

we cannot do better than transfer here an abstract of the Parent Society's Report, which, we doubt not, will be read with much interest by members of the several branches :

Reference was made a year ago to the mayor of a country town, who had offered his services for colportage. When visited by M. Monod in the autumn, he was on the point of resigning his office, so as to devote himself more unreservedly to his new work. From this course your Agent very wisely dissuaded him, representing what influence his position would give him over the people. Moreover, the election of mayors throughout France was at hand ; and, if it had been interesting to see a mayor turn colporteur, it would be doubly so to see a colporteur elected mayor. M. Anastay, for that is his name, was induced to stand, and, strange to say, was re-elected unanimously. Before leaving him, your Agent was curious to learn how he had fared the first time he took the Bibles in his bag. Anastay told him that, after long reflection, he had decided to choose a market day, and announce his new intention on the public square. The moment he appeared, a crowd gathered around him, and listened while he boldly declared what books he had for sale, and why he had resolved to undertake this work. Not a syllable of objection was heard ; and courage and fidelity have had their reward in the fact that, from that day to this, he has never met with any hindrance.

There are 62 colporteurs in France, all men of approved Christian character, and superintended by Protestant pastors ; the number of sub-dépôts has been increased from 40 to 61, and the entire circulation from 95,646 to 98,406.

BELGIUM.—Here also there is an advance, the circulation having reached a total of 19,439 copies. Of these 3,153 have been sold from the Brussels dépôt, and 7,636 by 6 colporteurs, who travel over the country ; 8,521 have been issued to other societies, especially to the National Bible Society of Scotland, and the Belgian Evangelical Society, and to them belongs the credit of bringing these books to the homes and hands of the people. Debouille, one of your own colporteurs, sold a Bible to a young Fleming. Shortly afterwards a priest came to the house. ' You must not read

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