

"The following extracts from his journal will, under the circumstances, be read with double interest :—

"It was only after a most fatiguing march that I could sell the number mentioned in my report. I did indeed meet with a few individuals with whom I could converse of the dying love of the Friend of sinners, but it is with deep regret that I can think of some villages where, in a hundred house, and more, I could sell only three copies, and that with the greatest trouble imaginable. The wretched Romish prayer-books and legends have almost entirely crushed out the blessed Gospel, and the poisonous doctrine of Rome brings perdition to thousands.

"At M. I saw friend K. and his family again (this was a house where he had repeatedly been on former occasions, and where the Book seems not to have been read in vain). He at once bought some more Bibles, and said he had frequent demands from people in the neighbourhood. I reproached him, in a friendly way, for not having applied at the head source at once. He took it very well, and I hope we shall soon see this friend coming out more boldly, and making a stand for his Saviour.

"At L., the day after my arrival, I sold ten Bibles and four Testaments. Thus God is opening up the hearts to me in this land, praise be to His name. I was again permitted to find a suitable inn, where the landlord himself took much pleasure in buying a Bible."

"From this landlord and others, and from several private and public parties, we have since, on our enquiry, received most satisfactory testimonials, concerning Rauch's character and habits. He has not only left a large number of Scriptures in the Tyrol, but he has also left a good reputation, and although dead he speaketh still. In concluding my remarks on the life and death of this valued labourer, it gives me pleasure to be able to state that two of our colporteurs, men of tried faithfulness and sober judgment, and fathers of families, have volunteered to go and fill up the gap occasioned by Rauch's death. If they love their Master well enough to go at the risk of their lives, it is not for me to keep them back. May the Lord's presence go with them, and may their labours be even more abundantly blessed than those of their predecessors."—*B. & F. Bible Society Reporter.*

ITALY.

GLEANINGS FROM THE REPORT OF MR. BRUCE.—Referring to the events that have occurred at Rome during the past year, Mr. Bruce mentions having met an old soldier who had been brought to a knowledge of the Truth through reading a New Testament presented to him in the Crimea. He says :—

"The generation familiar as contemporaries with the events of the Crimean war is fast passing away; but from time to time we hear of a fact which illustrates the truth of the oft-quoted promise, 'Cast thy bread upon the waters and thou shalt find it after many days.' An old soldier, when speaking of his past experience at a meeting of Christian brethren, said that he first got a New Testament in the Crimea. Although some of the officers and others ridiculed him for reading it, he determined he would not give it up. At last he resolved to send it to his father, thinking the book would interest him. The father was much pleased with it, and wrote to his son to that effect. In fact he said so much about it that the son became alarmed, and cautioned his father against allowing his head to be turned by religion. On the son's return home, however, he too began to read the little volume, and, by the blessing of God, to his soul's profit."

Colporteur Nardini, who resides at Padua, and has during the last summer visited the different towns and villages of the province, including Venice, spent some time among the military encamped in Venetia, and gives the following account of the favourable reception which he met with :—