

Haiphong, Tonkin,  
December 17, 1922.

Dear Brother Ivory:

Your two good letters of the 5th and 9th came duly to hand. I was delighted with each of them, and I thank you most heartily.

It is impossible as yet to give you definite word about students from Haiphong. Last evening I had a fine talk with Thay Ap and Thay Tau, here in the house. Both of them want to come to School, but ~~are~~ are not quite sure. Thay Ap is waiting for permission from his father. He feels sure his father will grant it. Thay Tau has permission from his mother, his father is dead, but he has to get his Titre d'Identité. If he can get it here, all will be easy, but if he has to go to the country it will take considerable time and money. However, we are praying, and it is probable that both of them will come when there is a boat, as near as possible to the first week in January.

Thay Ap knows more about the Bible than Thay Tau, but both of them know so little that I will say they know nothing. Then if in the future folks say that I sent men who knew nothing, you will know that I shall not be offended. I would not have sent them without permission from you, but I believe they are good material. To my judgment they have a teachable disposition and a humble spirit; I cannot prophesy that they will make great preachers, but I believe they will make good.

From my tithing A/c I shall pay the boat fare for Thay Ap. Thay Tau will get his Titre d'Identité, and pay for that himself. If he can get it here at small cost, he has promised to pay half or more of his fare to Tourane. In any case, I will do my best to deliver the men to you at Tourane free of cost to your Student Fund, but I can not promise anything for their support. You may be sure, however, that I shall help you as I may be able. If our teacher decides to study, I will pay his fare to Tourane and I will send you personally the money to support him from January to May. I can not at this time promise to support him next school year, that is from September 1923 till May 1924. Mr. Ngoi has been teaching us since the end of April, vacation excepted, and I believe he has a good foundation of Bible knowledge upon which to build should he feel led to come to School.

I'm so glad you received the money O. K. The very day you got it, I received your first letter and the report. How happy I was that I had sent it for the Student Account. Mr. Glass gave me full liberty to use it as I saw fit, but we did not need it in Haiphong at the moment, and I felt it would be a sin to let it lie unused.

Thanks for all the news re your trip to Faifoo, the biscuits, Mr. Vu etc. It is all very interesting. I'm glad that Mr. Vu can stay to study. When he was here, he was so <sup>quiet</sup> quite that I did not know what to make of him.

Do you have any idea when the Committee will meet? I shall be delighted to have a chat. You know I like to talk, and I have not forgotten how. This P. M. Mr. Thanh and I visited that native doctor at 100 Bd. Chavassieux. Phuc once took you and me there. We were there from before three till 5:30. Really, Ivory, I didn't do all the talking.

Just had a note today from Mr. Jaffray saying that Dr. and Mrs. Turnbull were due in Hongkong the 16th, and they are expected to leave for Indo-China soon after Christmas. More information later.

My chief reason for writing today is to wish you a happy birthday. I believe the 21st., next Thursday, is your anniversary. I truly wish that it may be your happiest to date. May the Lord bless you personally, and in the work to which He has called you.  
with much love and many prayers/Rich.