

Favored by this movement, the circulation of the Scriptures in the Dutch Agency has steadily advanced to 40,640, or 8,277 more than in 1877. Much of this success is due to the faithful labours of the six colporteurs, who have sold 18,166 copies.

Good old Van Dorp, though in his eighty-seventh year, carries on his work at Rotterdam with energy, blessed with untiring zeal and an iron constitution. His hand, indeed, begins to tremble, but his heart is firm, and he confirms the faith of many who visit him and look up to him as a father in the Gospel. Krimp is an active man who can be sent on the more difficult expeditions. He has been this year to some of the islands of the Zuyder Zee, which are not known to have been visited in the same way before. One of them, named Marken, rises scarcely above the level of the sea, so that the scattered houses are built for safety on high wooden piles, and are approached only by ladders—not a very easy way for a colporteur who is carrying a heavy load of books.

GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND—Here wonderful elasticity still marks the circulation; it has risen by another 20,000 to the very large total of 354,000 copies, of which more than 100,000 have been entire Bibles. The 66 colporteurs employed by the Rev. G. Palmer Davies are a body of men of whom any society might feel proud. One day, writes one of their number, 'I came upon a carpenter taking his afternoon nap. My first thought was not to disturb him; so, after a moment's hesitation, I touched him and said: "will you not buy a Bible?" "I am a catholic," he muttered, turning round to sleep on. "That is what you say," I replied, "but God says 'Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.'" "But I cannot read a book which my priest forbids." "Obey God rather than man," was my answer. At these words he sat straight up and said: "What you tell me recalls the time when I was working at Hamburg as a journeyman. A companion who lodged with me used every day to read out of his Bible, and, when I refused to do the same, he met me with that very sentence: 'Obey God rather than man.' To think that I should have been asleep all these years and that you should have been sent to awake me before it was too late! At any rate I will read the book now." "If," said an aged priest to a purchaser, "one grain of what you

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