

# **HAND-BOOK OF MISSIONS**

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Hand-book of missions by A. McLean

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**A. MCLEAN**

**HAND-BOOK  
OF MISSIONS**



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# HAND-BOOK OF MISSIONS.

BY

A. MCLEAN,

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN  
CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.



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The National Convention of the Disciples of Christ, held in Springfield, Illinois, October 16-23, 1896, adopted the following recommendations:

"1. That this convention approve the idea of adding, within certain limits, the educational feature to the Christian Endeavor Societies among us. This added educational feature shall include helps for the systematic reading of the Bible, a selected course of reading concerning missions in general, and our own missions in particular, and thorough instruction as to the origin, the principles, and the history of our own movement for the restoration of New Testament Christianity.

"2. That this convention approve of the purpose to provide a series of hand-books for our young people covering the field not already satisfactorily covered."

In harmony with this action three courses of reading are being planned, and a hand-book, introductory to each course, has been prepared. This little volume is introductory to the study of Missions.





## INTRODUCTION.

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It is God's purpose to save the world through the gospel of His Son. The task of executing that purpose has been entrusted to His Church on earth—the divine presence and co-working being always understood. Therefore the supreme duty of the Church is world-wide conquest in the name of the Lord. To aim at anything short of this would be disobedience to her Great Captain. To refuse participation in the efforts directed to this end would be to be unworthy a place in His mighty army.

Missions mean simply the aggressiveness of the gospel. They measure the devotion of the Church to the sublime conception of saving the world. They tell the thrilling story of what has been done to realize that conception since the day that our Savior "sat down on the right hand of God, from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made the footstool of his feet."

The reader will not be surprised at the completeness with which the survey of the modern mis-

sion field and of its achievements is given in this little volume, or at the amount and variety of missionary intelligence that is crowded into it, or at the intensely vital quality of these fascinating chapters, when he learns that the author has consecrated his time, talent, toil and strength to this great work for nearly a score of years, and that he returned but a few months ago from a tour of the world, undertaken to enlarge and perfect him in the information of which he gives to us so freely and forcibly in these pages.

The specific design of this Hand-book is the instruction of Christian Endeavor Societies in the great triumphs, growing greater year by year, of modern missions, of modern missions in general, among all religious bodies and in all parts of the immense world-field; of modern missions in particular, among the Disciples of Christ and in the various parts of the field they are striving to occupy. It is a most necessary ingredient in the religious education of our young people that they know of these, minutely and accurately, and that they know, too, of all the different missionary organizations among us, through which we are trying to occupy these fields, and to do our missionary work. For missionary knowledge is an essential condition of missionary zeal and liberality.

This little book deals and can deal but in outlines. It is merely a preface to the inspiring pages of numerous missionary biographies, a key to open