

Dayton, Ohio, May 28, 1907,

Rev. J. Howe,

Dear Brother:

Our Executive Committee is widely scattered, the good in its composition, except its Chairman. It leaves you and Bro. Stemen as its centered members. And to you both I now open a few thoughts which may not be new to any of us.

Polygamy (or concubinage) evidently has a stronghold on the missionaries of Sierra Leone. Wilberforce fell into it—probably long before he came into the paramount chieftaincy. His expressions in letters to Bro. Stoltz and myself show that he regards it as an offence (if such at all) tolerable and diminutive,

Without any expression of repentance and contrition, he still poses as a preacher and pastor at Bouthe. He assays to be negotiator and director for his son Joseph, as tho himself had lost no prestige. Lucy was seduced. H. J. Becker seems to be compromised, and apparently with no sense of our lessened obligation to bring him to America and to educate him. What must all these things tell on the state of sentiment among our native African missionaries, members, and ^{the} children in the schools at Danville and Victoria?

African sentiment favors concubinage or regards it with indifference. Those having many wives are honored therefor. The

superintendent of the Liberal mission in Sierra Leone welcomes an unwashed polygamist to the pastorate. As with Freemasonry, so with polygamy; expediency tolerates both in the the politic church.

What shall we do to remedy the situation? Bro. Linker personally is sound and reliable. Sister Winkel is unquestionable and immovable. Bro. Stolty was invulnerable and judicious, but is made unavailable by infirmities of temper and spirit. We hope well of Christopher and Bessie. What of the next?

Are we liable to come to a jolt when Becker's American longings are denied at Bro. Linker's return home? It now seems as if

his reliability is at the best doubtful. How are we safely to disillusionize him? Will his influence and acts do us much harm if he becomes alienated? Will he antagonize us in Imperiah or invade it under the Liberal flag?

Of course the coming meeting at Commencement time, will give the whole Executive Committee opportunity to act on anything relating to the African mission, or the North West mission. Will we have something definite and practicable to submit to the Committee for its action?

Your brother,
Milton Wright,

