conference 70)

Reel 92 (from General Conference 71 on)

Volume D-1.84

1905 - 2

In this volume the correspondence is once more organised under the heading of a united Twi District, the sections being in the following order:

Correspondence of the Twi District Executive Committee, correspondence of the stations Aburi, Akropong, Anum, Nsaba, Begoro, Kyebi, Abetifi, Kumase.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 92 (to Nsaba 61)

Reel 93 (from Nsaba 62 on)

Volume D-1.85

1906 - 1

Order of sections in this volume:

Correspondence of the Executive Committee
Correspondence on the possibility of mission work in NORTHERN-TOGO (the future YENDI Mission)
Correspondence on the Mission TRADING COMPANY
Correspondence of the Ga-District Executive Committee
Correspondence of the stations CHRISTIANSBORG, ABOKOBI, and ODUMASE-ADA.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 93 (to Field Executive Committee 29)

Reel 94 (from Field Executive Committee 30 on)

Volume D-1.86

1906 - 2

As Volume D-1.84

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 94 (to Akropong 30)

Reel 95 (from Akropong 31 to Kumase 120)

Reel 96 (from Kumase 121 on)

Volume D-1.87 1907 - 1

From 1907 on the two annual volumes are NO LONGER divided geographically (general correspondence and Ga District, followed by the Twi District). The first volume, as here, contains correspondence in the strict sense from all stations as well as the documentation from the general and district executive committees.

The sections are bound in the familiar order -

Executive Committee, Ga District Executive Committee, Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumase, Twi District Executive Committee, Aburi, Akropong, Anum, Nsaba, Begoro, Kyebi, Abetifi and Kumase.

In addition in this volume there is a section on the possibility of mission work in NORTH TOGO (the future YENDI Mission), bound after the section of letters from the Executive Committee.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 96 (to Nsaba 190)

Reel 97 (from Nsaba 191)

Volume D-1.88 1907 - 2

This is the complement to the re-organised D-1.87 - the formal Annual- and Quarterly Reports from each station, bound in the same order the stations occur in D-1.87. There is a special collection of papers on the "Blaukreuz-sache" (the "blue-cross movement", i.e. a temperance movement) in the section on Abetifi.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 97 (to the end of the Begoro section)

Reel 98 (from the beginning of the Kyebi section on)

Volume D-1.89 1908 - 1

As volume D-1.87

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 98 (to Aburi 140)

Reel 99 (from Aburi 141 on)

Volume D-1.90 1908 - 2

As volume D-1.88

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 99 (to Nsaba 49)

Reel 100 (from Nsaba 50 on)

Volume D-1.91 1909 - 1 Part I

The correspondence from 1909 is bound in THREE volumes. This volume contains correspondence from the Field Executive Committee, and a section concerning a proposed mission in either NORTH TOGO (YENDI) or in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast on the invitation of the Commissioner, the latter referred to as the DAGOMBA mission. This section comprises 35 documents in all.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 100 (to Dagomba 100)

Reel 101 (from Dagomba 101 on)

Volume D-1.92 1909 - 1 Part II

In principle this volume corresponds to the organisation of volume D-1.87, except that the correspondence of the Executive Committee is bound in volume D-1.91. The documents in the two volumes are in fact consecutively numbered, 1 - 126 being found in D-1.91, 127 - 272 in D-1.92.

However, there are two extra sections in this volume, after the correspondence of each District Executive Committee comes the Minutes of a District missionaries' Conference and a District SYNOD, filed together in each case.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 101 (to Begoro 250)

Reel 102 (from Begoro 251 on)

Volume D-1.93 1909 - 2

As volume D-1.88

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 102 (to Kumase 70)

Reel 103 (Kumase 71 only)

Volume D-1.94 1910 - 1

As volume D-1.87, with a section of correspondence on the TOGO (YENDI) Mission bound after the section of the Executive Committee. The latter includes documentation of a tour Krakye-Gambaga-Sansanni Mango in March and April 1910 by three representatives of the Basel Mission.

