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Magic lantern lecture publicity leaflet: Qua Iboe Mission, West Africa Copyright 2009 University of Exeter, all rights reserved.

QUA IBOE MISSION (WEST AFRICA)

- SPHERE.—The Qua Iboe Mission works in the thickly-populated districts in the vicinity of the Qua Iboe River and its creeks and tributaries, in the British Colony of Southern Nigeria. This river rises in a lake about 200 miles inland, and enters the sea between Bonny and Calabar.
- **PEOPLE.**—The people inhabiting this part of Africa belong to several tribes—Ibunos, Ekets, Ibibios, Obiums, Aros, etc., and number altogether about **One Million Souls.**
- **BEGINNING.**—Previous to 1887 this region was unknown in missionary circles. In that year a request came from several of the native chiefs living at the mouth of the River, that someone should tell them about God.
- PIONEER.—In response to this, Mr. S. A. Bill, who belonged to Belfast, and was trained in Harley College, sailed for Qua Iboe, becoming the pioneer of the Mission. Almost immediate blessing attended his work, and the first converts were baptized, and a native church formed in the Ibuno tribe in 1889.
- **COUNCIL.**—When Mr. Bill returned to this country for furlough, in 1891, an **Interdenominational Council** was formed for the management of the work.
- PROCRESS.—Mr. A. Bailie, who had sailed in 1888, settled amongst the Ibibios at Okat, higher up the River, in 1893. A third station was opened in the centre of the same tribe, still further north, at Etinan, in 1899. These three stations are close to the banks of the River, and in 1904 work was commenced in the Obium country, at Ikotobo, a considerable distance to the east.
- **RESULTS.**—Much blessing has attended work at these four centres, and at numerous sub-stations, and there are now about **One Thousand Communicants** in connection with the Six Congregations which have been formed; there are

also a large number of Enquirers, whilst many old and cruel customs have been destroyed by the influence of the Gospel.

- **CHRISTIANS.**—The native Christians have been encouraged to evangelize the regions around them, and the three churches in the Ibuno tribe are now **Supporting their own Pastors**, as well as evangelists, who labour in other districts.
- METHODS.—Besides the steady proclamation of the Gospel, there are Enquirers' Classes, Sunday Schools, Day and Night Schools, and Dispensaries. An Industrial Department, consisting of Steam Saw-mill and Carpenters' Shops has been in operation for fifteen years; a Training Institute for the Teaching of Native Evangelists, has been in existence for four years, and a Girls' Institute has just been established.
- **OPENINGS.**—The principal feature of the last two years has been the number of open doors all over the field. There is a remarkable spirit of inquiry and desire for knowledge amongst the young, and deputations are continually coming from distant towns seeking help, which, owing to the lack of workers, has often to be denied.
- **STAFF.**—Four new missionaries have sailed since May, 1906 and there are now in all **Fourteen European Workers**, and nearly thirty native helpers on the Mission staff.
- **EXTENSION.**—Two new stations are now being opened, and it is expected that additional workers will soon sail for the field, so that it is hoped in a short time to penetrate still further up the river.
- **SUPPORT.**—The Mission is entirely dependent for its support on free-will offerings from those in sympathy with its work. At present (1907) **about £10 per day** is required for its needs.

Home Headquarters: 128, SCOTTISH PROVIDENT BUILDINGS, BELFAST.

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QUA IBOE MISSION (WEST).

HOW YOU MAY HELP.

We appeal for your co-operation, and suggest the following ways in which you may help:—

1. BY PRAYER.

Every forward step depends upon earnest prayer. You are invited to join us in seeking increasing blessing on the work and workers.

2. BY CONTRIBUTING.

Sending a Donation to our Honorary Treasurer; entering your name for an Annual Subscription; or by taking a Collecting Box.

3. BY AUXILIARIES.

If more organised help is desired to be given, it is suggested that you form an Auxiliary, consisting of a number of subscribers or boxholders, who will unite in helping by regular prayer and systematic giving.

4. BY TELLING OTHERS.

You may be the means of arousing interest in others by telling them of the work in Qua Iboe, and placing its needs before them.

5. BY GOING.

All are not in a position to go, but there may be someone whom the Lord is personally calling. If it is YOU, please seek His guidance, and place yourself at His disposal.

Further information will be furnished, and the "Quarterly Paper" of the Mission will be despatched if application is made to R. L. M'KEOWN, Gen. Secretary, MISSION OFFICE, 128, SCOTTISH PROVIDENT BUILDINGS, BELFAST.

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