

Mission Field.

[Notes of the Missionary Council of the P. E. Church in the U. S.]

The right of way was yielded to prayer in connection with missions. That subject was given precedence in the Council and happily it dominated all the sessions. As the first topic it was treated with such emphasis that every one felt it to be the power that is wanting to lift all our work for God upon the right plane. At the hour of noon each day the Council was bidden to prayer, and all who bowed the knee must have felt that it was indeed a Christian Council, not for wasteful debate, but for earnest conference upon the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.

BISHOP TUTTLE, in a paper on "The Episcopate and Missions," claimed that Bishop and missionary are synonymous. The title Missionary Bishop is tautological, since a Bishop is necessarily a missionary Bishop or he is no true Bishop. Missions are the supreme function of the Church in which Bishops are the constitutional leaders. A Bishop ought to go out as a brother of men and as a worker for humanity; a shepherd of souls to hold up the weak, heal the sick, bind the broken, bring again the outcasts, seek the lost. Bishop Talbot and Captain James Parker spoke to the same effect, urging the extension of the Episcopate as a spiritual power in evangelizing the world.

THE REV. DR. BUNN'S paper on "Prayer and Missions," reinforced by the speeches of Dr. Abbott and Dr. Satterlee, deeply impressed the Council, which was pervaded by the spirit of devotion from beginning to end. Said Dr. Satterlee: "If we should spend the whole of the first day in intercessory prayer for the various missionary jurisdictions and stations we should feel a great elevation of our own hearts and make discoveries in the work of the Church, and, moreover, this Council would be a witness to the whole Church of the faith of the Gospel."

DRS. TAYLOR and FAUDE pressed home upon the Council the value of the Prayer Book as a missionary. When placed in the hands of earnest people it does a quiet and effective work. In the beginning of the last century the president of Yale College, Timothy Cutler, Samuel Johnson, Jared Eliot, John Hart, Daniel Brown and others obtained and studied a Prayer Book, and as a result accepted its teachings, and four of them were ordained to the Ministry. Both speakers asked earnestly for some plan by which the Prayer Book could be set free upon its mission. There was no mistaking the intense interest in this subject from the moment it was introduced in the paper of Dr. Langford.

THE call for cheap Prayer Books echoed back from all parts of the

Council. It is the popular demand of the hour rising in grand chorus from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Who will have the honor of supplying the Church and the country with a substantial Prayer Book at bare cost? It is the children's bread—the spiritual food of the people—the great missionary instrument of the Church.

The report of the committee which Bishop Tuttle, as chairman, read to the Council closed with these ringing words: "The members of this Missionary Council send greeting in the Lord to all the givers and helpers of the great work that they and we are set to do; they ask for continuance of love and sympathy and prayers from those shut away from the joy of giving by the present distress, and for kind thoughtfulness and redoubled generosity from any who may be untouched by financial disaster; and to all they beg to be permitted to avouch that we can heartily thank God and take courage, and can say one to another, 'Come, arise, be of good cheer, go forward.'"

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