

offerings be devoted to the missionary cause, at home and abroad.

Every person, scholar, teacher and officer, should be asked to give a "*Missionary Mite*," say a dollar a year, which would be only twenty-five cents a quarter, and have it collected at the quarterly meetings. All this should be done with a willing spirit, "*not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver.*"

WHEN will men cease to strain their weary eyes toward a cold and lofty region where the Father is not found, and simply turn to the cradle of Bethlehem, the cross of Calvary, the footstool of simple, lovely penitence, to find Him, who has himself said:—"I dwell with him that is humble, and of a contrite heart, and that trembleth at my word."

APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION.

Some years ago, I became acquainted with Edward Collins, who at that time was acting as assistant to Mr. Robins, the Congregational preacher. There he was allowed to preach and pray, but neither to baptize nor to administer the other Sacrament.

His ordination was often talked about; and up to a certain point we seemed to agree very well. We were both convinced that a true and lawful minister of the Church of Christ ought to have not only an *inward*, but also a lawful *outward* call to the office, just as Aaron had, who was called of God, but publicly received the Divine Commission at the hand of Moses.

No man, we argued, would dare to take upon himself the office of

ambassador, or magistrate, or even of constable (however well qualified) without a lawful outward call and a commission from the head of the State. Just so, no man could properly obtain and execute the office of a minister in the Church of Christ unless he had received a commission from the Divine Head of the Church.

We were both quite convinced, from the New Testament, that members of the Church never *took upon themselves* the office of a ministry, but *received it* from those who had the power to give it.

Then came the question, "What method was established and put in practice by the Apostles in transmitting the Divine Commission which they had received?"

Here my friend and I began to differ. Feeling sure, however, that the right principle was really though secretly rooted in his mind, I, one day, proposed the question to him in the following manner:

"Your ordination has been put off for a long time. How inconvenient it must be for you."

"Why, yes," he replied, "it is. I wish it could be done soon; I have often spoken to Mr. Robins about it, but he says he is waiting to obtain the assistance of some other ministers who have promised to attend the ordination."

"Well," said I, "I wish you would let me do it at once for you."

He looked at me with surprise and exclaimed, "You do it!"

"Yes, I said" "unless you have some objection to me; if you have, I will say no more."

"Well, but how could you do it?"

"But why should I *not*?" Or, if you have some objections to me,