

Italian work during the year is that which found its utterance in those most welcome words, 'Rome open to the Bible.' It is an epoch much to be remembered, and thanksgiving to God ascended from many hearts that the city of the Popes, which had so long and so inexorably excluded the Scriptures, had become free for their introduction.

"It gives the Committee special satisfaction to state that last year the entire issues were larger than those of the preceding year by 5,381 copies, amounting in the whole to 31,257. This total is composed of 5,448 Bibles, 14,389 Testaments, and 11,420 Portions.

"It was of much importance to obtain a visible and recognized position in Rome, as soon as possible, by the opening of a public Depot for the sale of the Scriptures. Premises in the Corso were secured for a term of years; and there the Bible in various languages is exhibited, and the words of the blessed Saviour are inscribed in the window, so as to attract every eye: 'Search the Scriptures.'

"There are several colporteurs employed in and around Rome. Mr. Bruce has printed at Rome, with the sanction of the Committee, an edition of 10,000 copies of the Gospel of St. Luke and the Epistles of St. Peter."

In Austria the good work goes on. Of the success that attend colportage efforts, the following are presented as specimens:

"At M—, Colporteur N—, attending the market, met a man to whom he had five or six years ago, at another place, sold a Bible. He was a Roman Catholic, and had read the book with profit. As soon as he saw N— he began to tell the people standing about what a blessed book this was that our colporteur was selling. 'Friends,' he cried, 'buy this book, it will do you good.' And thereupon he cited verse after verse, to the amazement of all the bystanders. The consequence was that our colporteur sold ten copies on the spot.

"Colporteur N— relates the following remarkable story:—'At Z— there lived a rich Rouman farmer, who formerly had led a wicked life—his dishonesty was a