

nearly every Roman Catholic who, by the Holy Spirit's blessing on the reading of the scriptures, has been led to the knowledge of the truth—has been so led by reading *DeLacy's version*.

The great revival in Maderia years ago, (when 1500 Protestant converts emigrated, chiefly to the United States,) was brought about by the instrumentality of Dr. Kalley, in connection with *Perier's version*. An application was recently made in Halifax by a Protestant minister for some copies of *DeLacy's version* to circulate among the French Roman Catholics in this Province. When Father Chiniquy was in Halifax, Mr. Farquhar, the Cor. Secretary of the N. S. A. B. S., asked him whether *DeLacy's version* was the best to order. Mr. C. told him by all means to get it. "*It was the one he and his people used.*" "*It was the only one that would be received.*"

The assertion met me in Wallace that I had circulated the Douay Bible. I denied it then. I repeat the denial now. I never sold or gave away a copy of the English scriptures but those of the authorised version. But suppose either of the writers of the letter had visited (as I have done) R. C. families, where there was no Bible in the house, and where the statement met me—'I'll not take the Protestant Bible, but if, you have a Catholic one I'll buy it. Suppose they had a Douay Bible without the *Apocrypha*, and without the notes, would either or both of them turn and say, "No. If you will not have the authorized version you shall not have the Douay." Well, the British and Foreign Bible Society instruct their colporteurs labouring in Roman Catholic countries to take with them both the *Protestant and Roman Catholic versions*,—without the *Apocrypha*—without note or comment,—to offer first the Protestant version. If that is refused, then to offer the R. C. version. And the most imperfect version circulated by the Bible Society is much better than the Douay. The Douay, the Rheish and the Bordeaux versions are not now, and never have been circulated by the Bible Society. It has frequently been urged to circulate the former; it has steadily refused. Although the Irish Church Missionary Society circulate it, and God's blessing has accompanied its perusal.

The Romish Priesthood oppose the work of the Bible Society. Pope after Pope has denounced it, its agents and books: condemning without exception or discrimination all the books circulated. Some of these Roman Catholic versions (Marteni's for example) have been placed on the list of prohibited books. The writers of the letter, should their influence to any extent lessen the circulation of God's word, are (unconsciously, I know, but not the less

really) doing Rome's work. The Pope and the opposers of the circulation of these R. C. versions, are at one on this point. As a Protestant, a Presbyterian, and a lover of the word of God, I prefer being on the other side.

The Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society have issued the following statement regarding the versions objected to. "They all teach substantially one and the same Truth—they set forth the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost. They all proclaim who and what the Saviour is—His one great sacrifice for sin—His intercession with the Father—His coming again to judgment—man's guilt, condemnation and helplessness—the Holy Spirit's grace, power, and work. They are all, your committee solemnly believe, able to save the souls of men: to make men wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." They all say, "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." The Pope and the whole Roman Catholic hierarchy know and feel that these versions are the word of God,—they know and they feel that they do bring light among the people,—they feel that these versions cut "like a two edged sword." A greater joy could not be caused at Rome than that which will be occasioned by this fresh attack upon the labours of the Society.

I deeply regret that in this Province such an attack has been made upon a Society which God has honoured to circulate his word in 173 languages or dialects, and to the extent of more than 50,000,000 copies. God helping me, I shall endeavour to meet it, (as three months ago I met it in Wallace) wherever the necessity appears. The British and Foreign Bible Society has outlived former attacks. It will, and in this Province too, survive this also. Greater is He that is for it than all they that can be against it.

I conclude with the solemn words of the excellent Dean Milner: "I would not for all that this kingdom can bestow have my conscience loaded with the bitter reflection that I had ever, directly or indirectly, been instrumental in obstructing the free progress of the British and Foreign Bible Society."

I am, &c.,

ALEXANDER RUSSELL,

Agent of N. S. A. B. S.

Truro, 16th Jan., 1867.