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## Entry Nr. 458 Ikubaje

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Aaron Spencer Fogleman and Robert Hanserd (eds.), *Five Hundred African Voices: A Catalog of Published Accounts by Africans Enslaved in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, 1586-1936* (Philadelphia: American Philosophical Society, 2022).

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*Comments:*

Readers are encouraged to consult the above published article by Femi Kolapo in order to benefit from his footnote and other commentaries throughout. See also *The Journals of Church Missionary Society Agent, James Thomas, in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Nigeria*, edited by Femi J. Kolapo. Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2013.

*Text of Account:*

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**Journals of James Thomas from June 25th [1858] to September 26<sup>th</sup> 1859**

June 25th Friday We left Fernando Po for the Niger Mission after 9 o clock in the night we steamed for the open sea.

June 28th Monday we reached Brass river. June 29th Tuesday on the evening we left Brass river and return on the sea hearing the river too narrow.

June 30th Wednes. we reached the Bar mouth in a short-entered the river.

July 1st Thursday. Many native canoe came on Board ship. They brought some things the same day we had much rain.

July 2nd Friday we still remain in the same place cleaning the ship for the river.

July 3rd Saturday After 9 o'clock we left for the River Niger after 10. in the morning the vessel grounded in the place called Sunday Is land on the same night all the Kru men in number took two 6' life boats and went away early in the morning we found only ourselves remain.

July 4th Sunday the duty of the ship fell upon us so we laboured hard to get her out by the mercy of God after breakfast she get off- Rev. J. Cole. J Thomas Mr. Geo E. Koach, Mr. J. J. Jackson all of us helped to the ship after 11.o'clock we left the place on the same evening the prayer meeting was held on board the ship by singing hymns after all Revd. J. Thomas concluded with prayer Captain Thomas Fairweather humbled himself in the meeting and the chief engineer-also.

July 5th Monday after breakfast we steamed fast. They found good channel from three to seven fathoms.

July 6th Tuesday we steamed little way off meet with shallow water she Grounded 4 times during the day and the last time she grounded in the evening we saw two native canoe very small come to us fast which contained two person in each canoe they made sign to us by their hands which meant pass yonder pass yonder, a little while we found two fathoms little way off. we founded one fathom and half so the vessel is Grounded.

July 7th Wednesday two of the native speaking\* on board-the ship one of them told me that he was a native of Igara he has lost his language,

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July 8th Thursday we still in the same place we would not go on account shallow water at five o'clock in the evening we left the place

July 9th Friday after 11 o'clock we steamed again soon came to a village which we learnt had ready to fight with us Capt. Thomas Fairweather called each of us to take gun I went and took one I did not know that the gun was already loaded it remain but little to kill two men snapped the trigger\* at once I did not know how to thank God for my deliverance-that village is call Kairima,

July 10th Saturday the same village I meet one of my countman he had been slave to the chief of Ode. the man sent him to pilot us in the way because they had already bargained to war with us he accompany to another village the place they were preparing for the fight and two men hid themselves in the other side of the river we passed by three guns were fired at once and the shot fell in the water, a little while two men fired two guns more and the man the king sent with us as pilot he spake loud that they must not fire again he told them that he was the Kings messenger\* telling them that his master and the white man had already made peace.

July 11th Sunday early in the morning four canoes came on Board ship with some articles for sale at last 10 canoes came more Bananas yams palm wine & fowls after 6 o'clock in the morning we left the place about two miles the ship grounded one fathom and we already

prepared for the service after all Mr. Cole was obliged to reading the Lessons only and concluded. Capt W. Parker-looking for channel and all of us tried to get her off again,

July 12th Monday we still tried to get her off we could not.

July 13th Tuesday the ship remained aground the native people brought some things to sell such as yams, plantain, corn fishes and we paid empty Bottles and tobacco.

July 14th Wedness after 6 o clock in the morning the ship get off.

July 16th Friday after 6 o clock in the morning we steamed before 9 a.m. we reached a small village the people altogether were ready with their guns one of them wanted to fire but another man prevented him. We saw many children looking at us. We soon met another village the vessel grounded again. The village the ship Grounded again belonged to Aboh.

July 17th Saturday early in the morning the chief of that village a man of influence he brought one large canoe paddled by about 40 men all of them helppe\* to pull the ship. 4 or 5 of them were my

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country men they being slaves many years back on account Dasaba war after 5 o clock in the evening she get off we were very glad for it.

July 18th Sunday at 10 o clock we steamed for Aboh being the Lords day we assembled together Mr. Joseph G. Jackson Read the lessons as the vessel is now ready to steam we were obliged to dissmise\* before 11.o clock after 5 in the evening we anchored off Aboh point.

July 19th Monday 10 o clock Revd. Masseur J. Cole, J. Thomas, Mr. Geo E Koach J. F. Jackson Captain J. Fairweather went to visit a little while Age canoe came paddled by about 30 or 40 men there were women also in the canoe he brought some yams goat & sheep with him for present I met about eight Bunu people here So I commenced to speak to them about our coming to this river then they told me that it is true they\* that Rev. Mr. Crowther already get piece of ground to build house. again they told me that they are now ready to help to build for the Church Missionary Society for a place of worship-so I told them that after my returning I hope they must attend the church well So I began to acquaint myself with them as one of the native teacher.

July 20th Tuesday before 8 o clock in the morning Age came again for breakfast. Captain Fairweather accompanied him to fine a piece of ground for to build factory a little while Ages brother named Tshukuma came on board.

July 21th\* Wedness. we still remained in Aboh point on account Captain Fairweather stopped to building factory.

July 22nd Thursday I gladly received two letters dated the 10th May one from my wife and children and another from my friend Mr. Saml. Thos. King that my family are well and our church at Wellington is improving also. both letters give me joy and gladness.

July 23th Friday one of Ages son named Ogunbhari he told me that he was very gladly to learn white man's book the child was about Eight years of age on the same day evening he came on the board ship. he presented me one cocoa nut I give him some needles besides a leaf tobacco after all I told him that after my returning back if he attend school well I will give him good things. about 5 in the evening all of us gone on shore in Aboh on account Capt. J. Fairweather stopped in Aboh to build factory he had make bargain with one Aboh man to bring us to Onitsha with canoe. after all the man disappointed the reason he was afraid that if he bring to Onitsha. the people of the

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same Aboh in the road will take him property on account of this Capt. Fairweather was oblige to make arrangement\* with Age to take us in his house.

July 24th Saturday. Our landlord Age divided us in three parts Rev Jacob Cole Josiah Thomas and Cole his father stopped in one place, myself John Smart Edward Cline and Jacob Newland stopped in one place. Mr. Geo E. Koachs party stopped another place 10 o'clock in that morning we had many guns fired some of us went out to know the reason they told us that some of them come from their gods named Tshuku, the people of Aboh are very fond of English dress such as shirt trousers or waist coat if any of us had our dress they want it as soon they saw they wish to have it from us. also must remark the character of their children many of them came to me in our lodging place the greater part was Ages sons they came to me to receive instruction though I am not that language; yet still I teach them with English alphabet they were ready to follow me with the sound of alphabet: also I consider the people of Aboh to be a great worshipper of idol. Their worship was wood and stone the work of mens hand.