NB although there is a section for correspondence from the Begoro station, it has nothing in it.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 103 (all sections except Abetifi and Kumase)

Reel 104 (Abetifi and Kumase only)

Volume D-1.95 1910 - 2
As volume D-1.88
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 104 (all sections except Kumase)
Reel 105 (Kumase section only)

Volume D-1.96 1911 - 1
As volume D-1.87
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 105 (to Nsaba 171)
Reel 106 (from Nsaba 172 on)

Volume D-1.97 1911 - 2
As volume D-1.88
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 106 (to Kumase 65)
Reel 107 (Kumase 66 and 67 only)

Volume D-1.98 1912 - 1
As volume D-1.87
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 107 (to Abetifi 210)
Reel 108 (from Abetifi 211 on)

Volume D-1.99 1912 - 2
As volume D-1.88
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 108 (to Abetifi 70)
Reel 109 (from Abetifi 71 on)

Volume D-1.100 1913 - 1
As volume D-1.87
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 110 (to Field Executive Committee 69)
Reel 111 (from Field Executive Committee 70 on)

Volume D-1.101 1913 - 2
As volume D-1.88
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 109 (to end of the Anum section)
Reel 110 (from the Nsaba section on)

Volume D-1.102 1914 - 2

As volume D-1.88

NB the correspondence from 1914 is filed in the series D-3, see below.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 111 (Odumase 15)

Reel 112 (from Odumase 16 to the end of the Kyebi section)

Reel 113 (Abetifi and Kumase sections)

Volume D-1.103 Nord-Togo 1911 and 1912

A volume of mixed correspondence on the start of a mission in NORTH TOGO (YENDI), including reports from missionaries in Ghana and Togo, but also including a large number of letters from supporters of the Mission in Germany and Switzerland, and correspondence between the Basel Mission and the Bremen Mission, and the Basel Mission and officials of the German government.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 113 (between end of D-1.102 and beginning of D-1.104)

Volume D-1.104 Togo 1913-14

A file, in which the main section is headed "Reports and longer letters" - 48 documents, indexed. At the end are five further sections, where the documents are unindexed -

Letters from J. Kies, Letters from O. Schimming, Miscellaneous letters (almost all originated in Europe), Togo Reports from the Missionary Martin, Circulars and Printed Matter.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 113 (to document 18)

Reel 114 (from document 19 on)

Volume D-1.105 Bookshop Accra, 1897 - 1914

A Ringbook, whose first section is concerned with the re-organisation of the Accra Bookshop in 1912, and whose last section contains reports from Ghana on the alcohol problem 1913-14. Between lie 14 sections with correspondence and accounts of the Bookshop from 1897, chronologically ordered.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 114

Appendix II (b)

S e r i e s D-3

- Volume D-3.1 Korrespondenz - Präsides (Local Chairman) 1914 - 1916.
Includes correspondence to and from Basel, and a large amount of local correspondence, especially with the Gold Coast Government. Filed chronologically.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 115 (to 8 July 1916)
Reel 116 (from 11 July 1916 on)
- Volume D-3.2 Korrespondenz - Präsides (Local Chairman) 1917 - 1918, Gen. Ausschuss (Field Executive Committee) 1914 - 1917, Gen. Schulinspektor 1913 - 1917.
Correspondence to and from Basel, with some local correspondence in addition. There is a section index at the head of the volume.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 116
Reel 117
- Volume D-3.3 Korrespondenz - 1914 - 1918, General Kassier (Treasurer), Ga-District, Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumasi, Twi District, Aburi, Akropong.
Correspondence with the Mission's Treasurer and the stations named, and with the two districts as separate institutions. Indexed as D-3.2.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 117 (Treasurer, Ga-District, Christiansborg, Abokobi)
Reel 118 (from Odumase on)
- Volume D-3.4 Korrespondenz - 1914 - 1918, Anum, Nsaba, Begoro, Kyebi, Abetifi, Kumasi, Aerztliche Mission.
Correspondence with the stations named, and with medical missionaries, indexed as D-3.2.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 118 (to Anum, 18 May 1916)
Reel 119 (from Anum, 18 May 1916 to Medical Missions, May 1916)
Reel 120 (from Medical Mission, May 1916 on)

Volume D-3.5

Buchhandlung Accra, Jahresabschlüsse und Korrespondenz
1914 - 1918.

