

have a name to live, with an effete and languid Christianity, which we have suffered to die out! The wish of the noble Roman matron was, "Do not let me be remembered as the daughter of Scipio; but do something that I may be remembered as the mother of the Gracchi." This is the Church's message to her sons. Do not let us repose on the virtue and renown of our ancestors; let us work ourselves. Let us, by God's grace, give ourselves afresh to toil, and thought, and prayer, and liberality, and labour, and O! who shall estimate the result? When this zeal really comes down on the Church, imbued with the spirit of her Master, each member shall become a missionary of the Cross. There shall be no silence, no faltering in the testimony. The cords of love, which are the mightiest bonds of a man, shall enclose thousands upon thousands in Gospel fellowship. The Church, imbued with purity and strength, shall become a dominion of ever-widening authority, and the world, charmed with the spectacle, shall bow her rank and intellect at the feet of Jesus; then He shall reign, whose right it is, over a willing empire, made willing in the day of His power. And then cometh the end; the finished mystery of the Cross, the consummated glory of redemption, the world without a rebel—grand, solemn, hush of the universe waiting the coronation of the triumphant Son—the cession of the Sonship into the Godhead—the eternal seraphic rule—God all and in all.—*News of the Churches.*

## BIBLE AND RELIGIOUS PUBLICATION SOCIETIES.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held in Exeter Hall. The attendance was very numerous. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury took the chair. The following abstract presents the salient points of the report:—The issues had been 83,000, and an increase in the receipts of £136. At Berlin, the Committee rejoiced that the present King, like his predecessor, had expressed himself favourably disposed to the Society, and as taking a lively interest in its welfare. A large quarto Bible had been presented to the Crown Princess of Prussia,

and a gracious reply had been received through the Earl of Shaftesbury. The action of the agent in Denmark had been necessarily limited, but considerable progress had been made in the distribution of the Scriptures, and the issues, which last year amounted to 8,000, amounted this year to 10,000. No portion of the whole field of the Society's operations had been more blessed than Norway. The people of that country read with eagerness and received with faith the principles of the Gospel. 4,300 copies of the Scriptures had been circulated at Christiania, and at the other depots there were also indications of steady progress. In Sweden, the circulation, which the agent thought last year had reached its maximum, had exceeded it by 19,000 copies, the total issue being 91,000. In Russia, the reign of the present Czar was distinguished by events, such as the emancipation of the serfs, which were calculated to give a fresh stimulus to the operations of the Society. In Spain the action of the Society was altogether suspended, in consequence of the opposition from the Government, and the violent persecutions to which the recipients of the bibles were exposed. A similar course had been pursued with regard to Portugal. With regard to Italy, it was impossible to take even a hasty glance over that land, so long the scene of moral degradation and spiritual darkness, and to mark the contrast between its present position and its past, without exclaiming "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes!" Wherever the good seed of the Word was sown in that country there were indications of a speedy harvest. In India the work was proceeding with some vigour. In Calcutta, 29,000 copies of the Scriptures had been circulated, missions were multiplied, and the Christian element was being recognised to an extent that has never before been known. In Northern India large numbers of the Bible have been distributed in the vernacular, and a money grant had been made from the Society to encourage colportage. In Madras, 52,000 copies had been circulated; and in Bombay, though the work of distribution had proceeded, in consequence of the ignorance of vast masses of the population, little progress had been made, and the great hope of the society rested on the spread of vernacular