July 25th Sunday early in the morning Age our landlord came to see us ask Mr. John Smart that if all of us will stay in Aboh at once at the Church Missionary Society Station. Mr. Smart told him that as soon, as the vessel go up the river we have to separat\* have party have to remain at Onitsha after all some have party shall return to Aboh Age was very glad he said He will help us to built the house, after he went the chief of his wife she offer sacrifice to her gods - the idol priest - the man came and brought many charms a fowl was giving for offering sacrifice she herself give the priest some cowries so the man went way in the same morning also was the Lords day being first Sabbath we spent in Aboh at 10 o'clock in the morning we prepare for service after the Revd. J. Cole had Read all the Lessons then Mr. Isaac B. Leferve preached in the 2nd chapter the Book of Genesis from 2.3v. all 18 Age wives were present & some daughters nearly 200 persons all of them paying good attention after the conclusion Age welcome of us the time we commence the meeting one of Ages servant brought a bottle of rum and a glass in it one idol. he make it like a man she painted with come wood had feet, head hands before we commence the meeting the idole\* was brought before us. the evening after the lessons being read. Mr. John Smart preached, 42 chapter Isaiah. 5.8 v. after he had addressed the meeting with

the name of Tshuku. Age did not understand the Tshuku lie spoke of. he meant Tshuku. their gods of which they always worship- before Mr. Smart.

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told him that he preached to you about the living God who sent his Son to the world to save sinners.

July 26th. Monday to day I learnt that 38 canoes returned from the Battle Aboh and Osamare having war between themselves about four months ago but many of the people employed in this battle were Aboh slaves most of them were Bunu. Nupe. Bassa and the Igaras people also, they always came to me in our lodging place.

July 27th Tuesday some of my country people still come to me in our lodging place an I am tried to Explain to them the meaning of our expedition to gain the souls of men-among our benighted countrymen that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners I told them that all of us are free men and free women-in Sierra Leone they were very glad for that good news.

July 28th Wednes early this morning Age paid visit to us, a little while news came to us that the Rainbow coming in the way after all was tic lie.

July 29th Thursday today Age considered the state in which we were living in Aboh no fish to e found during all this time. He gave us one small sheep his servant kill the sheep and divided it in 4 parts one part for Mr. Koach one part for Mr. Cole and Thomas one part for us. the last to Mr. Leferve, and 5 yams to each party to ward evening I learnt more fully from one of my country man who had returned from the battle he told me that more than 80 canoes lately came from war with Osamare. The man to my lodging- Eseyi a native when he saw me he was very glad he said he very sorry he did not get anything to give, me but still he presented me, with one mat. I gave him one looking glass one shirt a leaf of tobacco again I told him the meaning of our Expedition that the society sent me as Christian visitor to go and visit our own land so he told me that it is better I should stop first at the Confluence because he think our own land spoil by this time on account Masabas war after all I showed him the house, I being slave in Aboh 25 years ago. he told me that the man died. He was the son of the late King Obi.

July 30th Friday today another news came to us again that the Rainbow was attacked after all we found that was only lie.

July 31th\* Saturday today Ages wife worshipped her gods that after we have finished our morning prayer, that was the manner among Aboh people each house you go you will fine [find] country fashion

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in the same way they make it with mud and stick dressed with cowries.

August 1st Sunday yesterday notice was given to one of the chiefs named Ogugbari that we shall have meeting in his house he was very glad on the same evening an accident took place he was called in the night from another village when the appointed time came. we went to his house for the meeting then his wife told us everything that whatsoever we like to keep the meeting we must keep it. What we wanted to do, in the meeting when the husband come home back she will tell him, but if for paying money she said she will pay before her husband came home, So we commenced the meeting after the Rev. J. Thomas read the lessons Mr. Smart addressed the meeting from the 3 chapter Matt. 22. after the conclusion, we made our way to the residence of Orisa his house himself and all his wives children & 8 kinsmen and friends so the meeting was crowded about 200 and all of them welcome us why we did not have service in one place is this since King Obi died there is no king in Aboh, so all the chiefs desire us to have service in each ones house we were obliged to do so.

Augs. 2nd Monday today I pay visit to my country people in this place I met the son of the man who sold me to Bonny the man himself already have been dead the young man did not know me until I showed myself to him, the fellow surprised to see me again in Aboh, so I told him that many people who were sold from Aboh are still living in Sierra Leone and are now enjoying the privilege of the Gospel. So he told me to come over to his house on the following day, I told him of the goodness of the English to us, in Sierra Leone and when the slaves trader heard it they were greatly ashamed when they heard that all of us were in Sierra Leone.

Augs. 3rd Tuesday today I paid visit in the town I met with one chief he asked me for my coat which I wore he said that he wish to buy it I told him that I will not sell all my clothes at once because I brought it for myself to use. however I told him that I will speak to captain Fairweather about it, if he had any to sell I will let him know so he asked me what kind of things to pay with I told him that I think it must be palm oil. He told me again that only one thing they desired from white man that white man must help them to war with Osamare, if not they will not get palm oil to buy. I said to him that white men did not come for Aboh only they come to do good for Osamare as well as Aboh

Augs. 4th Wednes I paid visit again in the town to my country

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people in this place. When I entered to the mans house I met him and one Igara man the priest of Ifa. had also the gods made of broken calabashes little while he asked me if I no\* anything about Ifa I told him that the former time my father was Ifa worshipper and myself also. but since I reached white man country I became acquainted with the word of God I put all that away I told him the time will come when himself shall read the word of God and the country fashion shall be put out he Burst into a laughter-after I went out in the open street all the neighbours had surrounded me they asked how many wives I had I said one, they think that because I was poor man that is reason, I had one wife. They said if the King of the country will have only one wife, I told them yes. because that was the law of God and not the law of man all of them wondered at it

Augs. 5th Thursday today myself and Mr. Smart after two o clock we went onboard the ship after we had remained 15 days without provisions, we met Capt. Fairweather in the factory. he

asked us what did we on shore we told him that we feel very hungry he told us why we would not sell our things to eat we told him that we have nothing to sell. He asked us again that if the Society did not give us any things to live upon we told him no he said what way we will live by, then Mr. Smart told him by you sir. He said that he had no business with the Church Missionary Society, he had no instruction to take us to the river. only through sorrow he brought us in the river, on account of this to get thing to eat we were obliged to take our clothes we brought to use and sell them to eat-because Captain Fairweather told us that if we depend on him we depend upon rotten stick.

Aug. 6th Friday early in the morning Mr. Cole, Mr. Thomas & Mr. Cline they went on board ship to speak with Capt. Fairweather that as long you said that you will not give us provision any more we wanted to try to hire the native peoples canoe to carry us to Onitsha and the people charged us ten pieces of clothes to pay each of us and as we had not nothing in our hands. But Mr. Fairweather he told them that he shall not give us any provision until he see the Revd. Sam. Crowther.

Augs. 7th Saturday early in the morning our land lady she sacrifice to her gods a fowl chicken a day or two old only she killed the fowl and sprinkled the blood on her head on the evening myself Mr. Cline we pay visit to our country people living here then we told them again the intention for our coming to this river.