Correspondence to and from the Mission Bookshop in Accra,
with annual accounts, chronologically arranged.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 120 (between the end of D-3.4 and the beginning
of D-3.6)

Volume D-3.6

Jahresberichte, 1915.

Annual and Bi-annual reports from Ghana written by
missionaries and also by some local pastors and catechists.
Each document is indexed, an index sheet being inserted
before each group of four or five sections.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 120 (Christiansborg, Abokobi, Odumase, Aburi,
Akropong, Anum, Nsaba, Begoro to No. 3)

Reel 121 (Begoro from No. 4, Kyebi, Abetifi, Kumase)

Volume D-3.7

Jahresberichte 1916.

As D-3.6 above.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 121 (Stations in the same order as D-3.6, to
Abetifi 1)

Reel 122 (from Abetifi 2 on)

Volume D-3.8

Jahresberichte 1917.

As D-3.6 above.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 122 (between the end of D-3.7 and the beginning
of D-3.9)

Volume D-3.9

Quartalsberichte 1915 - 1917 - I.

Quarterly reports exclusively from white missionaries
(with the exception of N. Clerk) arranged by author,
Beck to Ladrach, with an index of sections at the head
of the volume.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM:

Reel 122 (the first report of the volume only. This
appears to be misfiled, but is undated and
unsigned. Title (translated) "Aspects of
Krobo Religion")

Reel 123 All remaining reports.

- Volume D-3.10 Quartalsberichte 1915 - 1917 - II
As D-3.9, Lipps to Zürcher.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 124
- Volume D-3.11 Korrespondenz mit Missionaren 1914 - 1918
Correspondence to and from individual missionaries on miscellaneous subjects, arranged alphabetically by missionary, indexed as D-3.9.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 124 (Field Executive Committee, Local Chairman and individuals Andres to Breuninger)
Reel 125 (Brugger to Zimmermann)
Reel 126 (Zürcher)
- Volume D-3.12 Korrespondenz mit der Yendi Station 1914-1916 (22).
This file also contains some letters from the Bremen Missionary Bürgi in Lome, 1915 - 1922, indexed as D-3.9.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 126 (after the end of D-3.11)
- Volume D-3.13 Goldküste/Togo, Korrespondenz und Berichte gefangener Missionare 1914-1919
Correspondence with missionaries from Ghana and Togo in internment (includes some letters from non-Basel missionaries), indexed as D-3.9.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 127
- Volume D-3.14 Goldküste, Togo, Korrespondenz 1914-1918
General correspondence on internees, including letters from/to political officials, indexed as D-3.9.
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 127 (Sections 1 and 2)
Reel 128 (from Section 3 on)
- Appendix II (c) Lesehilfe/Helps to Reading Series D-1, English
- Volume D-12.1 Abstracts (Debrunner)
LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 129
- Volume D-12.2 Abstracts (Jenkins)
LOCATION ON MICROFILM:
Reel 129 (to p.302)
Reel 130 (from p.303 on)

Appendix II (d) German Transcriptions of Documents in Series D-1 -
i.e. Selected Africa material in Basel Mission
periodicals

Articles from Der Evangelische Heidenbote

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 131 (1828-47)

Reel 132 (1848-70)

Reel 133 (1871-93)

Reel 134 (1894-1907)

Reel 135 (1908-18)

From the Annual Reports printed in the Magazin für
die neueste Geschichte der protestantischen Missions-
und Bibelgesellschaften 1827 - 52.

