

Letter to Arthur Tidman, 25 May 1865

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[0001]

Burnbank Road

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25 May 1865

My dear D^r Tidman

I have been rather
surprised at finding
that several good
people have been
made uneasy by
the aspersions of
that beastly fellow
Burton against
the missionaries
on the West Coast
My answer to them
has been that so
much care is exercised
[0002]

in the selection that
no uneasiness need
be felt, and I know
them to be generally
devoted and upright
men, but it is
probable that more
are in doubt than
have come to my
knowledge. One
cannot defile
himself by touching
such as Burton
who seems to be a
moral idiot. His
conduct in Africa
was so bad that
it cannot be spoken of
[0003]
without disgust - system-
atically wicked - and

impure, and untruthful.
Would it not be
better to invite Mr
Moffat home for
a year just to shew
people what a
missionary is - I
would not like
him to be worked
to death, but his
presence would do
more good here
than he doing out
at Kuruman now
He could get his
revised New Testa
ment printed here
[0004]
and actually save
time. I venture
to throw this out to
you as a hint of
which you may
be disposed or not
to take advantage -
and which you need
not trouble yourself
to answer

I am &c

David Livingstone