

Missionary Intelligence.

AMOY.

The American Board of Foreign Missions, from whose Monthly Missionary Herald we have extracted the following intelligence, have labourers in almost every portion of the missionary field. At Amoy, in China, they have two, viz., Messrs. Doty and Pohlman, with their families. Mr. Pohlman has recently sent very interesting intelligence to the committee in New York of the state of that country; and he frequently takes considerable journeys through the country, visiting the different stations, and seeking opportunities of doing good. His letter is dated in January, 1845.

January 21.—While Mr. Pohlman was returning from Kolongsoo, he observed a bundle floating on the water. Its shape attracted his attention, and, upon inquiry, he found that it was an infant! From this fact he takes occasion to state the mode of destroying life in such cases. "Upon the first cry of the child, some grains of rice are put into its mouth, which produce instant death. The body is then bound up in a coarse sack, tied with a cord, and committed to the watery element."

Jan. 23.—Yesterday I visited the temple of the chief judge of the infernal regions. I have never before seen so many gods of all shapes and sizes, male and female, large and small, black and white. The sight was heart-sickening. I found the temple frequented by several old women, scarcely able to hobble along; and a poor priest was just concluding heathen mass for a dying person. I asked him whether he could save souls, and an affirmative reply was given. I then pressed him on the point of being saved himself, and asked, as he saved others, who saved his soul? To this question he returned no answer, and, being confounded, soon took his departure.

Like ancient Athens, of which the Apostle Paul speaks, this "city is wholly given to idolatry." I recently asked my interpreter to write down the names of the most common divinities, and he soon presented me with a list of eighty-six. I suppose there may be hundreds, counting chiefs and subordinates. Nearly every object known in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, is worshipped. Fire, earth, water, sea and land, mountains, sun, moon and stars, trees, horses and oxen, grain, medicine, dwellings, ships, heaven and hell, all have their respective deities; and go out when and where we will, we perceive that in all things the people are in great darkness.