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 136

Material from the Jahresberichte der Basler Mission
1853 - 1918

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 137 (1853-71)

Reel 138 (1872-81)

Reel 139 (1882-92)

Reel 140 (1893-1904)

Reel 141 (1905-18)

Appendix II (e) Series D-6-3

Jahresrechnungen/Annual Accounts 1842 - 1916

Volume D-6-3.1 1842-73

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 142 (1842-67)

Reel 143 (1868-73)

Volume D-6-3.2 1874-82

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 144 (1874-79)

Reel 145 (from 1880 on)

Volume D-6-3.3 1883-91

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 145 (to 1887)

Reel 146 (from 1888 on)

Volume D-6-3.4 1892-1900

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 146 (to 1895)

Reel 147 (from 1896 on)

Volume D-6-3.5 1901-07

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 147 (to 1904)

Reel 148 (from 1905 on)

Volume D-6-3.6 1908-13

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 148 (to 1909)

Reel 149 (from 1910 on)

Volume D-6-3.7 1914-16

LOCATION ON MICROFILM: Reel 149 (from end of volume
D-6-3.6)

Appendix II (f) Series D-10

Remainder Category, Ghana

- Reel 150 D-10.1,4 Zimmermann, J., Gold Coast (Anthropology, History, Mission) 164 pp.
- D-10.1,6 Kölle, C., Proverbs and proverbial turns of speech from the Ga-Adangme Area (68 examples with explanations, German translations only).
- D-10.1,10a Mohr, A., Reactions to the papers concerning the baptisms or re-acceptance into the congregation of women in polygamous marriages, 15 pp, 1907
- D-10.1,10b Mohr, A., Improving and Maintaining moral standards among our Christians on the Gold Coast, 12 pp, 1908.
- D-10.1,10c The Burden carried by our African Christians - an open letter to African pastors and catechists from a colleague, 9 pp., n.d. - concerning polygamy, marked "from the papers of missionary Josenhans" who worked in Ghana before the First World War.
- D-10.2,2 File marked "Education on the Gold Coast..." - 8 documents from 1867-73, incl. the actual Minutes of the missionaries' General Conference in Akropong 6-7 March 1867.
- D-10.2,7 Dreams among the Gold Coast natives, 11 pp., n.d., but written by a missionary stationed in Abetifi before the First World War.
- D-10.2,8 Asare, N., About the country oath of Asante & Celebration of Christmas in Kumase (i.e. a traditional custom in Kumase) 3 pp., 1911.
- D-10.2,16 Report of the Deputies to the Gold Coast, 46 pp., n.d., (1917) photocopy of the report sent to the headquarters of the Mission of the Free Church of Scotland by A.W. Wilkie and a colleague after they had surveyed the situation of the Basel Mission on the Gold Coast with a view to taking over the work.
- D-10.2,17 Quartey, M.A. The King's Oath, 4 pp., 1911 (Ga and Akan material)

Reel 150 Cont.	D-10.2,21	Graf, H., <u>Researches into the death of Capt. C.G. Benson</u> , 23 pp., 1955 - Capt. Benson was attached to the Abuakwa troops invading Asante in 1900, main sources: a diary of O. L�drach in private hands, and oral testimony from E. Appiah of Asiakwa.
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	D-10.3,1	File "Letters concerning the commencement of Basel Mission work on the Gold Coast 1824-38" - c. 40 letters mostly from Copenhagen.
	D-10.3,3	File "Founding of the Mission on the Gold Coast and the departure of the first missionaries 1828" - 3 official documents from the Mission and the Danish Government dated 1805, 1828 and 1842.
	D-10.3,4	File "The West Indian colonist in Akropong", 6 documents altogether, originating with a conference of missionaries in Antigua in 1841, the secretary of the S.P.G., and with members of the Basel Mission.
	D-10.3,6	File "Building work in Abokobi 1858" - 3 drawings and c. 15 letters.
	D-10.3,7	File with three documents: J.A. Mader, <u>Akwapim and its inhabitants</u> , 28 pp., 1859 <u>A Short History of the Mission Station at Aburi</u> , 22 pp., n.d. (1885?) <u>The Persecutions in Akyem ...</u> 58 pp., n.d., apparently based on descriptions by E. Ofori and P. R�sler.
	D-10.3,8	Zimmermann, J., <u>The Gold Coast Question</u> , 27 pp., 1865 (with translation in German)
Reel 151	D-10.3,9	File "Building work at the Boarding School in Christiansborg 1866-7" - also contains detailed proposal for a commercial school at Adafo.
	D-10.3,10	File "Gold Coast Commission for the Emancipation of Slaves 1868-75" - 24 documents.
	D-10.3,11	File "Letters and Documents concerning the missionaries held captive in Kumase 1869-74" - 85 documents.

