

there are many difficulties to be overcome, the Directors hope to be able to supply Scriptures to meet these needs. Work on the Efik New Testament, which had been revised by Dr. Dean, is well advanced. The proofs were being read by the late Principal J. K. Macgregor, who amid his many duties at Calabar, was giving special concern to this revision. Questions of orthography had to be specially kept in mind, and a conference, which was held at Uyo in February, at which representatives from the Government and from the Missions in the field were present, resulted in a very real measure of agreement on important points. The last letter received from Principal Macgregor told of the work he hoped to accomplish on the proofs: "During the past sixteen months I have not had any break, and my absences from the institution have been on short trips fully occupied with travelling and business. I have arranged to go away for ten days at Easter, and I shall take the proofs with me. The delay is not to be altogether regretted since we have been able to arrive at an agreed orthography." By his passing, the mission cause in Calabar has lost a great leader, and many have lost a true friend, one whose rich and wide experience was of great value for the spread of the Gospel. Dr. Dean has most readily undertaken to complete the proof reading and check changes in orthography, and as Rev. J. M. Lewars, of Calabar, and Rev. C. S. Benington, of the Qua Iboe Mission, are in Scotland at present, consultation with them has also been very valuable.

The edition of the New Testament in Tonga is almost exhausted, and arrangements are being made for a fresh supply being printed; it is good to know that in view of paper shortage, etc., mission presses in Africa will help to overcome some of the present difficulties. Psalms in Tumbuka are to be printed at the Hetherwick Press, Blantyre, while an edition of 50,000 copies of Matthew's Gospel in Nyanja has just been undertaken by the Lovedale Press, mainly for distribution among African troops. The Society also hopes to publish soon an edition of St. Mark's Gospel in Kanuri, the language of the people of Bornu Province, Nigeria. Mr. and Mrs. W. Gordon Muir, of the Sudan United Mission, have been at work on this translation for a number of years, and the Directors are glad to have this further contact with the workers of this mission. The population of the Kanuri tribe is over 930,000, so that to many of them the message of the Gospel will go forth.

From Mexico, too, there comes an opportunity to hold forth the Word of Life to Tlapaneco Indians, among the mountains of Southern Mexico. The picture on the cover shows Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Lemley at work on the translation of the Scriptures, along with Eduardo, one of their helpers in the translation work. Mr. Lemley writes:

"There are about 25,000 or 30,000 of these Tlapaneco Indians buried in inaccessible mountains of Southern Mexico. Almost none of them speak Spanish, and the few that do speak it, only falteringly. The community in which we are located has had a school teacher only occasionally, and there is probably not a person in the group who can read a Spanish newspaper intelligently, certainly not the Bible. Consequently they cling to the culture of their fathers. They are an agricultural people, but barely grow enough corn to keep body and soul together through the rainy summer months when the next crop is still immature. In fact, we have every reason to believe that over 50 per cent. of children die

of malnutrition in their first year. Yet the tribe is increasing. Once they were subjects of the great Aztec Empire in the days before Cortez, and contributed a large portion of that nation's gold, but that has long since passed, and the only evidence remaining of that day is the Aztec place names which prevail throughout the region. Those were days of human sacrifice. And still to-day human sacrifice prevails in some Tlapaneco communities. But that is not the rule, so far as we can judge. Witchcraft and black magic are rampant; yearly the people die of such spells, and only the Gospel will liberate them. Still, the people do not welcome us among them, except for the family with whom we live. . . . But slowly progress is being made, and this little will enable you to pray for the work more intelligently."

The Gospel of John, and the Epistles of John, are now ready for printing, and it is hoped that before long time elapses this tribe will have the Gospel in their own tongue.

"A TESTAMENT IS OF FORCE AFTER MEN ARE DEAD."

A considerable amount of the Society's income is derived from Legacies, and many friends of the Word have found it possible to make provision in their wills for sums to be paid to THE NATIONAL BIBLE SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND. Sometimes codicils have been added to existing testaments with the result that additional support has come for the work of publishing and distributing the Scriptures.

A RICH HERITAGE OF AN OPEN BIBLE has been given to the people of Scotland.

IT IS WORTH WHILE KEEPING THE BIBLE OPEN, and when BEQUESTS are being arranged the work of the BIBLE SOCIETY deserves consideration.

AT WORK ON THE CONTINENT OF OPPORTUNITY

For many years the Society has been closely associated with the work of Bible distribution in Brazil, and among those who have been foremost in the endeavours to spread the good news of the Gospel has been Mr. Frederick C. Glass, who, busy as a young man in the work of gold testing and refining, was led in a remarkable way to see that God had a purpose, higher and greater, for his life. The great change in his life took place in 1897, and ever since he has been busy taking the Bible from place to place, through jungle-lands and along the waterways, directing the work of colporteurs whom he has enthused with a zeal like his own, that the people of Brazil might have the Bible.

Early this year, in view of the ever-increasing demand for the Scriptures, a message was sent to Mr. Glass intimating that the Society would be prepared to provide support for an additional colporteur, and in the picture, where Mr. Glass is seen seated, are also to be seen some of his faithful workers. The promise of this additional help brought much cheer to Mr. Glass, as is seen from his letter, from which extracts are given:

"In times like these such help is beyond all estimation and comes with an added joy and blessing. We have indeed been hard pressed at times, but a way of escape has been found, and the work has gone on in spite of the losses we have suffered. Sometimes we have been so hard pressed that old discarded Scriptures have been circulated, in order not to disappoint altogether the multitudes who are drawn to God's Word at this hour in Brazil, for I see no falling off in the demand, in spite of the great crisis in the land and the war preparations on all