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Augs. 8th Sunday the Lords day after ten o clock we had service at Tshukumas house as soon we entered into the mans house. He brought the Bible which was give\* to the late King Obi from the first Expedition by Captain Trotter and after the dead of King Obi-Tshukuma took the property 1 Bible, 1 Chair he put it up in the smok.\* Since that time the Bible wrapped in cloth, before we entered to the mans house, we passed one small market-no more than 40 or 50 in the same market-then we met him sit down in the mat with his wife he spread mat on the wall four or five guns put up the whole house contain country fashion but still the man called all his household to attend the meeting before 12 we concluded just we reached home. Age call all of us again to keep service we were obliged to do so after two o clock a young man named Opillo the man call us again to keep service in his house we went. The service was well attended after the conclusion He presented us with five yams and one fowl. after we returned back in two places myself Mr. Cline spoke to the people in the corner street-because when we passed by we meet many our country people in this place as soon as we meet them - they will surrounded us so we began to speak to them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, A leopard was killed today they brought it to Tshukumas house about 200 men besides, women having their cutlasses in their hands and the women clapped their hands together dancing on the same Sunday evening.

Augs. 9th Monday today myself Mr. Cline returned from visiting we met a man and the man was one of the chiefs in this place. he call me by his hands I went to him he offer me sit in the mat he had also one of my country man in the house he calls the man and the man told us that his master wanted me and my partner to come always and preach to him I asked him why he said because he thought any house we enter Blessing shall be upon that house.

Augs. 10th Tuesday to day Revd. J. Cole. J. Thomas and other friends paid a visit to Tshukuma he presented them one small goat and ten yams.

Aug. 11th Wednes. today three young women two of them were of the Nupe tribe and one was of the Bassa tribe came to us after two o' clock, we took our Bible in our hands and taught them many things out of the Bible after all one of them called Mr. Cline and said to him that both of them wanted us to redeem them from their bondage so Mr. Cline comforted them to have patience with God for as we came here we have nothing to redeem any person but only she must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ the time will come-when all men shall be free in Christ after she ready to go out there was a great rain since we reached Aboh many weeks back. there is no rain at all and the people of this place were afraid of us they think we have power to stop rain.

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Augs. 12th Thursday I paid visit about in the town. I considered the population of Aboh to be more than 10.000. and most of them were traders on account of this they had no provisions sufficient even 2/6 will not be sufficient for a man in a day in Aboh three or four yams. they will ask a piece of cloth for in Exchange a coat worth £1 10/- by wanted to give ten yams for exchange.

Augs. 13th Friday this night a thief man came to our lodging place, the man was slave to our land lady at the same time he came we all asleep our land lady was not at home she told us to take care of the house she told us that 18 Bags of salt were in the house after ward learnt that the same salt the man came for.

Augs. 14th Saturday this night after 12 o'clock my bowels were loosed sleep went away from my eyes before the morning I almost fainted and also the Rev. J. Cole. J. Thomas Mr. Cole's father and Jacob Newland all were suffering from fever this week in Aboh.

Augs. 15th Sunday we have service in two places the first place we keep the meeting under a large tree in the street I am glad to say that a great congregation [sur]rounded us after we concluded we returned to another chiefs house and keep the meeting in the same yard-

Augs. 16 Monday early in the morning our landlady returned from market after two o'clock she sacrificed to her country fashion very young chicken she killed the chicken and sprinkled the Blood on her hand though all this time we were Reading our bible to her and trying to tell her that she must leave country fashion and serve the true and living God.

Augs. 17th Tuesday today Captain Fairweather call all the chiefs in this Town to inform them that he was about to remove at two o'clock all the chiefs came together with 6 canoes were dressed beautifully with flags and many guns fired in the Factory on the same evening trade was opened.

Augs. 19th Thursday early in the morning we left Aboh steamed little way off the vessel Grounded twice and the third time she grounded fast on the evening so we remained in the same place all night.

Aug. 20th Friday we laboured heard\* about four o'clock she get off we remained on that point all night.

Augs. 21th Saturday we found good channel then we steam fast about 12 a.m. we reached Osamare. Captain Fairweather, Dr of the Sunbeam and others went on shore a little while they returned on board the ship the King and his people draw near on the shore with him chair he did not come on board the ship on account this custom that if he went on board the ship human being to be sacrifice besides many cow that is the reason he did not come on the board the ship during this day we found good channel.

Augs. 22nd Sunday after 12 o'clock we reached Onitsha and met

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the Rev. J.C. Taylor and Mr. Simon Jonas both of them were in good health a little while all of us went on shore the Mission House. So we remain until evening we returned back on board the ship

Augs. 23rd. Monday today we went onshore after we had returned back we met with some canoes which brought big country pot. Gree gree were put around it

Augs. 24th Tuesday we made arrangement that the Revd. J. Cole J. Thomas Mr. F. Smart and old Cole should remain at Onitsha and myself Mr. Cline Mr. Newland to proceed to the Confluence and seek for the Rev. Mr. Crowther by him we will get better information

Aug. 25th Wednes. we still remained at Onitsha on account of Capt. Fairweathers landing goods in the Factory-

Augs. 26th Thursday we went on shore to pay visit to the Rev. J. C. Taylor after we had returned myself Mr. Cline and Mr. Newland we took small canoe the bishop letter and Mr. Crowthers letters contain in it-when we reached the vessel I went on board left Mr. Newland & Mr. Cline in the small canoe Mr. Cline was to give rope for me to tie the canoe to the big boat but the strong current carry the canoe back during all this time they making efforts to secure the canoe but Mr. Cline fell in the water which carried him a little way before he was able to hold the canoe all the letters were nearly spoiled by water but thanks be to God the man was saved on that day.

Augs. 27th Friday Mr. Taylor considered how we sold our clothes at Aboh for want of provisions he spoke to Captain Fairweather to take care of us until we see Mr. Crowther

Augs. 28th Saturday after 8 o'clock we left Onitsha steamed fast after two o'clock she Grounded before three o'clock she get off she steam about two miles we anchored for the night.

