

possessed of this interesting Book!" Scarcely had he uttered these words, when I made my appearance at his door with a New Testament in my hand. As soon as he discovered what book it was that I offered him, he ran to his cupboard, and fetching out the page which he had preserved there, produced it carefully rolled up, and immediately sought the corresponding page in my New Testament. Oh, how great was his delight, when he found that it formed a part of the sacred volume! He wept for joy, and praised and blessed the Lord for having rendered him the possessor of such an invaluable treasure."

In Belgium, Holland, and Germany, the success of the Parent Society's operations has been most cheering. More than 76,000 copies of the Scriptures, have been issued from the depot under the charge of their Agent. It is stated in the Agent's report, that this year has been marked by a very interesting fact in Bible work. "I allude," he writes, "to the facilities afforded us by the Prussian and other governments." In Hanover it is stated that "in some instances, the wonderful book, distributed by the Colporteur, seems as it were, to have set the whole country on fire. A remarkable desire to obtain the Scriptures has been evinced. The farmers will sometimes come two and three hours distance to seek out our Colporteur, fearing he will not come to them, or impatient of further delay. Surely we may feel encouraged in our work when the people crowd round the Lord's word, as in ancient times they did around his sacred person."

The late convulsions in Germany, it is said, have not been without their fruits, and among these may be mentioned the liberty of colportage granted in Prussia. The highest authorities, who have now officially acknowledged the right of Bible Societies to distribute the Scriptures by colportage, have, it would seem, come to the conviction, that the Gospel alone can fill the mind of the people with proper sentiments towards God and man. This is also the principle which has led to the establishment of the Association for Home Evangelization, which is rapidly spreading its branches over Germany, and considers the dissemination of the Scriptures as one of its most important objects. Looking at the general aspect of affairs, "I can say," writes the agent, "that our work is extending almost every day. We shall be most happy to be enabled to supply all the demands—hitherto we have found this to be exceedingly difficult."

The following touching incident will show the eagerness with which the precious truths of the Gospel are devoured:—"The Agent of the Society had opened a shop for the sale of the Bible. He states that a girl, about fifteen years of age, used to come regularly every morning, about half-past nine o'clock, to read a chapter in the Bible which was placed in the window. Every morning when the shop was opened a fresh leaf was turned over, and shortly after the girl would come. She did not, like most others, stare at the foreign editions, but immediately went to her own book, read through her page, and went away. This lasted for about three months. Latterly we have not seen her. She may have been taken off by the cholera, which has been violent also in Cologne. Perhaps we shall find the sequel to this simple story in a better world."

The war in Hungary, as stated last year, greatly interrupted the labours of the Society in that and the surrounding country. A few humble and