

grace shone here with renewed splendour, For when Clement arrived at his place of destiny, he was no less active in the cause of his divine Master, he suffered not his exertions to relax in extending the redeemers kingdom. But in the midst of all his sufferings and pain, he strengthened and supported his christian brethren who were condemned to the same bondage with himself. His faith and patience through the merits of his Redeemer were acceptable in the sight of God and met with a glorious reward, for numbers of the heathen who heard him preach the riches of redeeming grace, were inspired with so favourable an opinion of his doctrine, that they embraced the christian faith, and became the disciples of our blessed savior Jesus Christ. Thus did Clement the faithful Herald of the cross behold the dominion of satan overthrown and the kingdom of the Messiah established, at the place of his exile, through his instrumentality. The success of Clements preaching was soon made known to the Emperor, who firm in his implacable hatred to the christian name, sent Aufidius, the president, to check the further progress of the religion of Jesus Christ, by destroying many of his votaries, but this manner of proceeding was not sufficient to produce the desired effect. Disappointed in this attempt the president ceased to contend with the multitude, and determined to seize on one whom they held in high estimation, thinking that the destruction of their leader would prove an effectual means to intimidate them, Clement was accordingly chosen, after having been exposed to various temptations which he nobly resisted. Thus did Clemens Romanus approve himself a worthy herald of the cross of Jesus Christ. He was thrown into the sea, where he sealed his faith in a crucified savior, by suffering Martyrdom, in the third year of Trajan's reign, and of the christian era one hundred.

Clemens Romanus mentioned by saint Paul, as a fellow labourer with him, in the gospel we have selected as the subject of the present essay, This excellent man was born at Rome during the first century, his parentage and conversion are obscure and doubtful to us. Yet it is supposed that he was descended from the family of the Caesars, his Father being nearly related to Tiberias. Circumstances of a peculiar nature obliged his Mother to leave Rome, accompanied by her son, she went to Athens where the subject of our essay received his education, who after ~~having~~ having arrived at the years of manhood, became dissatisfied concerning the doctrines of the immortality of the soul, and the state of a future existence. Therefore applied the energies of his mind to the study of these all important subjects in private; but these subjects being too complex for unassisted reason to attain unto, hence he derived no light from his own ideas on them. He then determined to attend the schools of the Philosophers, but those teachers who themselves confessed the necessity of a revelation, could give him no satisfaction on those sublime subjects. Next he consulted the Egyptian Priests, for the information he so earnestly desired, but here also he met with disappointment. Thus all his researches on those all important subjects proved fruitless and he was left in the dark, ~~till~~ and while his mind was in ^{this} state of suspense, and despairing perhaps of ever attaining the end of his inquiries, he heard the joyful news of the Messiah and of the pure, and sublime doctrines preached by him in Judea. At this crisis Clemens Romanus in all probability formed the resolution to attend to the doctrines delivered by the supreme teacher who was sent from Heaven to bring life and immortality to its clearest light which eventuated in the salvation of his immortal soul, and by which he received a Martyrs crown. When Barnabas came to Rome Clement attended on his ministry, while there, and afterward accompanied him to Judea, At Cesarea this young convert met with St. Peter by whom he was more fully instructed and baptized, and whose

companion he continued to be during the greater part of his life. He accompanied st Peter to Rome where at length the government of the church was committed to him, and finally he exercised the office of Bishop at that place. But this Missionary of the cross of Jesus Christ could not confine his attention only to the duties in the narrow sphere of his station at home, but being animated with holy zeal to extend the Redemers kingdom into those regions, where the light of revelation had never shed its benign influence, where darkness covered the earth and grieves darkness the people. He therefore sent persons to preach the riches of redeeming grace to those who sat in darkness, and in the shadow of death; This missionary spirit of ~~the~~ which the worthy servant of Jesus Christ possessed, should be an inducement for every true follower of the meek and lowly Lamb of God; and especially for those who professedly are the Ministers of that gospel which was revealed by Jesus Christ, to imitate ⁱⁿ that the kingdom of Christ might be the more speedily extended and the knowledge of the Lord ~~to~~ cover the earth from the centre to its circumference.— At about this time an unhappy division occurred in the church at Corinth which afforded Clement an opportunity of manifesting his love for peace and unity. After the Corinthians had applied to him for his advice, and assistance, he addressed that beautiful Epistle to them, which has so justly merited the admiration of pious readers in every age of the church. After admonishing the Corinthian Christians to brotherly love, and unity in the church, he concludes his beautiful Epistle thus, "May God the searcher of all hearts, and creator of all spirits, and of all flesh, who hath chosen the Lord Jesus Christ, and us through him, unto a peculiar people grant unto

every soul that invokes his sacred, and glorious name, Faith, fear, peace, patience, meekness, forbearance, holiness and wisdom, that all things may rightly adore his name, through our high-Priest and guardian the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom, and through whom be glory, majesty, power, and honour, now and for ever. Clement having escaped the persecution of the christians under the profligate Domitian. He saw the church enjoy peace during the reign of Nerva. But this calm in the infancy of the christian church was of short duration, soon after the accession of the idolatrous Trajan another persecution arose which has left an indelible stain on the character of a prince famed by some historians as a model of an excellent and good sovereign. The situation Clement Romanus held in the christian society at Rome more particularly exposed him to the rage of his enemies, and the enmities of Christ. The conversion of Theodora a noble lady, and afterward that of her husband Sisinius, who was a relation and favourite of the late Emperor Nerva, induced many to embrace the religion of Jesus Christ; and Clement, who was the blessed instrument in effecting this glorious change, incurred the displeasure, hatred and envy, of Sorentinus a man who possessed great power and authority in the city, and by his influence he excited the multitude to accuse Clement of magic and sorcery, of being an enemy and blasphemer of their gods, and to demand him to offer sacrifice to their idols, or expiate his crime by the forfeiture of his life. In this clamour Mamertinus the prefect of the city who was a mild and prudent man, sent for Clement, and advised him to comply. But his entreaties were vain, the resolution of the venerable servant of God remained unshaken, hence his case was referred to Trajan, who pronounced the sentence that Clement must either sacrifice to the idols, or be exiled to ^{latter} Cherson a city beyond the Black sea there to labour in the mines, this being carried into execution under the most excruciating tortures, But the triumph of Divine