

the more the people, having tasted the water of life, thirsted for its refreshing draughts. Sometimes a sceptic might come in and sneer, or sometimes a priest might denounce, but neither was able to turn the people from their purpose.

"Very interesting was it to observe that, day by day, the work grew and expanded, so that though the first week only 241 copies were issued, the last week above 22,000 went forth from the depot. As the time approached for closing the Exhibition, the numbers who came to us increased, and the last week presented one of the most remarkable scenes ever witnessed in a Roman Catholic country, and one that will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. As the eager crowds came pressing into the depot to purchase the Word of God, the vast majority being of the humbler and working classes, no Christian could look upon the scene without the deepest emotion, and often did the words of our blessed Lord occur to me, "When he saw the multitudes he was moved with compassion for them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd." These words were spoken of a people who had scribes and chief priests and pharisees in abundance, but among them all, no shepherds; and, I fear, the words are just as applicable now to the people of France, as of old to the people of Israel. The crowds who came to us behaved with the greatest courtesy and decorum, and it was striking to see the humblest French peasant, with the politeness characteristic of the Latin races, as he entered the Depot, respectfully raise his hat."

In relation to this work the Committee say:

"Whether the visitor to your Depot was a king or a subject, a prince or a peasant, the same blessed Book was offered alike to all, telling each of a God of all grace, of a way of reconciliation, and of a hope of glory; and inviting each to the refuge and rest which the Gospel unfolds. The Emperors of France and Russia, the King of Prussia and the Queen of Holland, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Prussia and Prince Galitzin of Russia, were amongst the number of those who in various ways showed their sympathy with the work of your Society, and took an interest in the effort which they themselves witnessed. Amid so many features of a striking character, it is difficult to say which is most encouraging, and which calls for the most grateful acknowledgments; but when your Committee are able to state that no fewer than 1,200 priests received at your Depot, or from the Colporteurs, those Scriptures which are able to make wise unto salvation through faith that is in Christ Jesus, and that amongst those who were sought out and supplied with the Word of God were the employes of the Exhibition, whether at the stalls or in the cafes, in the Park or in the Gardens; the soldiers and sailors, to the number of 15,000; and the police and Gardes de Paris, to the number of 6,000; whilst forty hotels and boarding-houses were supplied with the New Testament, and 120,000 Portions were distributed gratuitously among visitors of every grade and nation; there surely is enough in such facts as these to excite the Christian's liveliest gratitude, and to lead him to exclaim, 'This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.'"