

perform its duties I have no wish to leave the work in Trinidad, but I feel that the will of the Lord is so plainly manifest that I can do nothing; but submit trusting that somewhere in the Master's vineyard a field of usefulness may be opened up the duties of which I may be found qualified to perform.

Respectfully submitted,  
THOMAS M. CHRISTIE

### Minutes of Mission-Council.

San Fernando Jap. 2nd, 1883.

The Mission Council met. All the members present, Meeting opened with prayer. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Letters received from the Secretary of the F. M. Board, and statement of Miss Blackadder's account were read and ordered to be filed. *Mr. Morton*, read his *Report and Statement of accounts* for 1882, showing a balance of £289 19 4 debt on buildings, being a reduction of £159 3 8 during the year, report and accounts were approved. *Mr. Grant*, read his *Report and Accounts* for 1882, showing a balance to credit of £1 6 2½ report and accounts were approved. *Mr. Christie*, read his *Report and Accounts* for 1882, showing a balance of £82 1 8 debt. Report and accounts were approved, the balance of debt to be carried to 1883 and remain in the meantime in abeyance—*Mr. Christie*, to write to Dr. McGregor in explanation thereof.

*Mr. Macleod*, read his *Report and Accounts* for 1882, showing a balance of £1 17 6 debt, report and accounts were approved.

*Mr. Morton*, read his *Estimate* for 1883 asking for £400 sterling from the F. M. Board being an increase of \$50 on last years estimate. This estimate was passed. *Mr. Grant*, read his *Estimate* for 1883, asking for the same as last year namely £333 19 10 *Mr. Grant*, also explained the special circumstances of the School at Cocaye Village, which might require an additional £25 sterling if it had to be kept up throughout the year. This estimate was passed and the council pledged itself to consider favourably whatever that School may require. *Mr. Christie*, read his *Estimate* for 1883, asking for £164 18 7 being an increase of £21 5 4, on that of 1882. This estimate was passed. *Mr. Macleod*, read his *Estimate* for 1883, asking for £541 6 8, being an increase of £35 10 6, over that for 1882. This estimate was passed, and the Council agreed to record its conviction

that the sums asked for are necessary to keep up and extend the work plainly set before us.

It was agreed that, in order to secure uniformity of action, all reports of teachers and agents should be submitted to the Missionary under whom they labour; to be, by him, laid before the Mission Council only in case matters are referred to which require the consideration of the Council.

*Mr. Christie*, read a paper addressed to the F. M. Board, tendering his resignation, on the ground of failing health and asking that it be accepted from June 1883. It was agreed that while expressing our deep sympathy with *Mr. Christie* and his family, and our regret, at the prospect of his leaving the mission, this Council cannot assume the responsibility of advising *Mr. Christie*, to act contrary to the advice of such eminent physicians and to his own sense of failing strength.

*Rev. John Hendrie*, U. P. Minister of San Fernando, having offered his services to the F. M. Board at the time, *Mr. Macleod* was appointed to Sav. Grange, and having, since his arrival in Trinidad, uniformly shown a lively and practical interest in our work, *Mr. Christie*, deeply concerned for his field consulted with him; and finding him disposed to accept of the Couva district, should it become vacant and were it offered to him by the F. M. Board, reported the same to the Council. Whereupon the council asked *Mr. Hendrie*, to meet the members in conference. *Mr. Hendrie*, stated before the council that he will hold himself ready to go to Couva, should it in God's providence become vacant and the F. M. Board ask him to accept this post.

It was agreed that, should events so turn out, this Mission Council would gladly welcome *Mr. Hendrie*, as a fellow labourer. *Mr. Macleod*, reported that some steps had been taken by his people towards raising special collections for the erection of a Church at Princetown; the want of which is beginning to be felt; and asked the advice of the Mission Council, Agreed to advise him to go on getting in contributions during 1883, and report the result to this Council.

Agreed to leave the question of building a School house at Arouca, in 1883, as raised by *Mr. Morton*, in his report, to his best judgment guided by the course of events.

Meeting closed with prayer.

John Morton,  
Sec'y.