Augs. 29th Sunday we steamed from 6 to 9 a.m. we anchored for breakfast little way we saw 15 native canoes surrounded us and each canoe contain 5 or 6 persons both men and women-

Augs. 30th Monday we steam fast until the evening. She grounded below Idda little while she get off again-

Augs. 31th Tuesday today we could not go well on account of shallow water She grounded three times we get her out again-so we anchored one mile below Idda-

September 1st Wednes. early in the morning, Captain Parker and others went to sounding the water they found 2 or 3 fathoms after all they returned back so we steamed before eight o'clock we reached Idda Capt. Fairweather the Doctor of the Sunbeam. Mr. Charles Watts, Mr. George Koach, Mr. William Herbert, they went on shore after they had returned brought the Kings word that he is willing and ready to receive missionary as well as merchant only he was very

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sorry Mr. Crowther disappointed him all ways about Building Church in Idda, he asked his father for Ground to Build and his father gave him, when he was yet alive since that time, the house never built until now even if Mr. Koach wanted piece of ground now to build he was willing to give it-

Sept 2nd Thursday after 6 o'clock we left Idda and steam fast she founded good channel at 6 o'clock we anchored before Bird rock for the night-

Sept 3rd Friday, after one o'clock we reached Gbebe, when we were but one mile way off Mr. James Macaulay Mr. Simon Priddy and five Kroomen pull canoe and met us in the way after four o'clock myself Mr. George Roach Edward Cline Jacob Newland and William Herbert met with some of his families among who was a blind old woman after all myself met with my uncle I asked him about our town he told me that may of my families still yet alive. So he tell me- to accompany him to my fathers house at once but I told him to have patience with me until I see Mr. Crowther and speak to him about it if he said I must follow you and pay visit to the Bunu land then I will go-if not I will not go by myself

September 8th Wednes today I paid a visit to the tribe of Eki after I walked round in the town I met a man named Amojuby the chief of Ifa worshipper and the people surrounded him, after he had concluded and the people were ready to go out I ordered them to walk in I told them to kneel down all together kneeled down-and myself kneeled\* upon the tape\* of Ifa then I offered prayer in my own language after I had concluded'--they asked me if this was the only way and the manner English people worshipped God I told them yes and again they asked me if no goat sheep or fowl to be killed for sacrifice I told them no. no more sacrifice Jesus Christ himself has been sacrifice upon the cross for sinners I told them the property of this world belong to God- so God wanted nothing from us. only our heart after which I returned to the factory-

September 12 Sunday the Lords day I commence to open the Sunday school besides week day school the parents themselves told me that they were glad to learn and therefore no place to keep the school they themselves was obliged to point me to the Blacksmiths shop on that day for Sunday school in the morning-on the evening I told my brother Mr. Cline to accompany me to

the place I keep the school we went to the school again they point us again to another mans yard named Okurigo after we keep the school a few days the man removed us again I was obliged to remove to another man's yard named Bajemito. this place the school was well attended for some time

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September 14 Saturday the second day after we arrive the evening myself Mr. Cline Mr. Simon Priddy we went to the Ama Abohkor and told that we wanted to keep meeting in his place on the following Sunday we were accompanied by a native of Yoruba man named Sadao then the King said to us welcome

Sept. 18th Saturday after I paid visit round in the town I told Mr. Cline Mr. Priddy to go and remind the king that tomorrow we will have the meeting in his place then he refused he said unless he see the Revd. Mr. Crowther returned from up the river and give him some things before he will know how to do about the meeting-

Sept 19th Sunday the Lords day we were obliged to go over to Bassa Town about two miles from Gbebe, myself Mr. Cline Mr. Priddy we hired a canoe to go over to Bassa but we had to wade through much mud before we reached the town. And many Bassa people were already gone to their farm so we follow Mr. Parker a Sierra Leone man and Mr. Parker called some of the native from their farm. So we keep the meeting among them after we had concluded the meeting Olumody the chief of Bassa he returned from farm we went to his house, and told him our intension coming here, He said yes we must go first until he mention it to his brother after which he will let us know about it so we returned to Gbebe on the same Sunday evening however we promised them to go back on the following Thursday to hear the answer from Olumody.

Sept 23rd Thursday myself Mr. Cline and Mr. Priddy we went to the Bassa town we go with two printed alphabet we hired the canoe as soon we reached the town and the children see us, they surrounded us. So we presented them with some cowries and began to teach them the alphabet. Olumody the Chief of the village Kpata had just return from farm and met us teaching the children. So he told us, that he

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liked us very much he said if we wanted to come always in the Bassa town we must come and if we wanted to read among ourselves we may but to teach their children they wanted not to see in their land a little while he asked us if we did not bring him any present at all so we told him that he must have patience with us until our minister Revd. Mr. Crowther return from Rabbah he his\* the man to speak to him better face to face if any present has will receive it-by him I do believe the reason he stopped us from teaching is for want of present such as looking glass cloth needle cowries & other articles such things I think will bring our labour up soon- Again they told us, the reason they were afraid of white men to keep friends with them they feared the English people very much on account of the first the Expedition of 1841 which spoiled their minds they said that the time the expedition had settlement over the river and the white man were in the place had hired at them to work and they tried to do the work and the school was keeping among them also

after all war came and the English people never told them a word that war was coming in the same night English people went way and the following day Masaba brought war upon them carried many of them captive and many were killed from that time they began to fear English people. However we tried to explain to them through\* they did not know the reason better, we told them that it was not war which drove white men from the model farm but it was on account of Mr. Carrs death so from this time they must not fear too much the English people come here to do them good and their children.

Sept. 26th Sunday today after we had concluded the meeting in our lodging place I went to school in the Eki Tribe, when I commenced so far the wife of the owner of the yard came and told me that unless I paid for the yard she will not allow me to keep school in her yard I was obliged to return back in our lodging and presented her with a piece of soap, five needles and 50 cowries on the following [day] I went to school again I found the people were attentive for sometime from that time their children followed me about in the street for instruction but still pity the Ifa worshipper did not allowed their children to learn by telling the parents that Eki people have no business to learn book. only they were brought up for Ifa worship and from that time they began to say that I deceived them by telling their children to learn white mans book more over my uncle told me that the Eki people who are living here were just come for trading they will not have time sufficient to learn book unless the society will take the trouble to send me to the King of Eki; as for the Eki people who live here they will have no time to learn. However every day I paid visit in the town around with my alphabet in my hand some time I met with five men, and some time more than five they always looked for present since I began to labour among them I have nothin

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in my hand more than a few needles and cowries also, after all the parents themselves understood my saying. So they did not prevent their children to come to me and the parents themselves they began to come to my way every day to hear the word of God; but I know that the time will come, when God shall open their eyes to know themselves but dust and ashes and the Ifa which they worshipped shall be taking\* from their eyes September 30th Thursday yesterday about 10 o'clock in the night there was much rain a little while I heard a noise on the Factory Sadoa our landlord Mr. Cline Mr. Priddy went to hear the matter after they had returned back then they told me that thieves had been in the Factory and robbed many things. 4 large ivory 4 pieces cotton cloth besides other articles they broke the roof and got into the store before they found it out they ran way. but two country cloth fall from their hands-after 12.o clock in the night I heard gun fired in the Factory and the theifes\* was wounded on the left leg the gun was loaded with pegion\* shot -the wounded went back in the same night, early in the morning Okoro brought the wounded theifes to the Factory, he said if the man died Mr. Watts and Mr. Macauley will answer the damage because his boy pass by in the night Mr. Macauley shot him so the matter was brought before the King and Mr. Watts & Mr. Macauley were called, the matter related that the same night Mr. Peter Williams Jones first saw the man and called for Mr. Maculey for Mr. James Maculey, Jone Maculey both went after the theifes a little way they held the man so he held fast the gun from Maculeys hand Mr. Maculey tried too get the gun back and the pain" snapped in his hand at once so the man was wounded on the leg, the people told the King that if the man die Mr. Watts & Mr. Maculey will answer for it from that time myself & Mr. Cline returned back to

keep watch in the Factory all the night we obliged to made three divisions among ourselves from 6 o'clock to 11. and from 11 to 2 and from 2 to 6 in the morning, after all the king was very sorry that he had matter with white man, to shew that he was very sorry-- on Sunday 3rd Oct he took one goat one arrow and three hundred cowries for sacrifice on the water that late his father might send peace between him and white man.

