

Letter to Arthur Tidman, 25 May 1865

Livingstone, David, 1813-1873

Published by Livingstone Online (livingstoneonline.org)
[0001]

Burnbank Road

Hamilton

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 - systematically wicked - and

impure, and untruthful.
Would it not be
better to invite M^r 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