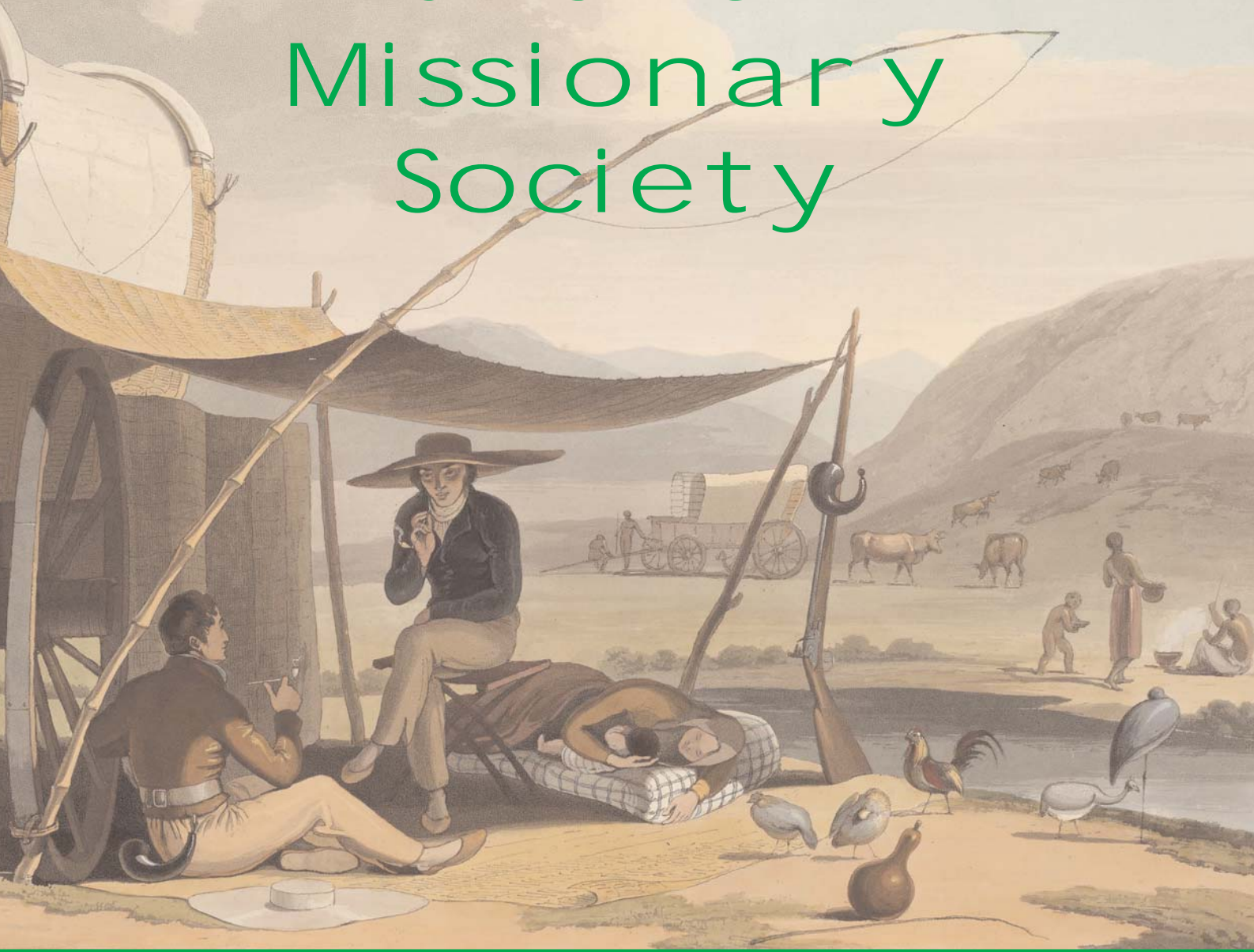


Church Missionary Society



Section VII: General Secretary's Papers



- Part 1: Papers relating to Africa, 1847 - 1950
- Part 2: Papers relating to Africa, 1873 - 1949
- Part 3: Papers relating to Japan and China, 1874 - 1952



“The General Secretary's department is the most important because the General Committee was ultimately responsible for CMS policy. Until 1880 the Secretary to the General Committee was also considered the chief Foreign Secretary. The department's records therefore comprise not only a major source for the policy underlying the activities of the Society abroad, but are the main source on the formation of churches and dioceses and the appointment of bishops.”