October. 9th Saturday before I left Sierra Leone Mrs. C. Kacy Davies at Kissy she gave me one framed looking glass today I sold it for 4000 cowries I walk round in the town and the cowries I presented to the poor & sick people they were surprised so see such thing they never saw before and one old blind man asked me what I meant

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by these cowries I gave him I told him that I felt for him that moved me to do that then the blind man thank God heartily

Oct 10th The Lords day, we of held the meeting in the residence Sadao our landlord place I am very glad to see few of the native present after I read the lessons I make my brother Mr. Cline make few remark in the 55 Chap. Isaiah from 1 to 3v. Ho every one that thirsteth & after all we concluded I took the alphabet in my hand and went too school in the Eki Town as long there is no place for the school by this time I was obliged to walk house by house to teach them during all this time, if they were keep on regularly since I reached here I do believe that many of them will able to finished the alphabet-they were very quick to learn

Oct 15th Friday, I paid visit in the Town with my printed alphabet in my hand then I had information from my own tribe Eki which is called Bunu they told me that last month Mamah Dasaba called all the war people in Eki and the King also, they altogether went to Bida. then Dasaba told them that those persons who wanted to trade must go and trade, who wanted to work farm must do it, and leave war because himself will soon leave Bida for Rabbah and rebuilt Rabbah again. after he rebuild Rabbah then himself and his people will follow farm work also- and the town of Eki must rest from war-

Oct. 16th Saturday the Sunbeam arrived from Rabbah and brought the Day Springs party-- Among whom was the Revd. Saml. Crowther and Dr Baikie before 9 o'clock in the morning, a little while I went on board the ship with gladness after we had been long here one month and 13 day waiting for Mr. Crowther little while he came on shore accompanied me to our lodging place at Sadoo. So he had removed us to Dagana's house on account Sadao house to small for us to stay

Oct 17th the Lords day after the Revd. Mr. Crowther had beg Mr. Gurding the Sailor, all of us went on board ship for the service he preached 86 Psalms. 12 to 13 v. he mentioned about the wreck of the Dayspring that the people of the place might harm them but still the very people became their helper through the mercies of God. So ourselves ought too praise God for His goodness and mercy toward us.

Oct. 21th\* Thursday after 9 o'clock the Revd. Saml. Crowther and

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Dr. Baikie had settled some business with the King myself Mr. Cline accompanied Mr. Crowther to the Mission Ground after we had walked round in the yard-he shewed the way to built the house after which he kindly bid us good bye then returned back on board the ship after 12 o'clock the got up steam, myself Mr. Cline bid them goodbye by the hand after two o'clock she left Gbebe for Idda

Nov. 1th\* Monday today a old Mahamaden \* man came to us, in our lodging he said that he desired to come to us always. We asked him for what the reason he said to receive instruction from us then I took my Bible in my hand and shewed him. he said yes though they themselves trusted in their religion but after all he do believe that English religion will be the best after all. The word of this man give us lively hope that our labour on the Banks of the Niger will not go in vain that to say even the Devils is now subject unto us through thy name.

Nov. 2nd Thursday today I paid visit round about in the Town to get some words in the Igbira language I am very glad to get good promises among the Eki tribe that as soon our building finish they will attend the Church and the\* will sent their children to school

November 3th Friday today after two o'clock Olumody the chief of Bassa came to see us in our lodging. Little while Mr. Cline related to him the word of Mr. Crowther that he desired to come over to Bassa Town but being he is hurry went down to Onitsha that is the reason he was not able to see him face to face, so he asked us, what was the reason-we told him that the same words we told you before about the Church Missionary Society that they might Build a place in Bassa and they themselves and their children might receive instruction after which we gave him the present which Mr. Crowther left to us to give him ten handkerchiefs 5 each of them- himself and his brother so he received the present with gladness then he kindly promised us that the time Mr. Crowther returned back we must let him know that he will come and see him face to face, he said the village Kpaata belong to him which way we wanted to build the Church house he will give us to built. So after 3 o'clock in the evening he returned home back he his partners with gladness.

November 19th today I am very sorry to say that our mind is always perplexed in this place on account of the unsettled state of the town. Some time ago one Igbira man sold a woman which belong to a Nupe man they founded her in another village So the owner of the woman redeemed her for the sum of 120,000 cowries they took the matter before the King and the King asked the woman she pointed the man out who sold her to another village so the man confessed then the King told him pay the amount 120,000 cowries, from that time the Nupe party agreed altogether to leave this place. though the man promised faithfully to pay the cowries he never fulfilled his promise

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on account of this the Nupes party made ready to go out of this place even our landlord, Daganna. told Mr. Newland in the same evening that he was ready to sent his people to Bassa Town after which they will try to cut bush over the river to built their houses today matter

was very strong. the Nupe people wish to leave this place, their wives and their children tied boundles\* to remove at once What made the case stand so yesterday one Igbira man came down from up the river when he was ready to go up back he enticed the 6 men to go with him, this has did in order to sell them, on the same evening the matter was found out and the man was condemned to be killed early in the morning because the 6 men belonged to Igbira people that cause Nupe party too be grieved because since the Nupe woman was sold in the same manner until this day the case was never settled so no doubt after Nupe party should leave here and go over the river if they meet with Igbira people in the same way they will sell them like wise. When we had considered all these things our minds were perplexed because the man Daganna in whos\* charge we were left to built the house will not have chance to attend to the business all these things cause us much anxiety, but still we trust on the Lord Jesus Christ that all things will soon be settled.

December 1st Wednes early in the morning myself Mr. Cline went over to Bassa town. The village which is called Kpaata about eight o clock we reached the village Olumody went to his farm after we had waited about three hours he returned from his farm he met us after we had a little talk together then he asked us if Mr. Crowther already returned from Onitsha. I told him no. So we presented him the two woodin\* looking glass telling him that one was for him and one for his brother. So he received the present with gladness little while he told us to accompany him to his brothers house. So we followed him to his brothers house I saw the old man to be more than 60 years of age and many people surrounded us man & women, more than two or three hundred besides children so we appeared before the man he shook our hands heartily a little while he told Olumody to take us home back a great number of people & children crowded us-we hadly\* found road to walk I was oblige to throw some cowries before them. when they were picking the cowries we got into our lodging they came again and stood on the door. to look upon us. Then the man was oblige to shut their mat door upon us, a little while the man and his partner brought three country pots of beer to us we only took a little, he urged us to take more but we refused after all this, we commenced our message to him that our minister send us to him about the matter we told him before that he might help us to fine [find] a place to built church to teach them and their children in the same

