

count of the operations of the Society during the past year. I think I may venture to say that it will shew that the Upper Canada Bible Society is diligently following in the footsteps of the great Parent Society of our Fatherland, and availing itself of every opportunity which, in the Providence of God, may be presented, either at home or abroad, of spreading the knowledge of Divine Truth by the circulation of the Book of Life.

All who have watched the proceedings of the British and Foreign Bible Society must have observed how prompt its Directors have been to avail themselves of the door which has been opened for the circulation of the Word of God in many countries in Europe, where hitherto the Bible has been almost an unread, if not altogether a forbidden book.

The political changes which have taken place in Italy and Austria, and more recently in Spain, have brought with them more or less of religious, as well as civil liberty, and in the latter country, more especially, the prohibition which has so long existed against the sale or distribution of the Holy Scriptures has been withdrawn, and the Agents of the British and Foreign Bible Society have been zealously labouring to circulate as widely as possible throughout that country the Book, whose blessed pages can alone, under the teaching of God's Spirit, illumine the darkened minds of a people long sunk in the depths of ignorance and superstition.

I am thankful to say that in this good work the Upper Canada Bible Society has been permitted to bear a part. On referring to the Report, I find that among the free contributions remitted to the Parent Society during the past twelvemonth, no less a sum than \$2,056 has been sent specially for the furtherance of the Bible cause in Spain. I trust that God may incline the hearts of our people to still greater liberality in this matter: for there is much in the present peculiar state of religious affairs in these countries which calls for increasing energy and zeal on the part of all who desire the salvation of souls.

The fact is that thousands among the great mass of the people in Spain, in Italy and in Austria, have come to identify religion with civil tyranny and oppression, and in throwing off the latter, they have in too many instances altogether abandoned the former; and there is much reason to fear that if zealous efforts be not made, they may relapse into total indifference, if not downright infidelity.

Let us, then, who enjoy the clear light of the Gospel, do all that we can to send the Lamp of Life to those whose feet must else surely stumble hopelessly on the dark mountains of infidelity and error.

And now, looking to our Home work, we find that the field is widening every day. Our agents and colporteurs are doing their work faithfully and efficiently. Our colporteurs have been laboring zealously in the backwoods among the scattered settlers and the hardy lumbermen; but every year fresh inroads are made into the wilderness, now settlements are springing up, and