

# The Christian and Missionary Alliance

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U. S. A. HEADQUARTERS: 690 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK,

INDO-CHINA STATIONS: HANOI, TOURANE, SAIGON.

HEADQUARTERS: TEMPORARILY AT WUCHOW, SO. CHINA.

*Dear Bro. Jeffrey:  
I am  
apr  
I love an  
of this letter  
too send it  
on to you.  
P.A.S.*

December 29, 1920.

To the Members of the Executive Committee  
of the Indo-China Mission.

Dear Brethren:

On my return from the Committee Meeting in Tourane, I took occasion to talk over the matter of the translation of the Scriptures with Mr. Anderson of the Bible Society. Later, on reaching Wuchow, I wrote him on the subject, and I would like to quote to you a part of his letter as it may help us in praying and thinking on this important and difficult problem.

Before quoting Mr. Anderson's letter, however, may I say one word.- Let us earnestly and humbly seek the Lord that we may, so far as it is possible, be of one mind and one spirit on this subject which is so sacred and serious to us all. We are all desirous of doing the very best thing for His Church in Indo-China, and we all desire that as speedily as possible the Scriptures be given to our Christians and to the whole population. Possibly Mr. Anderson's letter may contain a solution. It is as follows:

"I think it would be better now to wait till the French missionaries come and secure their help. Monsieur Monet already knows Annamese, and Mons. Soulier has also studied it for two years.

"Mons. Thât, an Annamese, has just completed his theological studies in Paris, and is able to preach in the French language. Mons. Louis Duong also, who speaks French perfectly, as well as Annamese, has already done some translation work, and would be of great assistance. Beyond all this, I am informed that Commandant Jules Roux, Professor of Annamese at the University of Tours, has already translated half the New Testament with the help of his Annamese assistants. My suggestion, therefore, is that a Translation Committee be formed, composed of the French missionaries and their Annamese helpers, and those of your Mission who are sufficiently advanced in the language. Through the French brethren we can probably obtain the use of Mons. Roux' manuscripts. The Committee could then revise them and see them through the press.

"I feel that if the French undertake the greater part

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of this task, they will also assume the responsibility for the circulation of the Scriptures in the country. They will be able to do this better than the foreigners."

This question, of course, will be before us at our coming Conference. In the meantime, I shall be glad to hear from any of you on the subject and, as I have said above, I trust that we will all earnestly pray for the guidance of the Spirit.

Believe me to remain,  
Yours in His service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. A. Jefferys".

RAJ/H.