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then the man welcome that message. he replied yes I will help them we told him the goodness arrive for the heathen children. that they will know about their souls and business of the Factory I pointed them to Mr. James Maculey in tile Factory I told them that so lie received instruction in Sierra Leone and now able to carry on business in the Factory and all the children who were present welcome the message after this tie men brought a goat to be sacrificed to his gods he took the goat and knocked the goat head three times with his head then four men held the goat and killed it he shed the blood upon the country fashion he called the gods name Akpanoda after he had roast the goat we told him that we wanted to return home, he said no, on account of you I killed the goat we told him that we never eat the goat which is offered for sacrifice, so he urged us to eat the goat but still we refused, he was oblige to buy some fish to cook for us. When we were about to return home about three o clock we reminded him of the promise I asked him if he will be the eyes of the Church Missionary Society among the Bassas Town or villages he replied yes I will be their to any place we wanted to go among Bassa Town or villages. the Bassa have a

great many children and they are altogether pagan, the field is opened on the Bassa nation for the Church missionary Society labour; the harvest truly is plentiful\* but labourers are few. pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into his harvest,-I then about 4 o'clock we returned back to Gbebe and many children accompanied us on the way-

December 3rd Friday the man came to see us we tried to please him by spending 200 cowries for him. He still hold fast upon his promise too receive Gospel in the Bassa, even he promise to give us a person to accompany us for ward among the villager of the Bassa this nman has influence among his countrymen.

December 4th yesterday evening the King sent a person to call us after eight o'clock. We accompanied Daganna to the King place he said that his heart troubled him very much on account of the Factory which was removed to the other said [side] of the river because he learnt from the native that the people down the river are making bargain to go plunder the Factory by night that is the reason he call us to be his witness also he already called Mr. Watts & Mr. Maculey he told them the same. after he has finished then Mr. Cline told him that no any nation will trouble English people in such manner without a cause he tell that if he know them he must go and tell them better that they must not do it and my words were these I said to the King that ourselves and the people who were living in the Factory were left to the Kings charge but if he know that he had no hand to it those town or village which made the bargain to come and plunder the Factory

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please to give me the names of the town or village that at the time Mr. Crowther & Dr Baikie comes from Onitsha I might show them the name, he said I cannot tell. So we returned to our lodging. And also this place is a great in slave trade at present but still we try to speak to them to give up trading in human being told them that if they like to trade the Factory is opened for ivory palm oil shea butter & nut oil, goat & sheep and other articles will bring them good cowries, told them that the English people never trade with slaves, but still God blessed their labour more than any nation in the world no any nation so happy as English people-last time we pass one Nupe man was going up the river by chance he met a man brought for sold this poor man bought him without money to pay it the same time and bring the slave. He promised to pay as soon he sell the slave. When he reached home another day then the slave died and there is no money to pay to the owner the man himself was oblige to put himself under another man work hardly for to pay the money. See how this poor man troubled himself. Mr. Cline trying to speak to the Nupe people living here to give up from trading in human beings and one of them confessed before Mr. Cline that as long as he live upon the earth he would never trade in human being again, and myself told Eki people living here to give up from trading in human being, I told them that they must consider how great things English people had done with poor black man in Sierra Leone and some of us are able to come out to be their teacher on the following day I went to paid them visit one of them shook my hand heartily and said all the words I spoke to them always they called foolishness until last night he was lieing\* down and he considered to be true le said two things are in the hand of God. that is good and bad, on account of this we pray always to God, then God always gave us good things even he consider the mighty works English people does by making ship go every way this is remarkable in his mind. He has now promised to help us in the

time of our building.-

December 8th today the King called the big people in the town as far as to Bassa town before 10 o'clock all the people were present then the king said he was about to remove and the people asked him what was the reason he said that because such thing he saw by this time his forefathers never saw, before that very day houses are set on fire that people may have opportunity to rob and any slaves which run away from their owners they never showed him again they took them to sell by themselves he said in the same way no doubt if any man get a child they will sell it, even white men who came from a far country to keep friendship with him on account of their robbing they removed the Factory over side of the river that is the reason he wanted to remove, but if not he wanted to send for the country fashion that all men in the town might swear\* at any time any man will-

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fully set fire upon houses that the country fashion must kill such and once the people agreed to the law and regulation and the King told them further more, that each house must bring cowries to buy the country fashion-so I think no doubt by this time the King will have peace in this town

January 5th 1859. Myself Mr. Cline Mr. William Smith a man from Fernadopo we accompanied the Rev. Saml. Crowther to the Bassa village which called Kpata after 9 o'clock we reached the village today made me four times I paid visit to that village-the chief Olumody still stood fast to his promise that is willing to receive the gospel in the Bassa town before we were about to returned home Mr. Crowther presented him 12 handkerchiefs 6 for himself and for his brother after we had walked round in the town, so we returned home on the same evening,

January 7th we commenced to built a small hut on the mission ground which contained three rooms the house was built with grass mats doubled over with mud.

January 14th the house was finished.

Saturday 15th myself, Mr. Newland removed to the house remained Mr. Cline with Mr. Crowther in our lodging we are now preparing mud bricks to built a large house besides a Church.

January 20th Thursday after 7 o'clock on the evening we received the Lords supper in the mission hut-so we comforted during all the night

January 21th Friday the Rev. Mr. Crowther left this place with a small canoe for Rabbah" our prayer is that God might shared him in good health we long to see him once more at the Confluence before we leave for Sierra Leone-

February 6th the Lords day today I am very glad to say that three women have now given up themselves to the cause of Jesus Christ our Redeemer I wrote their names in the Candidate list and many of others now began to know the Sabbath day regularly after I had concluded the

service I paid a visit round in the town and also unto the blind mans house who I always paid visit-I asked him if he will join us as class member he said yes-

July 13th the Lords day today am very glad to say that our congregation was still improving in this place after service I met with some of them in class three persons were admitted into class again in all 6 in number from Eki people and two Yoruba women. This is our first fruit in this place, also Bassas people came from different villages be-

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ing market day, they came to see us, so we began to speak to them among whom was Olumody the Chief of Kpata Takum and Kpale the chief of Kpato Kpale they call us loud to come and preach to them as long we have no time to spare we was obliged to beg them to have patience with us until sufficient hands are sent out from Sierra Leone however we made them promise that after we had finish the big house building we shall pay them a visit. So there is a large field opened on this place for the Church Missionary Society labour, after we had finished the lessons read Mr. Cline speak few words to the native who were present in the meeting and the text was taken from the 20 Chap. Exodus from 1 to 4 He spake to them about the Sabbath day that 6 days God give to men to labour but the seventh day we must rest from our work because God himself had rested from the work of creation that God has said in his holy words, that no manner works to be done on the sabbath day no man servant no maid servants moreover when those slaves who were present in the meeting heard the sermon they were very glad for the resting of the seventh day after the service myself and Mr. Cline made separation I took my way to the Eki tribe and paid them a visit from house to house till then about the rest of the sabbath day. So I met with many Eki women making country cloth. I told them their\* no works to be done on the Lords day more than the work of our souls I stayed more than one hour in my aunts house telling her about the sabbath day that we must rest from worldly business and follow the work of her soul. I told her about the class if she would join us as class member after we finish the church built she replied yes I will-so I left her house and go to the Black Smith shop I meet them working I told them in the same way that to work on the Lords day it is wrong and one of them told me that according to my words he will not do any work on the Lords day and my partner took another road to paid visit to the Nupe Tribe he also met a man working the street as soon Mr. Cline spake to him about the sabbath day, then the man obeyed and left the work. his wife asked him what was the reason he left the work he said it is Mahama it is Mahama, he spoke to me, he drove me. So no doubt though Mr. Cline cannot write yet he is useful in this place. he is useful for Nupe as well as for Bassa. There are 16 villages accessible now for our stations on the Banks of the river among the Bassa nation some of the people of which always paid visits to us here, namely

