

## Letter to Arthur Tidman, 25 May 1865

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[0001]

Burnbank Road

Hamilton

25 May 1865

My dear D<sup>r</sup> 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 - systematically wicked - and impure, and untruthful.

Would it not be  
better to invite M<sup>r</sup>  
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