

# THE MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD.

VOL. XVI. No. 6.—*Old Series.*——JUNE.——VOL. VI. No. 6.—*New Series.*

## THE DIVINE PATTERN OF MISSIONS.

BY THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

“Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all Thy name.” Herein is God’s pattern for all true work for Him.

Human life and the history of the race is a problem without a solution until we find the key to its mystery in the Word of God. Bengel’s motto is the law of all success in service: “Apply thyself wholly to the Scriptures, and apply the Scriptures wholly to thyself;” and Arthur Hallam gives in one sentence an epitome of Christian experience: “I believe the Bible to be God’s book because it is man’s book, fitting every turn and curve of man’s heart.” The more it is studied the more its worth is seen and its charm felt. Michael Angelo’s devotion to the famous Torso of Belvidere Hercules in the Vatican, sketching it from every point of view, and in the blindness of old age seeking to enjoy, through his touch, the delight no longer possible through his sight, but feebly expresses the joy of the believer in his contact with the blessed Word, in which he sees and feels the marks of a Divine Artist. Even to our Lord, His Father’s Word was in temptation His sword, in trial His solace, in teaching His guide; His credential as Messiah, His directory as Servant; it was the balm in Gethsemane’s anguish, His legacy in death, His theme from His resurrection to His ascension.

No problem presents greater perplexity than that of world-wide missions; and in the attempt to solve that problem well may we reverently approach this Word, persuaded that here again we shall find written, as over the pillars of Hercules on the old Spanish dollar, “*Ne plus ultra.*”

A kind of “introductory chapter” to all missionary history is found in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, which is the Gospel of Christ, as set forth by the evangelists, applied actually and historically by the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Luke, in the gospel which he wrote, told what “Jesus began,” and in the Acts tells what He “continued, both to do and teach,” by the Spirit.