

"But the outlook is by no means dark. You have sixty colporteurs in France, and they have sold 76,300 books, large or small, within the year. The copies issued by your Agency through all channels have been 19,000 more than the year before. They were over 131,000; or 420 a day. On one occasion a colporteur distributed 6,000 Gospels to troops embarking for the war in Africa. Not one was torn up or thrown away. 'The country is ripe,' says Lord Radstock. 'Enlightenment is progressing, and France needs the Scriptures,' says your Agent."

GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND.

After referring to the great loss to the Society in the death of the Rev. G. P. Davies, who had been its agent in Germany for so many years, and to the permanent appointment of Mr. Jas. Watts, formerly Agent for Southern Russia, as his successor, the report goes on to state:—

"Setting aside figures connected with the Dusseldorf Exhibition, the circulation of Scriptures in Germany by itself, the receipts for sales, and the contributions of friends, all show a gratifying increase. The total issues, including sales to other societies, were 321,800 copies. The systematic supply of Scriptures to the Prussian army has reached its jubilee. From the first it has had royal favour and assistance. In fifty years the troops have bought nearly three-quarters of a million of Bibles and Testaments.

"One feature of the year has been the completion of the standard edition of the New Testament translated into Hebrew by the venerable Dr. Delitzsch. Perhaps no version in any language was ever translated, revised and printed with so much care, lest one jot or one tittle should be superfluous, or wanting, or misplaced. Your Committee have expressed to the learned Professor their warm congratulations on this crowning result of so many years of consecrated toil.

"As one of your colporteurs stood by the grave of his children, a woman came up and said, 'I have a Bible which I bought from you two years ago. You then said to me that the Word of God can be a source of comfort in every trial of life. Last winter my boy of nine years died, and I fret about it very much. I have often said, "If the man with the Bibles would only come round, he would know how to comfort us." Pointing to the grave, the colporteur said, 'I have only the same Word of God which you have, but has not our Lord said, "Because I live ye shall live also?"' She asked him to call at her house, and this he did after a time. He found that the Holy Spirit had done His work in the soul, and he calls this 'harvesting to the glory of God.'

"In Switzerland your Committee had the melancholy satisfaction of expressing their sympathy with the survivors of the terrible landslip at Elm, and of joining the Young Men's Christian Association of St. Gall, in providing them with Scriptures."

AUSTRIA.

After expressing the thankfulness of the Committee for the restoration of Mr. Millard to renewed health, in the thirty-sixth year of his service for the Society, and for the entire preservation of a very large stock of Scriptures during the terrible burning of the Ring Theatre, next door, the report goes on to say:—

"A fierce struggle is going on between light and darkness. Ignorance, indifference, intemperance, and hatred of the Scriptures by turns make the colporteurs' work one of difficulty and danger. Yet sunshine pierces the darkest clouds, and hope for the future brightens. Mr. Millard's report is rich in examples of the power of God's Word. His experience is that of the