

T H E

MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD.

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I.—THE LITERATURE OF MISSIONS.

THE SUPREME QUESTIONS OF THE HOUR.

[EDITORIAL.—A. T. P.]

As we study missions we are more and more convinced that the defect in our methods is radical. There is something wrong, and it reaches down to the very foundations of our system; otherwise there would be a greater and grander onward march and a more speedy and glorious success. Let us be honest with ourselves and with God, and handle this subject with ungloved hands.

The supreme questions of the hour, in respect to missions both at home and abroad, are these two: How can missions be *prosecuted* vigorously and efficiently? How can missions be *supported* generously and systematically?

1. As to the *prosecution* of missions as an enterprise of the church. Any worldly man who is considering the question of his calling in life from a purely secular point of view will ask four subordinate questions:

1. As to the *character* of the business he proposes to pursue: its honesty and honorableness, its effect on his own physical, mental and moral well-being. 2. As to the *opening* for such a business: whether there is room for it, where he proposes to prosecute it, and a reasonable prospect of its success. 3. As to the *profit* of such a business: whether whatever capital he has can be best invested in that particular way, as to quick and safe and large returns. 4. As to the *associations* of such a business: whether they are like to be congenial, helpful, stimulating, harmonious, and especially if a partnership in business involved in the proposition.

Missions must be regarded as *the business* and the only business ever divinely committed to the believers as individuals and as a collective body. "Follow me, and I will make you FISHERS OF MEN." No other calling is legitimate unless it is in harmony with this; any other calling is legitimate if in it we may abide with God and carry on God's work. Let every believer get this fixed in his mind and heart: what-