

TOURANE, (WUCHOW.)

Nov. 29th. ~~1917~~ 1920

Rev. D. I. Jeffrey,  
Hanoi

Dear Brother Jeffrey,-

If I had not been coming so soon to Indo-China I would have written you long ago in reply to your letters, but I had hopes of possibly seeing you on our way down when we called at Haiphong. Instead of this we took away your pal from you and left you alone for a few weeks! I felt that you would not mind that part of it, and you have had the compensation of having the new-comers with you for a week. I am sorry that providential circumstances did not arrange it for you too to come to Tourane. At least we have thought of you! Is that any comfort?

I find I have three letters from you unanswered,- namely those dated Sept. 24th, Oct. 4th and 5th. The last two about the Bible School.

I trust that Jack will have no difficulty in getting delivery of Mr. Cadman's two pieces of baggage. They were sent by him to H.K. in care of Banker. I was in H.K. at the time and as Mr. Banker did not have a place to store them and seemed unwilling to take any responsibility about them and treated the whole affair as though he was doing us a kind of a favor, I felt it was best to take them off his hands. They have been stored at St. George's House free of charge all these months and so I have saved Mr. Cadman a big storage bill in H.K. He did not ask me to attend to them for him, and lest he may think that I have been "butting in" in the matter, I am explaining to you a little about them.

On my return to Wuchow I will have a copy of your Personal Account sent to you and will write you about anything that is not clear with regard to it then. There is no hurry in settling the account. Take your time in the matter.

With regard to Miss Goforth's passage to Tourane. The Mission will of course pay all the travelling expenses as they were. There is no need of deducting the amount and making it the same as the boat fare for there was no boat to take and the hotel fare while they waited for a boat would have been much more than the difference. I am getting the detail of the expenses from the ladies and adding it to your figures given in your letter to the end of the auto trip and will credit you with the difference between that and the \$75.00 paid to you for that purpose. I will let you know the amount later.

When in H.K. I looked about an organ. The Anderson Music Co. advised me to get a Japanese organ, saying that it was the best to be had for this climate. I do not know really much about the matter. In the meantime, please destroy my cheque and let me know what you think is best to do in the matter. If you want me to get an organ for

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*P.S. I am asking Bro Goupe to write the you about it. He has one.*  
*You should consider this organ your own for (2) not a Hanoi shr. organ.*

you in H.K. I will be glad to do so and pay for it at this end and have it sent on to you. If you get an organ from home it takes a long time. I can get a nice organ from Chicago for about \$25.00 Gold. But then there is the freight to be considered. The best organ at home however, is the Billhorn, <sup>H.K.</sup> although it is a good deal more expensive than the one mentioned above. The \$25.00 one is the Liberty Organ made by White in Chicago and I get a big reduction on it through The Moody Church people. Miss Peebles has one of this kind. *Billhorn "k" is \$70.*

Another matter regarding Miss Goforth's travelling expenses that I forgot to mention is that your railway fare from Hanoi to Vinh and return ought to be charged to the Mission also. I have spoken to Brother Jackson about it and this item should be charged on the Hanoi Station account. He will pay you this amount.

When in H.K. I tried to look into the matter of Miss Goforth's missing piece of baggage. It is not at the St. George's House for I looked through the baggage room for it myself. The C.P.R. people have the matter in hand and are to let me know what they find out about it from Shanghai and Vancouver. I will/hope to have something definite from them on my return and if so will write you. I will have it sent on to Tourane of course as soon as it is found.

Brother Jackson will tell you what was discussed about the commencing of the Bible School. The general feeling was that it might be at a serious compromise to start too soon on account of lack in the language. If we can keep up the present Bible class and improve and enlarge it in the meantime and see how many young men we can get to give themselves to training for the the Lord's work, it will meet the present need and bridge over till we are ready to commence the Bible School proper. My own thought in the matter was that if we can wait till the time of your marriage and then you start the School, the experience that you will have gained on a station in the meantime will all stand you in good stead and your language will then be much better and you in a better position to command the full respect of the students under your care. There is a distinct danger I fear in starting too early, as the lack in the language might be hard for you to overcome if you commence really before you were able to manage the work. It is one thing as you know, to be able to preach a bit in a new language and quite another to be able to make oneself clear in a class in the exposition of a passage of Scripture. Your letters were read in the Committee and fully discussed.

*at Tourane.*

The place we all felt should be here. There was no thought but that you were the right one for the work, provided you feel that the Lord gives you liberty to undertake the work. Personally, I did not feel in South China that I had any special call or gift for that kind of work. I felt the need deeply and saw the responsibility of the work and that someone had to undertake it. It was in this way that I took it up, - feeling that I personally would prefer to do straight evangelistic and Church work. From what I hear from you and from others as to your feelings they are about the same.

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The whole question together with a number of other very important matters were left over to Conference for decision. You will see a copy of the minutes when they are sent to each station and in the meantime Jack will tell you all that was said on the subject.

One very encouraging feature of the whole matter is that we have here in Tourane a fine class of about 40 or 50 young men from whom the Lord can choose His coming workers for this land. Let us pray that His Spirit will call out such as He will for the Gospel ministry and that Hanoi and Saigon in turn may contribute others later.

Another matter that came up in the discussion was that we did not consider it necessary for you to change your dialect from Tonkinese to Touranese on account of your work in the Bible School. I would advise you to go right on in the Tonkin dialect and do all your lecturing in that dialect. You will eventually have men from all over the land with various dialects and they will all have to learn to take their work in one another's dialects. The difficulty we face in South China on the same line is very much more formidable. Mr. Poole does all his work in Mandarin and the Cantonese students have to learn the Mandarin. I do all my work in Cantonese and the Mandarin fellows have to learn to take my work in Cantonese. It will have to be at least a bi-lingual School.

In my judgment The South China Morning Post is the best paper in H.K. There is really no good illustrated paper in H.K. Some of the daily papers publish a weekly edition and these are illustrated somewhat, but not very much.

I note your P.S. at the end of your letter to Mrs. Jaffray and showed it to her. On my return I will see that it is properly credited to your account. She will remember about it and know the rate of exchange at that time on the \$17.00

The trip has been a good one and I am glad for the Executive Committee meeting which I feel sure was worth while. It has been a good prelude for Conference. I am returning direct to H.K. and hope to reach there in two or three days and possibly catch Margaret on her arrival from Chefoo and take her up the West River. It is nearly a year since I have seen the kid.

I know that you remember us all in prayer. Please continue to do so as I feel a great need of the prayers of the Lord's people.

Yours ever in His blessed service,

R. A. Jaffray

Miss Croforth looks well & is really happy in her work I believe. We have had some very good times singing & praying together here these days. Good mts. also with Annamed.