1. Kpata Takun
2. Kpata Kpale

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- 3.Sewu
- 4.Osite
- 5.Adanakpa

6. Okogi
7. Akaima
8. Ogbo
9. Oroko
10. Kpotoku
11. Agido
12. Oro
13. Sigbowu
14. Ereko
15. Kpotobi
16. Ikerie

all these villages belong to Bassa on the hill they wanted missionaries in their place -

Feb 15th Wednes. The foundation of the large house was laid which contain 5 rooms 58 feet long and the piazza 6 feet wide- round rooms to be 15x16-9 doors & 10 windows wall of the house 9 feet high.

Feb 19th Saturday after 9 o'clock a great many Buffalos between 25 or 26 in number passed near our house two guns were fired after them by the natives there are many animals here because there are no hunters to kill them.

March 4th Friday today I went to a village called Gbagede-which belong to the same Bassa the reason I went very early was our building was nearly finish with mud walls and we had no sufficient sticks in hand to do the roof on account of this I was obliged to go very early in the morning to find a person to cut us sticks and the people made bargain with me for four days time.

March 5th Saturday today Eki made a yearly feast which is called Ajion. Ajion a queen and the origin of it is this. the King of Eki and his wife named Ajion during their lifetime became very rich they had no child until they both together became old she died after her burial was over every three months the king continued to remember her death by making a feast for the Eki people and by\* this time he making of the feast became yearly in this way it became a great feast among the Eki tribe until this day. I recall well when I was little boy my father always bought a sheep for his father which was dead long time ago-and on the day of this feast he killed the sheep the door of the houses as a time of rejoicing every one spend according to his ability some bought a sheep some bought a goat some a fowl some only beer they beat drum and dance so it became their custom. The following day Sunday many Bassa people came from direc [sic]

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tions beating drum singing and shouting like those struck with madness

Monday 7th of March many Eki children came to see me on the mission yard but they came to rejoice that they see me again in this country all of them. Dressed in their best clothes they came in different parties I presented them with some cowries and the following day

Tuesday 8th instant some of the children came to me again I stopped them for instruction after 12 o'clock I let them go. –

March 16th Wednes two rooms of our building fell down at once on account of that part was not well built about two o'clock on the day the house fell down so our work began to go backwards\* but still we trusted on the Lord Jesus Christ that our labouring will not going in vain –

March 25th Friday today three Bassa men brought a man to be sold after the bargain was already made with Olumody the chief of Bassa then they brought to the mission yard but we did not know that he was a slave for sale Olumody bought the man for the sum of 84,000 cowries, the man then told us that he was a native of Eki. So he was taken by war when he was a little child. but still we spoke to them about the evil dealing of slave Olumody told us in the presence of many others that he never sell the man again only he wanted the man to work in his farm. The man was about 30 years of age and we spoke to the poor man that he must sit down good and look to Go in his own time bye and bye he shall be free in Christ-

March 26th Saturday after 9 o'clock 13 men accompanied the King to see us in the Mission hut, when he came I seated him on my Sofa when he saw my common Sofa he was surprised and all the people sat round on the piazza he saw all my books on the table he asked me about them so I took the Bible in my hand and spoke a few words to them all I told him to send his sons to school he said yes I told him if he send his sons to school, by\* and bye he will see the good will come, he replied yes I will send them,

March 30th Wednes. yesterday night after 12 o'clock a great part of the town was burnt by fire an Igbira woman was cooking country beer she did not put the fire out she went to the big house a little while the wind blow and the fire got the house so a part of Igbira town was burnt & the Eki also

April 1th\* after 8 o'clock I went to Gbagede again for want of rafters and small sticks Some of the people we bargained with disappointed us always and the rain was near on account of this I was obliged to go to the village to get better stick one of them promised me rafters in a day or two and another promised me small sticks-

April 4th Monday yesterday after 12 o'clock there was much rain with strong wind our building was nearly spoiled toward evening one canoe from Gbagede brought some rafters for us to buy -

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April 12th since we reached here I did not know that all the Nupe people living here were Mahomedans until the day fasting on the 3rd of April all of them kept fast for 30 days husband wives and children in the same way. They began to find fault in our religion because we did not follow their fasting often washing hands and feet, but we did not listen to their saying only we are looking to our Bible and always praying to our heavenly Father through His Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Now I humble say that my own tribe Eki few of them are in class though not one Igbira person amongst us from Sierra Leone that he might speak to them still some of them send

their children to school for instruction am very glad to say, that two of those boys who came for instruction are able to repeat correctly all the lessons I gave them -

April 15th Friday today our house was covered with grass-

yesterday Thursday 14th we finished with rafters and small sticks remained for the cover so two gentle men lent us hand to cover our house those two gentle inen named Okoro and Abohko

April 22nd Friday. Good Friday we finish covering the roof of our house after 10 o'clock we had service on the mission hut-on the evening one of the class members come to me that she said she was very glad to here\* the word which was preached on the morning She wanted to hear it more so I told her every thing I know about Jesus Christ that he came into this world to save sinners she was very glad for the news I hope the Lord himself will open their eyes to know the wonderful work of God-

April 24th the Lords day. Easterday I preached to them on Matt. 28 chap from 22 about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ those who were present was my own tribe Eki people when they heard this sermon they were very glad though the Mahomedans\* we met with in this place did not like to hear that Jesus Christ is the Son of God-but still I count\* cease to preach to the Eki who only worshipped wood and stone and the workmen's hands. They were not able to say any thing against the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ every thing I told them they were always ready to believe it, only one thing they have to say that the Eki people were brought up for Ifa-my answer to them is that my father worshipped the same Ifa and myself also, but since I reached Sierra Leone, and tasted the word of God I put all that away for it pleased the Lord to open my eyes to see the wonderful works of God-after 12 o'clock I met with them in class again and told them the same words -

April 26th A horrible case came to our hearing this morning one gentleman in this place had him a slave and the people accused the slave that he connection with his master's wife so the man took the

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slave and gave him poison and after he had drank the poison and nothing happened to him & he did not die on the same time then the owner beat him with a piece of stick until he died and the body was dragged into the water [Niger River].

May 18th on the night one leopard was killed at Factory by Mr. Charles Watts which weighed 1 lbs 6 feet 7 inches long-

May 26th on the night another leopard was killed by Mr. Charles Watts 7 feet & 4 inches long no doubt there are a great many of them here and other animals also -

June 6th Monday, yesterday Sunday 5th Sunday after Ascension day was the first I took among Eki people, and preach to them the text was 3 chap St. John 16.17 v. I preach in a meeting in their place because since I reached here I always paid visit to them only after the conclusion of

the sermon many of them is shook my hand heartily when we were about to returned home I told them that we shall by this time come regularly every Lords day to preach in Eki District-- and also they themselves must try to come to us in the mission yard for service. Our district is too difficult for translation on account of many languages are mixed in this place, Nupe-Eki-Igbira-Bassa- and Igara all these nations are near together and every one of them speak their own language only Nupe & Bassa almost speak alike. When Mr. Crowther was about to leave here he told me to make myself useful by the making Igbira translation, but still I could not go on well at present on account of much work by our building the mission house.

