

them from our depots. We were all ready, and there were the Bibles ; God sent the Russians into my district, and we printed not only one ten thousand, but another, and a third.

I have seen some of the beginnings of the Society's work, but I have not seen the end of the Society's work yet. I have circulated 4,000,000 copies of the Scriptures ; but really this is not much. The population of my agency is 10,000,000. I find that the Society has circulated 88,000,000 copies, but what is that to 1,200,000,000 in the world ? There is much to do, and I think we ought to be up and doing the work. And yet I think I see the beginning of the end—of the glorious end when "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord." It is coming, and the day is dawning. We seem, especially in my agency, to be going backward more than forward ; we have never had a time of so much trouble ; we have never had a time in which our work was so much fettered. I am sorry to say, where our colporteurs were once able to go, they are no longer permitted ; in Moravia, the Tyrol, and Bohemia, the laws are being enforced against us. We seem to be going backward more than forward. Bosnia has been added to my agency. When it was under the authority of the Mohammedan rule, the circulation of our Scriptures was free, but since Austria has come in the Scriptures are forbidden. It is sad to say so, but these are the difficulties we have to contend with ; and yet we have God's promise, and we fully rely upon it, that that blessed end will come, towards which we have made so good a beginning ; and still the Word of the Lord shall stand, and the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of His glory.

M. GUSTAVE MONOD, of Paris, after a few introductory remarks, said :—The British and Foreign Bible Society has circulated in France nearly seven millions of copies of the Scriptures ; and if you bear in mind that there is not in France one million of Protestants, and that their spiritual wants are provided for by two French Bible Societies, you will see at once that our work is a real missionary work among Roman Catholics. It has not always been so. When, in 1804, this Society made her first grant to France by a donation of £30 to the venerated Pastor Oberlin, of the Ban de la Roche, which was then part of France, no Protestant Bible Society existed in France, very few Evangelical churches were to be found, and the Bible was still a rare and expensive book. The consequence of that state of things was that during a long series of years the Protestant population was, if not the sole, at least the chief object of the Society's work in France. After having, during fourteen years, been almost the only purveyor of French Scriptures, the British and Foreign Bible Society, by the untiring zeal of one of her Secretaries, the Rev. John Owen, succeeded in determining some French Christians to establish Bible Societies, first in Strasburg in 1817, and the year following in Paris. I need hardly add that these Societies received from the British and Foreign Bible Society more than kind words, and that they were most liberally supported by grants which, for the Bible Society of Paris alone, amounted to £2,600 in the course of six years. When this was settled, this Bible Society, which, thank God, has never bound itself by its rules to have nothing to do but with Protestants, had more liberty to think of the spiritual needs of the twenty-five millions of Roman Catholics who are in France ; and when colportage was definitely organized, it became evident that we would have more to do with Romanists than with Protestants. Now we count no sacrifice too great to put the Bible in the hands of Romanists ; and this is the principal feature that distinguishes our work in France from that of any other society.

Two native Bible Societies are now working in France. The first formed, the Protestant Bible Society of Paris, with which we have ceased our official connection because they circulate the Apocrypha, has for its special object to print every new version of the Scriptures that is truly valuable, and it has also been the first to introduce in France Dr. Seignod's beautiful translation of the Old Testament. The other society, the Bible Society of France, keeps exclusively to Ostervald's version, which it distributes among Protestants