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Sierra Leone Aug 18th 1818

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Dear Sir

I wrote Mr Blanchard about two months since when I was under the influence of fever, since which time I have had several different attacks but am so far restored as to be able to attend to my duties. The rains have already proved very sickly and fatal, the Church Mission has lost 4 persons connected with their Mission, and many are and have been sick. The persons who have died are Rev<sup>d</sup> W. Gammon first Chaplain, Rev Mr Wenzel, Mrs Ker & Mrs Collier. I trust by the blessing of Providence and prudent means to be able to overcome the unhealthy nature of the climate, but all are mine, life or death as seemeth best to him, who doeth whatsoever it pleaseth him in heaven above, and on earth beneath.

I am very desirous of having a colleague or two, there is plenty of work for two, and I think the lasting good of the Mission requires that there should be at least that number employed. They would be society for each other, guardians Angels one another, & constitute a body of evidence which is very necessary both for the comfort of an honest missionary and the Committee; for when one is alone (as has been even my case in Africa) he <sup>may</sup> give honest statements, and be doing the work of the Lord faithfully; but his circumstances, may leave him open to temptations, which may prove ruinous to his own soul, and the souls over which he is appointed to watch.

I do trust I have an honest conscience willing to spend my days, and exercise my members in righteousness. I am assured that the Judge is at the door and my final account will be soon settled. I ever have felt a backwardness to speak of myself and my work, but situated as I am, I shall not do justice if I entirely omit these things. I have pleasure in preaching among the heathen the undoubted blessings of Christ, those truths which I believe are not wholly unfeeling, but have a cheering influence upon my own heart; and I trust my preaching is not wholly without the wisdom of words; but has some demonstration