

ROMANTIC EPICS AND THE MISSION OF EMPIRE

The British Romantic period saw an unprecedented explosion in epic poems, an understudied literary phenomenon that enabled writers to address the unique historical tensions of the era. Long associated with empire, epic revived at a time when Britain was expanding its imperial reach, and when the concept of imperialism itself began to evolve into the notion of a benevolent project of spreading British culture and religion across the globe. Matthew Leporati argues that the epic revival not only reflects but also interrogates this evangelical turn. The first to examine the impact of missionary work on epic literature, this book offers sustained analysis of both under-read and canonical works, bringing fresh historical and literary contexts to bear on our understanding of this unique revival of epic poetry. This title is part of the Flip it Open Programme and may also be available Open Access. Check our website Cambridge Core for details.

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*This book is dedicated to my daughter, Hazel Frances
Leporati. All of my achievements are dedicated to her.*

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