

Of Books, during the same period, there have been sold 3,028. Of these not a few were republications of the best writings of our early British Reformers; and your Committee cannot refrain from expressing their satisfaction that the Parent Society should have adopted the idea of giving these precious remains to the world in a cheap and accessible form. Next to the Inspired Oracles, they are among the most valuable writings that we possess; they are the writings of men in whom Christianity was not a notion but a living thing—who felt what they wrote—who dwelt in close and continual fellowship with Truth, and who could *therefore* exhibit her to others in her due proportions and in her genuine features. To give their treatises to the world, was, therefore, to confer upon it no ordinary benefit. They are treatises that cannot fail to produce the happiest effects; and should our generation be marked, as it is to be hoped, by a return to a purer practical Christianity, they will, if we do not greatly mistake, be found to contribute, in no small degree, to bring about the favourable change. The darkness of Rome, gross as it was, could not stand before the light which the Reformers poured upon the world; and their writings being now brought forth from those inaccessible repositories where they have been laid up too long, and being freely and widely circulated, it may be expected that “they, though dead,” shall still “speak” with effect to the hearts of men, and prove guiding stars to many a benighted soul to the Saviour of the world.

According to the Report of the Treasurer, he had a balance remaining on his hands, the 19th Sept. 1831, of £12 13s. 11d. The monies since paid to him, and which have arisen from sales of Books and Tracts, including a donation by an individual, amount to £114 8s. 5½d.* The total on the Creditor side is thus £117 2s. 4½d. The Debtor side exhibits disbursements for printing, for insurance policy, and other petty charges, £10 0s. 9½d, and for Sterling Bill of £70, £84; leaving a balance in his hands of £23 1s. 7d.

* See Note at the bottom of Treasurer's Report.