

is a fact which must be viewed with interest and gratitude.

The efforts of past years to obtain a recognised position in Austria are familiar to most friends of the Society. The commencement of an Agency at Vienna in 1850, and the subsequent arbitrary expulsion of Mr. Millard, under the direction of the authorities, were fully explained at the time. A most promising sphere of labour was peremptorily closed, and the Austrian Government assumed the attitude of determined hostility to the free circulation of the Scriptures, even amongst her Protestant subjects. It is now a subject for devout congratulation, that the police regulations which prevented the introduction of the Scriptures into the Austrian dominions are absolutely rescinded, and the Bible may now freely enter those territories whence it has hitherto been so unwisely banished.

DENMARK.—Hitherto the circulation of the Scriptures by this Society has been confined to the New Testament. As a step in advance, the Psalms have been printed, by permission of the authorities, during the past year, to be sold separately, or appended to the New Testament.

The Report of the Agency at Copenhagen says, that 6989 copies of the New Testament were issued on behalf of the Society in 1860.

NORWAY.—The issues of Scriptures from the Dépôts at Christiania, Christiansand, Stavanger, Bergen, Drontheim, and Tromsøe, have comprised 16,581 copies.

SWEDEN.—The Agency at Stockholm have sought to fulfil both the wishes and the hopes of the Committee. Nor has the effort been in vain; for while the word of God has been borne to the poor and wretched dwellings of the destitute, to the sick-bed of the sufferer, to the cell of the degraded criminal, and offered far and wide in the busy town and at the wayside hut through the land, such a blessing has accompanied these endeavours to render the Bible the common property of all classes, that the vast circulation of 89,629 copies has been secured, exceeding the issues of the previous year, when the work had reached a point beyond which progress was scarcely anticipated.

RUSSIA.—ST. PETERSBURG.—Events of deep significance, both political and ecclesiastical, have taken place in Russia, which cannot fail to have an important influence on the future dissemination of Divine truth.

The friends of the Society will be happy to hear of the activity and energy now displayed, by the Synod of the Greek Church, in preparing and publishing a new translation of the Bible into Modern Russ. It is understood that the whole of the trans-

lation is already completed, but as yet only the four Gospels have been issued. Of these, probably not fewer than 200,000 copies have been circulated.

In connection with your own Agency at St. Petersburg, 17,250 copies were issued during the year 1860.

ODESSA.—It is but a discouraging and depressing account that Mr. Melville is able to furnish of operations in Southern Russia during the past year; and the issues actually reported have sunk to a point unusually low, amounting to no more than 3873 copies.

SPAIN.—Various grants of Spanish Scriptures have again been made to correspondents who have available means for their distribution.

The Committee have the satisfaction of stating that the entire Bible, according to the translation of Valera, is now printed, and will be ready for immediate circulation.

The Auxiliary at Gibraltar continues to employ such modes of circulation as are practicable, and, by a visitation of vessels frequenting the bay, many persons are induced to purchase the Scriptures.

ITALY.—Before dwelling on the incidents and success which have attended Bible circulation in this country, it may be stated that Lieutenant Graydon has resigned his Agency.

The Committee believe they have found a suitable successor in Mr. T. Bruce, who has resided for many years at Leghorn, and was previously well known to them by correspondence, and by such efforts as were practicable for the circulation of the Scriptures in Tuscany.

Mr. Bruce entered upon his duties in September last, and has visited the principal parts of his Italian field. Henceforth, Switzerland will be entirely severed from the district of the Agent having charge of Italy, and be incorporated with the Frankfort Agency; and Malta and Italy will be united, and placed under the control of a single Agent.

TURIN.—The usual modes of action have been here maintained, securing a circulation for the year of 4098 copies.

An event, of considerable significance in its bearing on liberty of religious thought and action, as well as the circulation of the Bible, has taken place at Turin during the year. Hitherto the Scriptures circulated in Italy have been imported into the country, not printed there, inasmuch as the law of Sardinia forbade the printing of the Bible, without the previous concurrence and sanction of the Romish Archbishop. Such a condition was a practical interdict against the printing of the Scriptures on the part of Protestants. The Vaudois Church wisely judged that the time had arrived when the

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