

some circumstances of a special character deserve to be mentioned in these pages. The adaptation of this Society to turn passing occurrences into facilities for the circulation of the Scriptures is frequently illustrated. With an active energy widely ramified, ample stores of Scriptures, and intelligent Colporteurs available, the needful appliances are always at hand, when special circumstances present a favourable opportunity for challenging the attention of men to the precious Volume of Heavenly Truth. It reflects great credit on the zeal and energy of your Agent, Mr. Davies, that he has always taken advantage of seasons of public interest and excitement, for promoting, on the widest possible scale, the important object at which the Society aims. Such a season occurred during the past summer, when the imposing memorial erected by Protestant Germany to the honour of Martin Luther was inaugurated at Worms.

It is in the highest degree satisfactory and encouraging to see, that the heart of Germany beats with true loyalty to the great principles of the Reformation. Whatever divergencies there may be from the theological sentiments so nobly asserted and manfully vindicated by the great Reformer, and how much soever these divergencies may be matter of sincere lamentation, yet, in spite of much apparent apathy and lukewarmness, the Protestant lands of Germany evince no disposition to renew their allegiance to Rome. If any proof were needed to demonstrate this fact, it was abundantly supplied when Crowned Heads, Princes, and Statesmen, with a vast concourse, drawn together by a common sympathy and enthusiasm, from every part of the Fatherland of the Reformation, assembled to offer a fitting homage to the memory of a man whose faith and heroism in the cause of Evangelical Christianity have left their stamp on all subsequent ages. It was not a little gratifying to English Christians to know that this event struck a chord in the heart of the Sovereign of these realms, and that, in the midst of the high festival which took place at Worms, a congratulatory message from Queen Victoria to the King of Prussia, gave a fresh impulse to the prevailing enthusiasm, and implied that England, too, had not forgotten her mighty debt to the Reformation, which so happily emancipated her from the tyranny and corruption of the Romish Church."

Accustomed as you have always been to hear of the prosperous condition of two of the senior Auxiliaries of the Parent Society, the Scottish and the Hibernian, your Committee have pleasure in stating that they continue their successful career.

"THE NATIONAL BIBLE SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND now combines nearly all the scattered Bible organizations formerly existing in that country; and there can be no doubt that home work will be more completely done by one strong and compact, than by a multiplicity of isolated and feeble societies, while there is the addition of incorporating certain branches of foreign operation."