

Mazarin Bible, as it was called, from the discovery of a copy of it in the last century in the library of the Cardinal of that name. The date assigned to it is 1455. "We may see in imagination," says Mr. Hallam, "this venerable and splendid volume leading up the crowded myriads of its followers, and imploring, as it were, a blessing on the new art, by dedicating its first fruits to the service of Heaven." In corroboration of this sentiment we subjoin the following summary from the last published report of the British and Foreign Bible Society :—

"At the beginning of the present century it is probable that there were not more than *four or five millions* of copies of the Sacred Volume in all the world, existing in about *fifty* different translations.

"Since the establishment of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, about *sixty-nine millions* of copies of the Word of God, in whole or in part, have been circulated from its depôts, while other kindred societies which have sprung out of it, and have been aided by it, have distributed about *forty-six millions* of copies more ; so that during the present century about *one hundred and eleven millions* of copies of the Sacred Scriptures, in whole or in part, have been put into circulation by Bible Societies alone in various parts of the world.

"The number of languages and dialects in which God's Word is translated has been raised from *fifty to two hundred and two*, while the number of versions of the Scriptures, in whole or in part, hitherto prepared (there being sometimes more than one version in the same language) is *two hundred and fifty-five*, the preparation of which has been promoted, directly or indirectly, by the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY. In above *thirty* instances languages have been for the first time reduced to a written form, in order to give the people speaking them the Word of God.

"In addition to a circulation of *English* Scriptures to the extent of *thirty millions of copies* in Great Britain, Ireland, and the Colonies, the Society is prosecuting its work in all the countries of Europe, as well as among the principal Asiatic and African nations, in Madagascar, in the chief islands of the South Pacific, in South America, Mexico, Labrador, and Greenland ; and is ever ready to furnish Christian Missionaries with the Word of God in the languages of the nations amongst whom they labour."

A most interesting portion of the comprehensive and valuable report of the Parent Society is that which presents its Annual Record of "*Progress in the work of Bible Translation.*" It very clearly points out the industry applied, and the great learning devoted to the advancement of the Society's operations. While more than 200 languages are represented by translations of the Bible, still more are required, and every year additions are made. We present, for your information, the following selections :—

AMHARIC.—The revision of the Amharic Scriptures has made fair progress under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr Krapf, who is aided by two natives of Abyssinia. The original version was made by Abu Rumi, an Abyssinian, and was purchased by the Society for £1,250, from M. Asselin de Cherville, half a century ago. It is now being brought more entirely into accordance with the original.

FRENCH.—An edition of Ostervald's translation, which has been in course of preparation for some years, has now been issued. It is not a revision properly speaking ; that is to say, the sense of Ostervald has never been departed from ; but antiquated words and expressions have been removed. The work is adopted, with a very few modifications, by the Bible Society of France, a sub-committee of which had sanctioned the changes that were in-