

Special Letter of Instructions to the Rev. J. J. Robertson & the Rev. J. H. Hill,  
Missionaries to the Greeks, from the Domestic and Foreign Mission-  
ary Society, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United  
States of America.

1. It will be your endeavour whilst on ship board, by your conversation and example, to recommend to those around you that holy religion which you are going to a distant land to labour to promote: - and whenever the circumstances of the ship will permit, you will try to prevail upon the Captain to have daily morning & evening prayer in the cabin, and regular services for the ship's crew upon the Lord's Day.
2. It will probably appear to you advisable to provide for your families and for the Prep under your charge, temporary accommodations, at the expense of the Society, either in the Island of Tinos, or Egina, or some other situation not so remote from Athens but that you may easily obtain correct information whether or not, it will be likely to prove, as at present seems highly probable, the most eligible situation for the permanent establishment of the Prep, and mission; as well as that you may be the nearer at hand to await yourselves, if the earliest opportunity to repair thither, should it finally appear most advisable to make that renowned city the scene of your future labours.
3. You will employ your utmost diligence, both by inquiry of those persons who may be best capable of expressing an opinion upon the subject, and also, if need be, by excursions for the purpose of personal observation at the charge of the Society, to ascertain the most central and convenient point, whether at Athens or else where, for shedding a moral and religious influence most readily and extensively abroad amongst the Greek population, by means of schools; the emanations of the Prep; and the exercise of your ministry; as far as either or all of them, can, with prudence & propriety be employed.

4. It will be of the utmost importance that no time should be lost, in bringing your schools and your Press into effective operation even though it may be under temporary and inconvenient circumstances. For as it is by means of infant and other schools that the Society hope immediately to conciliate the favor of a people whose praise it has long been "that they seek after knowledge"; so is their confident expectation, by the blessing of God upon the production of an enlightened, well regulated, scriptural Press; that the greatest amount of practical & lasting good is to be done. "With extreme solicitude will they await the arrival of the first news from the Press; and of the first of its productions.

5. In your daily familiar conversations; in all your instructions to the children committed to your care, in any exercises which may be deemed expedient of the ministry which has been committed to you; and above all, in every work prepared by you for the Press, the Society hopes to be understood as being very express and peremptory in the expression of the opinion, that you are by no means to say, or write, or do any thing which may justly give rise to the impression that you have visited the Greeks for the purpose of introducing another form of christianity, or establishing another church than that in which they have been nurtured. ~~Let~~ it every where be known that the Church of which you are presbyters, distinctly & fully recognized the validity of ordination by Greek Bishops; that she lays claim to the same undoubted marks, with the Greek Church, of a primitive and apostolic origin; that she maintains the same three orders of the ministry the use of a Liturgy in the public worship of Almighty God, and many other things which are deemed to be characteristic of churches of apostolic & scriptural origin. If, in any thing, the Greek Church may appear to you to have departed from the purity and simplicity of primitive times, and scriptural example, beware how you make them, matters of sweeping censure or direct attack. Strive rather, steadily and humbly, in

in the spirit of the meek and lowly Saviour, to restore those amongst whom you labour, to more just notions of the pure - the only correct scriptural standard of christian doctrine, ceremony & practice. Avail yourselves with all diligence of the disposition which God hath given to this ingenious & intelligent people, to defer simply to the authority of his Holy Words; and, by life, conversation and example, as well as by the unvarying tenor of the productions of your Pncp, labour to restore to that people, the holy simplicity and glorious purity of that very gospel, which St. Paul preached amongst them. And cease not you labour and diligence, until all her prelates and clergy, and all estates of men within her pale; are brought, in all things essential, into perfect agreement with the word and ordinances of the Lords.

6. As you have been appointed viceregents, to the Greeks, any effort which you can make for the good of the men of that nation, thro' the medium of the Pncp, wherever they may be scattered along the shores of the Mediterranean, whether in Europe, or Asia, will fairly come within the limits of your instructions.
7. During the hours of leisure or relaxation, it will every way comport with the more sacred objects of your mission, to obtain such knowledge of the history, antiquities, & relics of the enlightened and exalted people who once were lords of the country to which you are sent, as will be interesting to men of reflection & learning, or may, in any way, shed light upon literature or the scriptures. The soil, climate, productions &c of the region around you; the character, manners and customs; the opinions, habits & practices; and especially the religious views and observances of the Greeks, will deserve some passing notice. But particularly all those matters which relate to the political, moral, or religious condition and prospects of this interesting portion of the down-cast church of Christ, will claim particular attention. Information on all these topics, or any little relic or curiosity which may serve to illustrate them, would give a grace

and impart an interest to your communications to the Society, important and desirable, in very many respects.

8. Whenever you meet with the missionaries and agents of kindred christian & benevolent societies, following the dictates of your own hearts, you will of course, show them all manner of kindness and render them all the aid in your power. But the Society feels a special degree of anxiety that you should cultivate a good understanding more particularly with the missionaries of those Institutions, which entertain views similar to those of the Protestant Episcopal Church on the subject of church government, and who have themselves received episcopal orders.

9. Without giving to the point any undue prominence or ever exhibiting it in a manner calculated to injure or grieve those who think differently; it appears to the Society that it will be your bounden duty to let it be known that the church of which you are Presbytery, is scripturally episcopal; and diligently to avail yourselves of any advantage which Divine Providence may, on this score be pleased to put into your hands.

10. But you are never for one moment to forget that to bring home the saving truths of Christ's Gospel to the understanding & hearts of ignorant, depraved and perishing sinners, as it was the object to which, at your ordination you were publicly set apart by the imposition of the hands of the Bishop; so is it the great and sacred object for which you are sent abroad by this Society, as their missionaries to the Greeks.

Philadelphia, North America  
September the 24th. 1830

B. B. Smith, One of  
the Secretaries of the  
Dom. and For. Miss.  
Society, of the P. E. Ch.  
in the U. S. of America.