

REPORT.

The beginning of another year calls for a new report from your Committee, and this they present with lighter hearts and brighter hopes than they have enjoyed for several years past. If we cannot yet tell of much work done in the way of collecting funds or disseminating Bibles, we can at least say that we see our way clear before us, that the difficulties which for two or three years beset us have been removed by the great Lord of the harvest, and we have been by Him bidden to enter into His vineyard and work while it is still the day; and we can humbly, but still truthfully, say that we have arisen at the call and entered upon our work with zeal and earnestness.

Your Committee while deeply sensible of the feebleness of their efforts during the past year, and of the little they have done towards hastening on the latter day's glory, can still rejoice in being able to assure you that the great and good work of Bible circulation has been going bravely and nobly on. The word of God is being disseminated in every land, unchecked by the torrid heat or arctic cold. It is arresting and taming marauding hordes—is piercing the dullest heathen intellects—is melting the most obdurate savage hearts—is making the thief honest, the liar truthful, the churl liberal. The messengers of glad tidings find their way into the loathsome dungeon, the abodes of want and misery, the dens of iniquity and vice. They are giving liberty to the captive, sight to the blind, joy to the heavy of heart, by giving them the blessed Scriptures.

Let us take a glance at the great deeds done by others before we consider our own dealings in our limited sphere, and first at the venerable parent of all Bible Societies.