

might be founded in favour of perseverance in the good work, to which, by pecuniary contributions, or Bible circulation, you have attached yourselves.

Many quotations of a most interesting character might be made from Pressensé's Report, as well as from those of his colporteurs, but your Committee must confine themselves to the following:—

"Hollwegg the Colporteur, in the neighbourhood, of Paris, where the soldiers were engaged in firing at a target, went up to a group of men, who were surrounding the cantinière.* A grenadier, who, by his jovial speeches had already produced much hilarity among his comrades, stepped up to our Colporteur, who was well known to all, and offered to prove to him in a sermon, divided into three heads after his own fashion, that a small glass of cognac had been made by God for the benefit of the soldier, in the same manner that he had made the Bible for simpletons and old women. The grenadier gesticulated a great deal and exhausted his vocabulary of sprightly or profane expressions. Just as Hollwegg was about to speak to him, a grey headed officer, whom no one had perceived, put his hand on the shoulder of the grenadier, and drawing from his pocket a small Bible, the condition of which from use it was the most pleasant sight to behold,—he said, in a serious tone of voice: 'Indeed, Sir, you astonish and grieve me. Look at this book and call to mind the Crimea. Would you, when before Sebastopol, and when bombs and bullets were falling around us like hail, would you then, have exchanged those comforting words, which this book, more than once, addressed to us, for a small glass of cognac? Tell me, would you have done so?' The soldier hung down his head and held his tongue. Hollwegg, after shaking hands with the Officer, availed himself of this occurrence to speak to the soldiers with earnestness about the gospel."

Passing over many passages, which contain many joyful and encouraging facts, and display the good effects of colportage, your Committee supply you with the following, extracted from a communication of M. de Pressensé:

"Not long since, I came personally in contact with an interesting young soldier. During his stay in various towns, where he has been quartered since his return from the Crimea, he has become acquainted with several of our colporteurs, and, as the result of such acquaintance, he has become better grounded and strengthened in the religious convictions acquired by him from the perusal of a small New Testament, which was given to him by a stranger, at the moment when he was embarking for the East. On making his appearance at my office, his term of service, had but just expired, and he still wore his uniform. Good morning, M. de Pressensé, he said to me, putting his hand to

* A person that goes about selling to the soldiers, provisions and liquors.