

In the district through which Lebbolo travels, to the west of Laggo Maggiore, "there are a few if any of the villages in which there are not one or more persons making diligent use of the Bible." He thus describes a pleasant incident:—

"In all villages in this district there are friends to the cause of God, who confess Christ as the only Saviour. I thank God that He led me to those remote villages. At B——there are three who are firm in the faith. One of these P——, invited me into his house to speak of the truths of the Bible; and we, with others who were present, had a long conversation. One bought a New Testament, and P——himself an octavo Bible. He afterwards entertained me hospitably."

And again, writing at the close of the year, he thus unconsciously illustrates the value of his own work and that of likeminded men.—

"In various villages of Valsesia, there are not only men but women too who are anxious for the visit of a minister or evangelist. The Kingdom of God extends gradually, for by the Study of the Scriptures, with God's help, they come to see that they were redeemed, not with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ. Whenever I meet with these good people, though poor and ignorant myself, I do not fail to speak to them and try to do them good."

TUSCANY AND ANCONA.—Harvests all but ripe, cattle by scores and hundreds, were swept away, and no fewer than 30,000 people suffered more or less by a terrible inundation. Your Committee desired to do something to turn the opportunity to good, and deputed through Mr. Bruce, Signor Manenti, of Mantua, and Signor Manfredini, of Ferrara, to proceed to the flooded district and see if they could find an entrance for the Word of God. At first these friends feared that their errand might seem inopportune, but soon found many prepared to appreciate it. In carrying out this purpose Signor Manenti came upon a trace of a similar work done in 1872.

"In a house which had been inundated, I found an old man, the father of a numerous family, who showed me a Bible which had been under water in a large box. Except that the binding and the first few pages were injured, it was not in a bad state. He had got on the occasion of the former inundation in 1872, and after reading it ceased to go to Mass, preferring to draw his spiritual food solely from the Word of God. I had much pleasant conversation, not only with him, but with a number more who were collected in his house. As I spoke to them of the one and only Saviour Jesus Christ, I distributed a number of portions and some New Testaments, hopeful of good fruit."

In the district round Ancona, there are only "gleams of light." An Evangelist had settled at Rimini, but made little impression and has gone elsewhere. Here, too, the colporteur will again be the only Evangelist. "In redulity is great" and, the colporteur fears, is "extending." Nevertheless, God leaves not Himself without witness to His grace and power and love.

NAPLES.—Last in order of the principal depots comes that of Naples, which supplies the south of Italy and the island of Sicily. From the centre 12,000 copies have been sent out, 2,000 more than last year, and a Bible carriage has been used. In some respects the Bible carriage has been a great assistance, but until more time has been given it will not be possible to decide how far it can be used with success, having regard to the expense connected with it.

One of the first incidents mentioned in Mr. Bruce's report of the work in South Italy bears upon the question of whether or not a portion of Scripture scorned and destroyed may not in its fragments do more than it did in its completeness. It is narrated by Stampacchia, the colporteur who has had charge of the Bible carriage.

"About the year 1871 or 1872 when there was a Maritime Exhibition at