

in Continental Europe. The more we see, the more we know of the habits and type of thought prevailing throughout the Roman Catholic world, the more evident does the fact become, that reform to be general, permanent and effectual must arise from *within*—not from *without*; and that as in the great movement of the sixteenth century, the study of the written word by priest and layman is to be the means of detecting and destroying the corruptions which now overspread the larger portion of the Christian world. The ways to such an internal purification is now opened by the providential removal of many former obstacles to the free circulation of the Scriptures, especially in France and Italy, and a spirit of enquiry has been evoked, which limited though it be at present to an examination of the Scriptural argument against Papal temporal assumptions may yet result, as in the parallel case of Luther, in a complete escape from the house of bondage. How incumbent then is it upon all true Christians to aid the captives struggling for light and freedom and by giving them in their own languages the light of gospel truth to enable them to see the errors by which they have been so long encompassed.

The principal effect of recent sceptical attacks will doubtless be to induce Christians to think more of their common origin and less of the minor points of church government and ceremonial which divide them, to guard firmly the great foundations of their faith and to be less dogmatic in the defence of personal and denominational peculiarities. Such a result is earnestly to be prayed for, and by none more so than by the friends of that Great Society, whose watchword has so long been "Union and Charity among every denomination of Bible loving Christians."

In the more immediate sphere of the operations of this Branch, your Committee have to regret the loss of the valuable services as colporteur on the Nation of the Rev. Mr. McNally. After the greater part of a long life spent in the service of his Master, the infirmities of age, compel him at last to desist from the toilsome though honourable labours of a colporteur. To how many in the course of his long career has he carried the Word of Life, affording to the hardy pioneer of our backwoods a proof, that though cut off from many of the ordinances of religion, his soul has not been forgotten by those more highly favoured with spiritual privileges. To how many too have his visits been links, connecting them with the civilization, they have quitted and perhaps reviving in their bosoms some half-forgotten memories of texts and hymns learnt in the school, or by the mother's knee.

VICTORIA BRANCH BIBLE SOCIETY,

In account with James Boyd, Treasurer.

	Dr.
1863.	
Jan. 20.—To Balance due Treasurer	\$0 09
1864.	
Jan. 20.—To Cash paid postage	0 27
" " for books for Collectors	0 12
" To amount short on sum handed in by one of the Collectors.	0 50
" To Cash paid Rev. J. Green on Purchase Account	23 64
" To Free Contribution handed Rev. J. Green	164 80
" Balance in hand	26 14
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	\$ 5