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I.—LITERATURE OF MISSIONS. LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE. A NOBLE FRIEND OF MISSIONS.

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It is inspiring to all loyal lovers of the Kingdom of God to recall the varied sources of its tribute, and the widely contrasted ranks in society which have yielded it allegiance. It kindles the heart to observe how the sceptre of that Kingdom has waved, up and down the centuries, compelling history to proclaim its sway. Literature has lent the charm of her graceful periods to exalt its pure and noble principles. Science, perchance unconscious of its unsought honor, has delved for its service. It brings its wealth from far, and unexpected gifts are poured into its treasury. Truly "the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof," and, with deep gladness, we learn that "His Kingdom ruleth over all."

To those of us who are accustomed to fix our eyes intently on certain agencies of the church, as the main, if not the only, means of extending the reign of Divine law, order, beauty and righteousness, it comes almost as a delightful surprise to note how often those not directly connected with such agencies are, in their own way, helping on the one grand work. Truth is one, whether sung by the poet, painted or chiseled by the artist, proclaimed by the orator, toiled for by the statesman, died for by the soldier, preached or taught by the humble missionary. Into this fellowship of service it is a refreshment to come.

The story of the life of Stratford Canning, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe,* is an illustration of the valuable work done for God's Kingdom by one holding a lofty social and diplomatic position in the kingdoms of this world. Daniels there have been, starring the course of history all down the ages, men raised up to stand firmly for righteousness, justice, and the liberty of the human soul, even amid the dark though high places of sin and oppression—among these this honored name has a place. No human character is perfect, and his was marred by an imperious temper which often flashed with too hot a blaze; but rarely do we find a more tenacious hold upon principle,

* The thread of this narrative is mainly drawn from the able volumes on the "Life of Stratford Canning, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe," by Stanley Lane-Pool. Additional information has been derived from "Forty Years in the Turkish Empire," and an article on "Civil and Religious Liberty in Turkey," in the *Princeton Review* for October, 1875, by Rev. E. D. G. Prime, D.D.