

Date	FOR STAFF USE Reason for non-collect	Today's date	Ticket no.	Signature	Reader's name	Use one slip for each
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On looking back from our present position on the whole course of this affair, I see no reason to doubt that our action in going at first direct to Tai-wan-foo was the proper course in view of our knowledge at the time. The city seemed quite open, both by treaty and in view of the way we were received on our former visit, and especially as two houses had been already taken and occupied by foreigners. And as we had not men enough to occupy both Takao and the city, and did not seem likely soon to have enough, our duty seemed plain, namely, to occupy the more important place—more important beyond all question, and one might also say beyond comparison. But, as we have been in God's all-wise providence led back from the populous city to the seaport village, we can see a very manifest reason why the Master should lead us by this way: it will compel us to have two stations instead of one; for it is evident that Takao must be our head-quarters for several months at least; and after so much labour shall have been expended upon it, we cannot abandon it to heathenism and Popery. The head-quarters of the Romish mission on the island is only about two miles from this place, and they would of course be delighted to enter into our labours; at the same time we cannot think of abandoning the Foo city, but will visit it as soon as the way is plain, and endeavour to re-occupy it whenever the obstacles are removed. Measures must therefore be taken for the permanent occupation both of Takao and Tai-wan-foo. Again, for the sake of the foreign residents and the shipping, it is a great advantage to have a missionary here. There are also several Chinese Christians from Amoy in business or service, some living here and others visiting it in ships or junks. These men suffer more or less injury spiritually through the presence of many snares and dangers, and the absence of any one to watch over their souls. Besides, this place is the centre for acting on Pi-tau, and many large towns and villages to the south of the Foo city. And both for change of air from the Foo city (which is much hotter than this in summer), and for intercourse with Amoy during the south-west monsoon, it is more and more evident that we need a house at

this port. If a married missionary should come out, it is at Takao (not Tai-wan-foo) that he must stay, at least for some time to come. I may add, that the village of Takao is rapidly increasing in size and importance. There is, therefore, no reason to regret that we are compelled to take up this additional station; and instead of our temporary discomfiture at the city being a cause for the Committee and the Church at home making less effort for Formosa, it makes our case all the more urgent for one missionary at least immediately, and as soon as possible another.

May the Lord graciously supply the men, and guide all our endeavours to a successful issue.

I remain, yours as ever,
C. DOUGLAS.

LETTERS FROM THE REV. W. MCGREGOR.

Amoy, 25th July, 1865.

MY DEAR DR. HAMILTON,—As Mr. Douglas is still in Formosa with Dr. Maxwell, Mr. Swanson is just now the only effective member of our mission in Amoy. I have not yet attempted to take any of the Sabbath services, my only public work hitherto having been in the Hospital, where I have just begun to speak a little, and to conduct the services with the assistance of a native agent. Our American brethren, however, have been kindly assisting us, the return of Mr. Talma's having rendered them capable of undertaking more work than the supply of the stations under their special care.

Two weeks ago I started with Mr. Swanson for Khi-boey, but failed in getting so far as the point at which he and I turned on the former occasion. Mr. Rapalje, of the American Mission, accompanied us to Pochua, which we reached on Friday afternoon. There he went ashore, to stay over night and start early on Saturday morning for Bay-pay.

On Sabbath morning (9th July), Mr. Swanson went to Liang-bun-see, and Mr. Rapalje to In-boe-kio, while I stayed at Bay-pay. There was also service at Chap-ji-lo; so that in this Bay-pay region there

... (partially obscured text from the left page) ...
I am, my dear Dr. Hamilton,
Yours most faithfully,
J. L. HAMILTON.

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