

8 Oct 02

Battambang

Cambodge

4th Oct. 1924.

Dear Brother Jeffrey,

It has been my intention to write ever since our return to Battambang but have been kept busy as you may well understand after being away. Before you receive this letter no doubt Mrs Jeffrey will be back in Tourane much to your mutual joy. I do trust she may have had a real enjoyable and profitable visit round to the various stations. We were indeed sorry that she did not feel free to come on up to Battambang with us, but did not want to press her to do more than she felt she should. True the extra days ride up here is hard on one, especially when one has to turn round right away so to speak and go back. We made a good trip up here however, arriving about 5 P.M. and only having to pay \$3 each. The natives were going for \$2:50. When one thinks that the distance is 291 kilometres that price is ridiculously low, is it not?

We found everything going along quietly here. Our Cambodian neighbors while not showing very much interest in the Gospel seemed to be glad to see us back again. We feel that only continuous waiting upon God will cause a "break" to come here. We are seeking to pray down the blessing which shall result in the real conversion of many. You will help us I am sure. Both Khanh and Sott are going along steadily. The former shows real initiative, which I am sure you will be glad to hear. True the number of those who are taking a stand for Christ is small at the present but we are confident that the seed sown is going to bring forth fruit soon. We are planning to go down to Bac Prea soon. This is a place near the Great Lake where the majority of the population is Annamese. We have had many interested enquirers from there and feel that God is leading us to establish regular meetings possibly down there for the Annamese.

While at Pnom Penh we were successful in finding a new language teacher. He seems a nice fellow and I believe his heart is open. Pray for him that he may soon make a stand for Christ. Muriel is studying with him exclusively for the present, with the exception of half an hour each day, which is given to Thay Khanh who seems to want to learn Cambodian. This past week I have been preparing an outline of the subjects to be taught in the Cambodian Bible School, and have made a start in the preparation. The great difficulty is that we have no part of the Bible in the language which necessitates the translation of all passages and verses to be used. Hope to start teaching in perhaps a couple of weeks even if Ock Sott is the only one to study at the beginning. In that case we will only study part of the day, the other part being devoted to preparation and to active evangelization.

Have not yet a contract with the owner of the house tho' have had a talk with him. He will rent for a period of ten years but wants \$30, True that is the amount we have paid up to now, but the old man told us - \$25 before and now has put up his price, so I refused to make the contract. I feel we are safe in leaving the matter a little while and perhaps he will come round and be willing to sell in the long run. We have already

heard some of our neighbors talk that way, for of course every one knows every bodies business. Just as I have been writing this I have been interrupted however by a Chinese who had been sent by the proprietaire of the house to look over the necessary repairs. That looks as if he was going to do his part in repairing the house tho we have not yet signed a contract. Evidently he expects us to, sooner or later.

I am enclosing you a letter which I think will be interesting to you also the two English pounds sterling of which the writer speaks. He wrote to me some time ago asking about the work and suggesting that the Sunday School of which he is the Superintendant should send a gift to the work. I suggested that it be made to the Bible School. It will interest you to know that this Sunday School is called "The Ragged School Mission" that gives you an idea of its nature. I had some of my first experiences in the Service of the Lord there.

Excuse more now. Muriel joins me in sending greetings and love in the Lord to all at Tourane. Trusting that Mr Smith is completely re-established in health and that you are all well as we are,

Yours in His blessed service,

David