

to the many blessings which the British and Foreign Bible Society has conferred upon men, that God's kingdom and that of His Christ may be established upon earth. The New Hungarian Testament was revised some years ago by the Reverend Pastor Filó and his collaborators.

THEO. DUKE, M.D.

THOUGHT AND LIFE IN SPAIN.

It was this morning on my way from my house to the Bible House (for we have a regular "Bible House" now for Spain), that I caught sight of a square amulet which a little baby had tied round its waist. That baby was no doubt dedicated to some saint whose picture had been sewn up in a little bag of cotton cloth, and hung by two cords over the shoulder so that it should be just on the middle of the back; and with that the friends and parents feel quite comfortable, believing that it is safe under the advocacy and protection of Saint Roque or Saint Barbara, or the Virgin of Sorrows. No reference whatever is made either to the Heavenly Father or to the Blessed Saviour, who have been removed so far away by all these intercessors and mediators that one fears they might as well not exist for all the people know or think about them.

Then these last weeks there has been quite an epidemic of "*Verbenas*" or "Eves" of Saints and Virgins in Madrid. In more than half-a-dozen different districts of Madrid they have had great "*fiestas*" to celebrate the days of these Virgins and Saints. First there have been sumptuous services in their respective chapels and churches. High mass in the morning for several days, with a profusion of lighted candles on the altar, and the panegyric of the "subject" from the pulpit. The streets all around have been profusely decorated with green boughs, the balconies hung with all kinds of cloth, and at night illuminated with lanterns of all colours; and in some instances costly fire-works and grand processions, partly ecclesiastical, through the day, and partly of the circus troupes at night, have closed the festivities. The newspapers have given long accounts of the proceedings. Here is the way in which the *Imparcial*, one of the liberal papers of large circulation, begins its account: "The adoration (or worship) which the people of Madrid pay to the Virgin of the Dove is so ancient and so fervent that there can be few *cults* of the sacred name which have obtained such fame. When the little one is in the death throes the prayers of the Madrid mother ascend to the Virgin of the Dove for the life of the child; and around the interesting image gather the high-born ladies and the women of the lower classes—the aristocratic lady who drives up to the chapel door in her splendid carriage, and the poverty-stricken wife of the day labourer—when they hasten to offer to the Virgin the recently-born child for whose tender life they ask celestial protection.

"The devotion of Madrid brings increasing gifts to the Virgin of the Dove, and the money deposited on her altar has been more than sufficient to supply means for the construction of a temple even more sumptuous than that of the Virgin of Lourdes."

Friends at home when they toy with Roman Catholicism as it is known in Protestant countries need to come out to lands where it is seen in its painful reality.

And, indeed, how can it be otherwise? The people are unacquainted with the Bible, and grow up worshipping these "images," which they themselves call by that name, without the least idea that they are transgressing one of the commandments of the God whom they pretend to worship, but whose worship has almost totally disappeared behind that of the "images" which so abound in every place.

Surely in view of these facts our home Christians should be stirred up to more earnest work for this unfortunate people who, believing itself Christian