

lived for some time in fellowship with the Waldenses; but apostatizing from them, became, as is usual in such circumstances, their greatest enemy. This man writes as follows:—"Among all sects or religious parties, separated from the Romish communion, there is not one more dangerous than the Leonists, (a name given to the Waldenses) for the following three reasons:—First, because this sect is older than any other. It existed, according to some, in the days of Pope Silvester, in the fourth century; and according to others, even in the days of the Apostles. Secondly, because it is widely spread; for there is scarcely a country into which it has not found its way. Thirdly, because, while other sects create disgust by their blasphemous doctrines, this has a great appearance of piety; as its members lead a righteous life among men, believe the truths concerning God, and divine things, and retain all the articles of apostolic faith, only hating the Roman church and her clergy."

Ever since the middle of the twelfth century, the above mentioned Vallenses, have been called Waldenses, from their union with the followers of Peter Waldus; through whose means, a great religious awakening took place in France. Waldus was a rich and respectable merchant at Lyons.—Being once on a party of pleasure with some friends, it happened, that one of the company was seized with an apoplexy, and fell down dead.—Waldus was thereby led to deep meditation concerning the state of his own soul, and became anxious to know what he should do to be saved. He began diligently to read the scriptures, and by the enlightening of the Holy Spirit, attained to true conversion, and saving faith in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

He now proved his faith by works of love, not only supplying the temporal wants of the needy, but, in order to make known the truths of the gospel, expounding the scriptures to the inhabitants of Lyons, in their own language. The number of eager hearers, who flocked to him from town and country, became so

great, that it excited general attention, and stirred up much hatred, and jealousy, among the ignorant and dissolute Romish priests, which soon broke out into open persecution. Thus the Waldenses were dispersed through various countries. Many took refuge in Bohemia, and it is even said, that Waldus himself accompanied the exiles thither, and died in that country. The Waldenses and Bohemians having united, enjoyed rest and peace for some time. Divine worship was conducted among them with regularity; their assemblies being held in some places privately, in others, more publicly: they maintained good order and discipline; administered help according to their ability, particularly to their dispersed brethren in distant countries: and sent missionaries to England, Hungary, Brandenburg, Pomerania, and other places. Thus they proceeded quietly, and unobserved, for about two centuries when, being betrayed, by the indiscreet conduct of two of their preachers, a dreadful persecution arose, and almost all of them were forced to fly into the neighboring kingdoms.

RELIGION AMONG SEAMEN.

LIVERPOOL BETHEL REPORTS.

When the Rev. CLELAND KIRKPATRICK was preaching at Pitt-street Chapel, a captain of a vessel was so powerfully awakened to a true sense of the value of religious duties, and particularly of the reading of the Holy Scriptures, which he had entirely neglected, that he wept very bitterly at the thoughts of having so long lived a monument of God's preserving goodness, and having neither read his Bible nor bent his knees in prayer. The following morning, very early, he was going to sea, and he remembered he had no Bible on board. He made inquiry at the house he boarded at, if they had a Bible, that he could purchase. The landlady had none, and no shops were open where one could be purchased. He