

truth, that, after a few weeks, more than twenty-five persons decided to accept the Gospel and become followers of the Lord Jesus. The first knowledge of the Gospel in that place was obtained through a New Testament which was given by an English lady to an Italian workman. We have also a Protestant church at a place near Genoa, where the Gospel was brought in a most wonderful manner. Some young men, in going to Genoa on business during the winter, met with a colporteur. They bought a New Testament of him, and took it home, and they passed many nights during the winter in reading it and speaking about it. In a few weeks all their families and the friends and relatives decided to follow the Gospel and to leave the Romish superstitions. When one of them went to Turin, he heard that there was a district in Piedmont which had been entirely evangelical from the earliest days of its history, and had never bowed its neck before the Pope. He immediately started for it, and attended our religious services. He had many religious conversations with the late Dr. Revel. He was so enchanted with what he saw and heard of the Bible, that he at once wrote a letter to his father and relatives urging them also to embrace the truth. He became a very good teacher, and opened a school in which he taught children, and preached to grown-up people every night, and the Gospel was planted in that place notwithstanding great opposition from the priests. Dear friends, we thank you for the great number of Bibles and Testaments which you have given us in Italy. Our work would never have progressed in the manner that it has progressed without your Bibles and Testaments; and as long as you and ourselves are kept steadfast to the Bible—and we pray God that you and we may be enabled to remain faithful to the Bible—we may be quite sure that the Romish superstitions will not prevail. May God teach the English people the necessity for their being more and more faithful to the Bible. I know that the Pope and the priests are looking to England in the hope that it may soon become Roman Catholic, but I know that with the grace of God such a thing will never happen. As long as this Society has the support which it has had till now, and which it has to-day, as long as you pray and work for the diffusion of the Bible and keep yourselves faithful to the Bible, never, never will the Pope have dominion in England.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol said: My dear Christian friends, I rise most joyfully to second the Resolution which our friend from an historic church has so admirably proposed in the tongue in which we were, but he was not, born. I am sure that no sentiment was more thoroughly English or more thoroughly true than that with which he concluded his admirable address. We are proud to say that "Britons never, never shall be slaves," and there is one potentate before whom this country will never bow. My duty, my friends, is very briefly to commend to you the worthy, well-known, and long-honoured name of my Noble Friend who occupies the chair. We are all longing to hear his wise words of counsel, and I shall serve the interests of all best in now concluding by simply seconding the proposal that we offer him our best and truest thanks, and perhaps I may go as far—it is not very far beyond my Resolution—as to say that we all heartily rejoice at seeing his Lordship look in such thoroughly good health.

The Earl of Shaftesbury, who, on rising, was received with loud cheers, said: My good friends, before I acknowledge the vote of thanks to me which you have been pleased to pass, allow me to read to you a very important letter which has just been put into my hand from Sir Bartle Frere. Everybody knows what a great and good man that is; and therefore everybody would be glad to hear the result of his observations, made during his late tour in Her Majesty's Indian possessions. He says:—

"May 3, 1876.

"Dear Sir,—I am very sorry that press of business since my return has prevented my calling on you, and will prevent my accepting your invitation to be present at Exeter Hall to-day. I should have been glad of an opportunity of mentioning to you one or two facts which came to my notice during