Rosemary Keen,
Former CMS Archivist

Whereas the papers in Sections I-VI of the CMS archive have concentrated on the day-to-day lives and experiences of missionaries in the field, **Section VII** takes us into the broader policy discussions of the CMS in London where issues such as the merits of appointing an African bishop were discussed. The material is organised by region and **Parts 1-2** cover **Africa**.

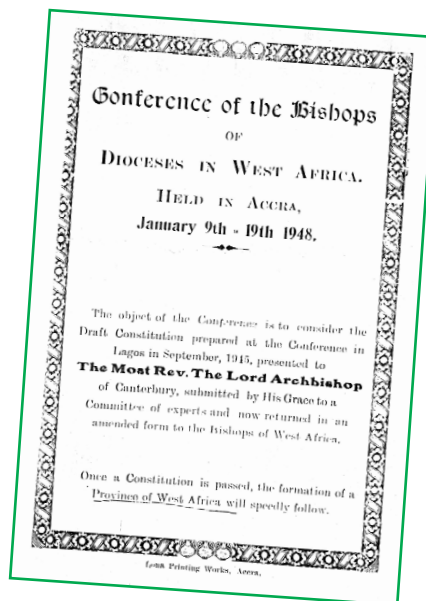
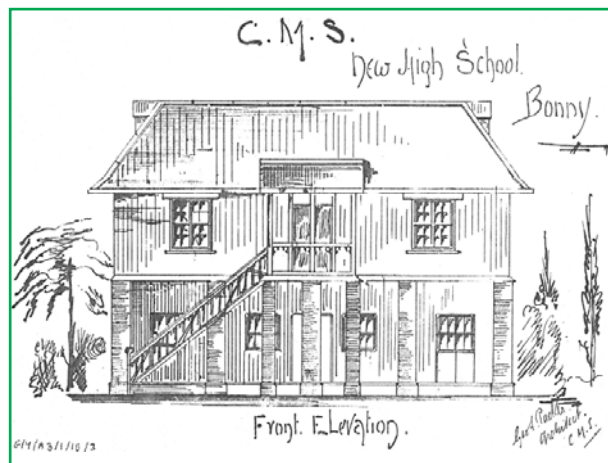
The African Missions were a testing ground for many fundamental policy decisions made by the CMS.

- It was in Africa that the CMS started its missionary work.
- The decision to employ German Lutheran missionaries as their first representatives encouraged co-operation with other organisations from the start.
- The deaths of many early missionaries and frequent ill-health, prompted the training and employment of African pastors.
- The need for training acted as a catalyst for the rapid construction of schools.

As the Church grew, new tensions arose. There was resistance to the promotion of local clergy to senior positions. Colonial authority became more pronounced and paternalist. Some sections of the African Church began to break away. Nationalist sentiments began to emerge.

All of these issues are discussed, as are:

- An account of early difficulties contended with in South Africa by M Frere, 1879
- Relations with authorities in Sierra Leone, 1851-1886
- The Enquiry into the Niger Mission, 1880-1893



- The Yoruba Mission, 1874-1949
- Samuel Crowther on the languages of West Africa
- Emin Pasha on the Nyanza Mission
- Kikuyu conferences, 1910-1919
- Education policy in East Africa, 1925-1948
- Candidates for consecration as bishops in West Africa
- The future of Buwalasi College
- The alleged bad behaviour of 'mission boys'
- West African liquor traffic
- Cotton business and the Abeokuta Industrial Institution
- Fugitive slaves in East Africa
- The suppression of the slave trade in Zanzibar, 1875-1881
- Relations with other missions.

Part 3 covers discussion of important issues relating to **Japan and China**. These range from early material on setting up of a bishopric in Japan to a report on a visit to Korea in 1937. There is much on relations of the CMS with other organisations in Japan such as the Kingdom of God Movement, and there is a paper on *The Crisis in the churches in Japan*, 1940.

For China, there are discussions of the British-India Opium trade, definitions of the mission field, general surveys of the missions and their accomplishments, reports of survey trips to East Asia, and notes on the Student Christian movement, 1937.



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