June 13th yesterday the 12th instant-White Sunday we went for the service on the Eki district the text was 22 Chap Matt. from 1 to 10-those present were about 40 persons I asked them why the rea- son the number too few-then the headman named Anyio told me that they still fear of me he said because the Bible I opened before them they never saw it before. but how ever\* they heard me preach twice next Sunday they will attend well in the meeting after service in the morning I went class I met with them in class -two persons were admitted into class-that is one man & one woman- The man just from work pass to my place met us in the class so he sit down and listen to the word after the conclusion he said put my name down I am very glad to hear the word you had spoken so I very glad for that I put him name in the list and many Eki people told me that they desire to become the soldier of Christ here on earth, today our friend Olumody he brought a boy to the mission yard, So we asked him about the boy he told us that he bought the boy for 76,000 cowries and the boy was about seven years of age. When Mr. C. Watts & Mr. Maculey saw the boy they were very sorry. May God be please to put down the slave trade in this place-

July 6th, today three coopers brought us some letters & news that

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meet Mr. Crowther at Abeokuta and the Bishop also and a sad news about the dead of Mr. Simon Jonas who died at Fernandopo-after he reached home and saw his family face to face he was called to rest from his labour the last was the third time he joined the Niger expedition also he was one assisted Mr. Crowther in the Ibo-translation I trust that he is with Jesus Christ our Redeemer-another sad news about dead of Capt Thomas Fairweather who died at Fernandopo- all these news surprised us but the death is the lot of all men -

July 12th Tuesday I thank God today to open our eyes on the land of the living. He did not humble us to the dust we are still labouring among our benighted countrymen since January last Mr. Crowther left us here I have been trying to open a school here I trying for a few Igbira children I did not know that those who come were slaves to their masters very soon they were taken away for pulling canoes and one of the two who were very glad to learn we learnt was sold- When we heard that news we were sorry. From that time the school was broken up and we tried for the Nupe children we cannot expect any children from them because of them are Mahomedans. then I trying for the Eki children. the parents told me that they very glad to sent their child to school. but one thing they fear that they sent the children in school bad people will steal them and sell them away on account the mission yard little far from the Eki town<sup>44</sup> But still

thank God we had few Eki people in the class, for candidates for Baptism--the time will come when all the children of this place shall gather together on the house of God. -

July 13th Friday today many Eki people came to see me on the mission yard and one of them was my relation after we have much talking about my mother and other relation. so he told me that he is ready and willing to bring two slaves to redeem me. I told him no. Since 1834 I was free by the English only I am sent here as a teacher. The man was surprised with gladness. So I took my Bible began to teach them, again-He asked me if I will not go to the town of Eki also to preach I told him bye and bye if the Lord please I return from Sierra Leone with my family, if the Society send me, if not I cannot tell so they returned home with gladness-

July 17th the Lords day two women admitted in the class one Eki and one a Nupe always I teach them with Yoruba testament the reason Yoruba language and Eki almost alike; to carry the business well I speaking few words in Eki language again I speaking few words in

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the Nupe language after the conclusion the whole class thanked me heartily by the saying Bosi-Bosi that signifies, minister, minister,

August 7th the Lords day I humble\* thank God for the unspeakable favours we had received from Him to open our eyes in the land of the living and not humble us to dust we still go on our labour among our benighted country men, today Eki-three of them admitted in class

Yesterday Saturday on the evening I paid visit round in the Eki town--tell them about the Sabbath day-that they must come to hear the word of God and one of them asked me that what things they will bring for the time, they come to hear the word of God I told them, nothing, they must come to hear the words freely freely Jesus Christ died for us tell them that our preaching is not for sold with money or any articles as they are do, they took the idea of the Nupe peoples doing here. if anyone wanted to go to them that they might look their book for them, they have to carry plenty cowries in their hands this the reason , they asked me this things to be brought I took the text in 45 Chap. the book of Genesis and the 28 ver. tell them the history of Joseph and how the Lord delivered him out of trouble, again I presented myself and Mr. Cline before them that before time we were carry to Sierra Leone on account of wars and then our families did not know that they shall see we again, by this time it pleased the Lord to sent us here as their teacher when they heard the sermon they answered at once with gladness yes the word is true after the conclusion all of them shook my hand heartily -

August 15th Monday yesterday Sunday 14th I met with the people in class our neighbour named Okoro came I ordered him to sit down on the sofa as I know that he did not understand Eki I spoke to him in the Nupe, I thank God that the man fel\* the word which I spoke to them in class after all Mr. Cline spoke a few words to them again as long we know that the man was a gentle man in this place he had many slaves. so we told him, that he must sent all his sons & the slaves let them come to Sunday school also-lie said yes he was very glad for the words we told him, only was very sorry to say only one son remain to another village no more besides because 18 sons already died from him. So we comforted him. The man still promised us for the time Mr.

Crowther--comes back he will sent a person to bring the child and put him in school at once, the man altogether very good friend to us here he is willing and ready to do best we wanted from him. A Nupe woman which join class last time formerly was worshipper of the Mahomedan religion but by this time, she became a member in our church. Though & many of her tribe spake much

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bad about our religion she did not mind them. She told me that her parents were pagan, only she herself was a proselyte in their religion.

August 21th\* the Lords day I humble thank the giver of all good things that yesterday Saturday the 20th I still paid visit to the Eki tribe reminded them for the coming Sabbath day. I humble say that two Eki women join class and many had make me promise to become member of Christ even the chiefs of Ifa worshipper today make him twice" he came for the morning prayer he kneeled down before us and make long salutation-Bosi; Bosi then he called me by my native name Ikubaje I will come and put my name. the words you always told us I think now to be true, so the Lord began to bless our labour among our benighted country men These people we might think will drive us out the field of labour the very people are now to be preparing for the Baptism without noise. today when I met with them in class I encouraged them in the 14 Chap the book of Exodus and the 13.v. I told them that they must look forward and they will see the salvation of the Lord, they next thing wanted here after the church built is a Bell. The absent of the Bell cause me to walk round every Saturday and the Sunday to I told one of the class member to call them on the service time. Some of them came after the service over I asked them they only told me that they never know the time.

August 26th Friday the Rainbow arrived here with the Revd Saml Crowther the ship anchored near the Factory on the other side of the river after two o clock myself Mr. Newland went in a canoe which was pulled by four men they took us to the vessel. When Mr. Crowther saw us he was very glad to see us he was absent from us seventh months & 6 days - a little while he tell Lis the sad new he had heard from Sierra Leone that many Gentlemen and lady had died

September 26th Monday, yesterday Sunday 25th after 8 o clock on the evening we receive the Lords supper in the mission house so we were comforted during all the night."

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