

THE  
**MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD.**

Vol. XII, No. 10.—*Old Series.*——OCTOBER.——Vol. II, No. 10.—*New Series.*

I.—LITERATURE OF MISSIONS.  
SHAFTESBURY, THE EVANGELISTIC EARL.

[EDITORIAL.—A. T. P.]

WHEN Constantine, in 330, resolved to build the New Rome on the site of Byzantium, he was himself marking out the boundary lines on a scale of more than twice the magnitude of the old city. One of his followers ventured to remonstrate against so impracticable a scheme as to inclose within walls such an extent of territory. But the founder of Constantinople replied, "*I am following Him who is leading me.*"

When we laid down those two imperial volumes\* in which Mr. Hodder has so graphically portrayed the most many-sided life of the century if not of history, we felt overwhelmed by the magnitude of the scheme on which that life's activities were projected. But the coster-earl built more wisely than he knew. He followed Cæsar who led him, and who had for that life a sphere so wide and so varied in its service. The story of such a man is peculiarly valuable at this crisis of history. It illustrates what a single man can be to his own generation directly, and to all coming generations remotely, by simply giving himself to every work in the spirit of a true evangelism. We are reminded of Admiral Foote, who, when the King of Siam came on board his flagship to dine with him, asked a blessing on the food; and when the king said, "You do just like the missionaries," the Christian commander beautifully replied, "Yes, I, too, am a missionary."

It is well worth while to glance at this career of an English nobleman, whose nobility was less that of the garter and the escutcheon than of the Christian and the universal benefactor. We may learn from it one grand lesson: that he who hallows life with a consecrated missionary spirit and purpose may work out a truly missionary service wherever he goes and whatever he does. Shaftesbury had the marvellous power of turning every employment and environment into a opportunity for evangelism. In even so unlikely a place as the debates of Parliament he preached the gospel. His pen and his tongue were constant tonics and stimulants to the work of missions at home and abroad. Robert Morrison in China, William Carey in India, Robert Moffat in Africa, Eli Smith in Syria, Justin Perkins

\*"Life of the Earl of Shaftesbury," by Edwin Hodder. 2 vols., 8vo. London.)