



After two years with William in the UK, Eliza and Rev. Ritchie returned to Formosa at the end of 1877 and continued the busy missionary work. “Mummy, Daddy, I wish I could go back to Formosa with you,” said William. “I wish to take you with us, my lad, but the weather will kill you as you are too little to fight the germs,” said Eliza. “Be strong, Willy! I have asked Mr Barbour and Mrs Simpson to look after you while we are away. You will enjoy the boarding school in Edinburgh with your friends. We will write you lots of letters and send you

lots of presents,” said Rev. Ritchie. It was depressing to say goodbye to his parents, especially for a nine-year-old boy. William gave his parents a huge hug. He didn’t know it would be the last time he would see his father.

Keng-kòe n̄ng tang, tī Eng-kok pōe-phōaⁿ Ui-liâm ê jít-chí, l-lâi-sa kap Lí-hiu bók-su tī it-pat chhit-chhit nī (1877) tng-khì Tâi-oân, kè-siòk chò thoân-kàu ê jīm-bū. Ui-liâm kóng, “A-pah, a-bú, góa hi-bāng ē-tàng kap lín tng-khì Formosa.” l-lâi-sa tui hāu-seⁿ kóng, “A-kiáⁿ--eh, góa mā chiok siūⁿ beh chhōa lí chò-hóe khì, m-koh lí koh sè-hàn, hiah-nī joáh ê thiⁿ-khì, koh ū bǎi-khín, lí ē tòng bē tiâu.” Lí-hiu bók-su tui Ui-liâm kóng, “Khah pa-kiat--leh! Góa í-keng ū pài-thok Bá-boh (Barbour) sian-siⁿ kap Sím-phòh-seng (Simpson) thài-thài thè gún hó-hó-á chiàu-kò--lí. Lí kap lí ê pêng-iú hòng-sim-á khì Ài-teng-pó (Edinburgh) ê hák-hāu thák-chheh. Gún ē tiāⁿ-tiāⁿ siá phoe, koh kià chiok chē lé-mih hō--lí.” Tui chit ê chiah káu (9) hòe ê cha-pó gín-á lâi-kóng, i tiòh-ài kap i ê pē-bú hun-khui, che sít-chāi sī chin kan-khó^t ê tǎi-chì. Jī-chhiáⁿ i mā m̄ chai-íáⁿ, che sī i chòe-āu chit piàn kìn tiòh in lāu-pē.