

year, showing an increased circulation of several thousands. The number of copies dispersed amounts to 22,174 copies, exclusive of 3,500 copies furnished by him for distribution among Sardinian soldiers proceeding to the seat of war, and of 4,767 Italian Testaments forwarded to the Malta depot for the same object.

It will afford, says the Committee, matter of sincere gratification to the friends of the Society to be informed that the depot at Nice is confined to the care of M. Francesco Madiati, a name prominently associated with attachment to the Bible cause in Italy. The Committee repose entire confidence in this excellent individual, whose cruel persecutions in the dungeons of Tuscany will be fresh in the memory of all, and they believe the appointment will work advantageously for the interests of the Society.

Turning to the East, the Committee state that at their request Mr. Lowndes undertook a journey, during the past year, to Egypt, Syria, &c., for the purpose of collecting information as to the progress of the Bible work, and to ascertain personally whether any measures could be devised for a more enlarged circulation of the Scriptures in those lands. This journey occupied three months, and in every spot visited Mr. Lowndes perceived pleasing proofs of religious progress, as compared with the period when he had previously passed over the country. At the close of his journey he reports that the prospects of Scripture dissemination are encouraging. The circulation goes increasingly forward. In consequence of Mission and other Schools, the number of persons capable of reading in the East is greatly increasing, and in many cases the word of God is the only book to which they can have access. Jews have a great respect for the Old Testament, and some will read the New. Moslems never had their minds embittered against any part of Divine truth, and instances in the present day are not wanting in which they prefer the Bible to the Koran, regarding the latter as containing a mass of unmeaning fables.

In reference to Turkey the Committee say, What friend of the Bible does not rejoice that this Society has been enabled to put forth its resources at a time like the present, and, by the ready application of its means, meet the very large demands for the Scriptures which have arisen? The last Report describes some of the measures adopted by the Committee to provide for the exigency of the occasion. Mr. Barker was transferred from Smyrna to Constantinople, and two Colporteurs were sent forth to labor in any sphere selected by the Committee of the Auxiliary Bible Society. Through the entire year the utmost activity has prevailed at the Bible depot at Stamboul, and every appliance has been put into requisition to keep pace with the urgent appeals for Scriptures which have poured in from all quarters. The result will show an extent of circulation truly cheering. The agency of the Society has been most comprehensive in its action. It has ministered to the wants of our own countrymen. It has embraced within its range of sympathy French and Sardinians. It has circulated the Scriptures among the mixed and motly population that throngs the city of the Sultan. And its special solicitude has been directed to the Turks themselves, to whom the Bible has been

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