

Missionary Rooms, 12 Bedford Street,
Boston Feb. 28, 1865

My Dear Brother:

Herewith I send you the "Outline
of a Plan for conducting the Mission Trefs and
Depository in Burmah." A few words of explanation
may be useful.

1. This Plan is designed by the Committee to serve
only for a limited time. The control which it reserves
exclusively to the Executive Committee, it is hoped,
will, at no distant day, be lodged in the body
of missionaries, or in a convention composed of missionari-
es and native Christians. To words & such a result
we are earnestly looking, and bespeak your cooperation
in working it out. In this you see the true and
only reason why we have not consulted you before
adopting these rules.

2. The "Publication Committee," so called, has
been discontinued. It never did accomplish the ends
of its appointment, and for many years past has
been little more than a name. The Executive Com-
mittee prefer an undivided responsibility, with an
undivided management, to sharing either with
another body. Wheels within wheels are compli-
cated, and occasion inevitable ^{more or less} ~~incon-~~

invite from the missionaries the greatest freedom of correspondence, setting forth both facts and opinions. Particularly would they be happy to receive early information touching the wants of your field, or any deficiency of Bibles, Testaments or other books, that may at any time be found to exist in the Depository. It is the fixed purpose of the Committee to have the Depository supplied with whatever is necessary, to meet all reasonable calls.

This Paper will be accompanied with an order from the treasurer to each missionary, authorizing him to draw certificates from the Depository, to the value of \$100. Please make out and forward to the Executive Committee, with your next annual report, a request for another order, stating the amount desired. Each request for another should be accompanied with a statement for the relative number of Scriptures sold and gratuitously distributed.

The Executive Committee embrace the present opportunity of calling your attention to another subject. They have this day unanimously passed a vote inviting the missionaries of the Union in Burmah, to a general conference to be held in Rangoon in November next, on

in that city, of which they will notify you in due time, for the views of the Committee on the importance of such a meeting, and the ends to be secured by it, together with the topics that may profitably come under consideration, you are referred to the address of last year, under date of 26th July.

Since that date, our convictions have been growing in strength, and our hope of seeing organized, at no remote day, a Convention composed of missionaries and native Christians, which shall, with the advice and encouragement of the Executive Committee, take in hand the evangelization of Burmah, is daily increasing. The voice that has reached us in response to the circular, is almost unanimous for undertaking something of the kind described, and we apprehend no serious difficulty in uniting on a plan for its accomplishment. In that direction do we see hope for the future of Burmah.

at the meeting of the Executive Committee, held January 12th, the following Rules, on the recommendation of a special Committee were adopted for the guidance of the treasury.

to allow on money drafts made by missionaries, seven and five per cent. of the premium he would pay on gold at the time the drafts are presented for payment.

2. That for the current year, beginning with October 1st, 1864, fifty per cent. in currency be added to the customary allowance for the children of missionaries in this country.

3. That on all purchases directed by the missionaries to be made by the treasurer, on their account, in this country, a deduction of twenty five per cent. on the currency prices be made in their favor, and that, as heretofore, all expenses of purchasing and forwarding, the same, be paid by the Union. Goods purchased by other parties on the order of missionaries, they are to bear all the expenses of forwarding. This rule to continue in force till annulled by the Executive Committee.

4. That the income tax levied on the salaries of missionaries in Burma, Assam and Sikkim for the year ending with September, 1864, be paid by the missionary Union.

The above indicates the disposition of the Executive Committee to meet, as well as may be, the exigencies of these very trying times. If it be asked why something of the kind has not been adopted sooner, the answer is, we found ourselves acting in untired circumstances and could not readily settle on rules to meet different cases. If it be asked why we do not apply them to the past, the

only for a limit

can carry and more. It may be added that all employees of the Union in this country are paid in currency, and in no previous instance has more than twenty five per cent. been added to salaries.

Rule No. 4, does not apply to those missionaries who have gone out under the new policy.

By order and in behalf of the Executive Committee.

J. G. Warren, Corresponding Secretary.

I send you by last mail
a copy of the Rev. Lewis's Memo Rules for the Mission Press.
There is a copy of their explanation of them. I wrote
also requesting you to ascertain how our dear Miss folks
should get our Scriptures. Remondt seems to think the

Bible Society are furnishing us money to pay the Miss
press for them. If this is so - then it is all right I suppose.

If I had rec'd Dr. Words letter notifying us of the \$1000
given to you for "Bible Circulation in Basse" a little
sooner, I might not have written as I did last mail.

Still it will be more satisfactory to learn definitely
from the Bible Society just what use they intend us
to make of these funds. Is it both to pay for & to
circulate, or do they expect us to obtain them gratis
from the Press & then use them funds for the more
efficient circulation of them among the poor? ~~W. J. B.~~
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