

The Spirit of Missions;

EDITED FOR

THE BOARD OF MISSIONS

Of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

PREACH THE GOSPEL UNTO EVERY CREATURE.

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1836.

NO. III.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DOMESTIC COMMITTEE.

MONTHLY ABSTRACT.

January 18, 1836.—The Right Rev. Bishop Ives, of North Carolina, was present at the meeting held this evening.

The Secretary and General Agent reported that he had preached, on the last Sunday, in Christ Church, and in the Church of the Holy Evangelists, in this city. The result of the appeal in the first mentioned Church was not known, as the contributions were to be made through its parochial "Association." In the latter Church, the collection amounted to \$100; a sum which under the circumstances of that Church afforded strong evidence of the lively interest which it feels in the sacred cause of Missions.

At this meeting, the Committee adopted suitable instructions for the Missionaries in this department of the Society, and directed a copy of them to be furnished to each Missionary in the employment of this Committee.

The Rev. Sherlock A. Bronson was appointed Missionary to Lancaster and Somerset, Ohio.

At a previous meeting of the Domestic Committee, a special Committee had been appointed to inquire into the expediency of this Committee endeavouring to introduce the use of Family Charity-Boxes, as a mode of carrying into effect a plan of systematic Charity, in furtherance of the objects of this department of Missions. That Committee made a full report, which is entered at length on the minutes, approving the measure and recommending its adoption. The report was laid on the table; and after being called up at subsequent meetings, was, for special reasons, having no relation to the merits of the question, finally made the order for the first Monday in April.

VOL. I.

sions duty imperiously demands of us. May your years from Heaven be very many, very happy, and very secure.

To your reverend commands, most ready and most humble servants, the Magistrates, and also Trustees of the community, of the Hellenic School, and of the Doucal School of Mutual Instruction.

Signed by the Bishop, in Ciphra, and six Magistrates.

Melenicos, June 25, 1834.

THE MONTHLY MISSIONARY LECTURE.

As illustrative of the working, in a single parish, of the monthly Missionary Lecture, we take the following from "the Missionary." The sum received is not important. It is the principle at which we look.

MISSIONARY LECTURE IN ST. MARY'S, BURLINGTON, N. J.

In agreement with the recommendation of the Pastoral Letter, the *first* Missionary Lecture in this parish, took place on Saturday evening, the 2d January. It was well attended, and regarded as of most useful tendency. In its character it was chiefly introductory, presenting the *privilege* of the members of the Church to engage with their divine Head in the extension of his peaceful kingdom—the *history of Missions* in the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States—the *nature and working of the present Missionary organization*—the *state and prospects of our several Missions*, at home and abroad—and the mode in which the *pastoral and parochial influence* may best be brought in aid of the Board of Missions, and its Committees. At the conclusion, some interesting incidents were stated, chiefly from the history of the Moravian Missions. One was, in substance, this:—In the year 1769, the Unity, (so the Moravian communion is denominated, from its ancient name *Unitas Fratrum*, United Brethren,) were in debt, from losses and other causes, one hundred and fifty thousand pounds. At Herrnhut, *twenty unmarried females* took up the subject, and addressed a letter to the congregation. They recommended that the debt be regarded as due from *the Unity*, not from the several congregations which compose it; they called on every member to exert himself to do his part; they regretted their own inability to do any thing considerable to lessen the debt of the Unity, ("that is," say they, "*our own debt*;") and offered in conclusion, "cheerfully to sacrifice and dispose of *all unnecessary articles*, such as gold and silver plate, watches, rings, trinkets, and jewelry of every kind, for the purpose of establishing a *sinking fund*; on condition that all the members of the Church every where, rich and poor, old and young, assent to the proposal."—In less than a year, £3500 were collected in this way; of which "the single sisters" gave £1300. In six years, the sinking fund had a capital of £25,000, and the debt was lessened by £44,000.—We do not know that it was prompted at all by the Lecture; but among the "Offerings of the Church," on the next morning, were two *special offerings* of five dollars each. We do know that such a lecture is most acceptable to the people. We do believe that such a lecture in every parish, would produce results as striking as those stated of the Moravians. Has not our Church a *debt*, due "to the Greek and to the Barbarian?" Is it not literally the debt of the Church—"that is, *our own debt*?" Shall we not assume it? Shall we not give up our superfluities towards its payment?

FRUITS OF A MISSIONARY LECTURE.

It was the object of the second of the monthly Missionary lectures in St. Mary's Church, in this city, on Saturday evening last, to demonstrate the practical utility of the Missionary enterprise; and to show how that transformation