

country had somewhat quieted down, they were selected to dispense the Fund of the Constantinople Relief Committee; and your Committee allowed them to accept this honourable post, believing that it would prepare for them a heartier reception afterwards with the Scriptures. The conditions of work have not been much more favourable in Bosnia, Herzegovina, Albania, and Montenegro; and much credit is due to the colporteurs in these several provinces for staying at their posts in times of such danger. The efforts made at Constantinople and in Asia Minor have been, so far as appearances go, more remunerative; and some islands have been visited by the colporteurs, where the Word of God had scarcely been seen before.

GREECE.—Here a strange effort has been made by the Holy Synod to put down the circulation of the Scriptures. It has, however, aroused public feeling in their favour, and the people are curious to know what the books are which causes so much alarm to the official mind. The depôts at Athens, Tripolis, and Syra, report a sale of 734 copies, with 986 circulated by colporteurs.

SYRIA AND PALESTINE.—Some 1,274 copies have been issued from the Damascus and Beyrout depôts, and by the colporteur on the Lebanon; this is better than before, but no one can regard it as satisfactory. To too large an extent well-meaning travellers have glutted the country with Scriptures, until all healthy desire for them has been destroyed; thus in Judæa colportage has had to be discontinued altogether for a while. The depôt at Jerusalem has issued 788 copies, a new depôt at Bethlehem about 50, and the colporteur at Nazareth 294.

EGYPT.—The issues (2,089) show an increase of 481 copies on those of 1875. Your committee have joined the American Bible Society in opening a new depôt at Cairo. To provide for the towns along the line of the Suez Canal a Dutch missionary from Galioub has been especially engaged; he has already made two experimental tours with fair results.

ABYSSINIA.—The war with Egypt has made it difficult for the missionaries in the interior to communicate with Europe; but a large consignment of Scriptures has been sent by camels from Zeyla to Ankobar, where great oppor-

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