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| Reel 151
Cont. | D-10.3,12 | File "Asante-Mission 1872-8" - 49 documents, mostly correspondence with England. |
| | D-10.3,13 | File "Building of the Mission House in Ada, 1876", c. 20 documents. |
| | D-10.3,14 | File "Reports on journeys to Salaga: 1878" D. Asante and P. Buss (Germ.), T. Opoku (Engl. and Germ.) |
| | D-10.3,15 | Bohner, H., <u>Organising evangelistic preaching in the district around a mission station - lecture to the General Conference in Akropong in 1883</u> , 38 pp. |
| | D-10.3,16 | File "Opinions on questions concerning repatriation of missionaries and permission for them to marry - 1885", 8 responses to an enquiry sent to Ghana from Basel. |
| | D-10.4,1 | <u>Stories of the Akwapims about the creation of the World and the development of fetishes</u> , 24 pp., anon (H.G. Widman or J.C. Dieterle?) n.d. (?c. 1850) |
| Reel 152 | D-10.4,2 | <u>Concerning the religion of the Twi people</u> , 28 pp., n.d. (?same author as D-10.4,1) |
| | D-10.4,3 | <u>Religion of the inhabitants of the Gold Coast</u> , 16 pp., n.d. (?J.G. Widman, ?c. 1850) |
| | D-10.4,4 | Steinhauser, A., <u>A Contribution to our knowledge of the religion of the African</u> , 28 pp., 1855. |
| | D-10.4,5 | <u>The misunderstanding of the divine revelation among the Twi</u> , 26 pp., n.d. (? J.A. Mader, c. 1850?) |
| | D-10.4,6 | <u>Name and Describe the gods and fetishes of the Accra natives</u> - 9 essays written in school, one dated 1875. |
| | D-10.4,7 | <u>Annual Feast, Homowo</u> , 7 essays written in school, also probably c. 1875. |
| | D-10.4,8 | Folder "African Folk Tales" - 10 short school essays, probably c. 1875. |
| | D-10.4,9 | <u>Diary of Rosine Widman 1845-9</u> , typewritten copy, 133 pp. |

Reel 152 Cont.	D-10.4,15	Envelope containing the minutes of the Ga District Missionaries' Conference 1868.
	D-10.4,16	W. Rottmann's report in 1906 on proceedings in the Supreme Court against Rev. E. Ofori on account of his involvement in late politics after a destoolment.
Reel 153	D-10.7	File, 825 pp., with Title "Ramseyer's Diary". NB this cannot be the original of Ramseyer's Diary from 1869-74 captivity, but it does include more material than the printed German version of the diary, which in turn is much more full than the English printed version.
	D-10.8	File with correspondence about the Christiansborg workshops 1860-86 and the book-account run by the Mission Treasurer in Christiansborg 1875-82.

Appendix III

Full Index of Archive Series in the Ghana Section of the Basel Mission Archives

- D- 1 Correspondence arriving in Basel from Ghana up to the outbreak of the First World War
- D- 2 Letters leaving Basel for addresses in Ghana, 1850 to the outbreak of the First World War
- D- 3 Outgoing and incoming correspondence with Ghana and with interned Ghana missionaries during the First World War period
- D- 4 Outgoing and incoming correspondence with Ghana from the end of the First World War on
- D- 5 Station records brought to Basel from Ghana
- D- 6 Financial records concerning Ghana
- D- 7 Summaries of correspondence from Ghana (mid-nineteenth century only)
- D- 8 Church Census data
- D- 9 Regulations and circulars
- D-10 Miscellaneous MSS in European languages
- D-11 Certain categories of duplicated letters and reports
- D-20 Miscellaneous MSS in Ghanaian vernaculars*
- D-30 Pictures and photographs in general
- D-31 Hand-drawn maps, station plans and architectural drawings

*Two materials in series D-20 are available as a microfilm from the Cooperative Africana Microform Programme (CAMP) in the U.S.A., c/o the Herskovits Library, Northwestern University.

<https://microform.digital> - International Digital Scanning & Archiving Services