

“ We have to acknowledge our deep obligations to the British and Foreign Bible Society for the important aid it renders us in our missionary work. It enables the poorest of our converts to possess a copy of the Word of God, and enables us to circulate among this spiritually dark people that Word whose entrance giveth light. In the work of modern Christian missions our Bible Society occupies a prominent place, and it will be found at last that it has contributed no small part towards the world's enlightenment and salvation.”

Mr. Cameron traversed, between November, 1879, and the following May, the peninsula east of the Liantung Gulf, visited the Corean Gate, and then passed northwards into Manchuria, and west to Peking. During this time he sold more than 11,000 books, these being in addition to what he had sold on his previous journey from Tientsin to Newchwang. Mr. Parrott, of the same mission, travelling in Shansi, sold 1,600 Gospels in sixty-nine days. Successes like these may be quoted in answer to those who say that the Chinese do not want the Bible.

Instances are numerous in which persons have at first refused to purchase from ignorance of the nature of the volume, when a few words of explanation have aroused an earnest desire to possess it. “ Give me a book, if it will teach me how to break off opium and keep right,” exclaimed a victim of the drug. “ Give me a Testament,” said a Mohammedan; “ to be able to buy the words of Jesus in Chinese is a very good thing.”

2. CENTRAL CHINA; THE YANGTSE RIVER AND THE WEST.—At *Chinkian* the colporteur, superintended by Dr. White, has sold over 8,000 Portions during the year. Any lack of incident from some of the centres of work is compensated by the highly interesting report sent in by Mr. Adams, of Nanking, who has directed the colporteur *Lieu-tch-iong*, and accompanied him in some of his journeys. He writes to Mr. Dyer as follows:—

“ I am anxious to express my sympathy with the Society you represent, and my appreciation of the valuable service rendered by it in the effort to win China for Christ. I regret that some of our fellow-labourers have been led to express an opinion unfavourable to the circulation of the Scriptures without note or comment; because our brief experience this year has led me to embrace a decidedly opposite idea. The following incidents show that the light of God's Word has been the means of illuminating some minds. They have mostly come under my own observation when out with your colporteur.

“ THE ANXIOUS TAOTAI.

“ On the steamer from Nanking to Shanghai, I met a high official, a Taotai, from the province of Sze-chuen, in which the Society's head colporteur *Mollmann* has done a good deal of work. He was taking his daughter to be married to the Taotai of a place in the north of China. His son, also a Taotai, accompanied the party which, with servants, was a very large one. The elder gentleman saw me and asked me to come to his cabin. At first I was occupied, and did not comply. But the Mandarin sending a servant to invite me to drink wine with him and have a chat, I went to the cabin, and declined the wine, but had a most interesting conversation with him.

“ The whole subject was how to be saved. He was very much in earnest about the matter, and anxious about his soul. It is a rare thing to see a Chinaman so anxious on the subject.

He asked numerous questions about the way of deliverance from sin, etc. In order to be perfectly certain that he was correct in his apprehension of my meaning, he frequently described a Chinese character on the palm of my hand. Much surprised at the extent of the man's knowledge of the truth, I asked him who had instructed him in these things. He said no one, but he received, when at home in Sze-chuen, a present from some native of a New Testament, which he had read with much care and frequently. He had often talked with his friends about this way of salvation, but no one seemed to