

willing, and even impatient, to buy copies, and their desire was not quenched or abated by the consideration of money.

"Your Committee had given instructions that the sick and wounded should be furnished with the Scriptures gratuitously; and the volume thus acquired brought comfort to many a sad and troubled spirit, feeling, perchance, the burden of sin, and the need of a Divine comforter in the prospect of eternity. The prisoners of war formed a very large class in Germany; and these had a full share in your free distribution. The Scriptures were received with evident delight, and proved a wonderful alleviation amidst the sadness of a prison life, especially to such as came wearied and worn out in spirit after the disasters of defeat.

"Another section of the great work called forth by the war has been commenced and is still in progress. The Committee favourably entertained a proposal to present a copy of the New Testament with the Psalms to the widows and parents of the fallen. Four thousand copies of the book in question had been issued by the early part of February. Additional copies have been subsequently furnished, and very many more will yet be required as the actual deaths come to be ascertained."

What a change in Spain now from the state of matters little over three years ago. Regarding it the Committee say :

"The sales of the year have comprised 18,162 Bibles, 10,556 Testaments, and 53,849 Gospels, &c., making the total 82,567. The colportage system of dispersing the Scriptures is found admirably adapted for Spain as for other countries; and experience testifies that your chief reliance for effective and penetrating work must rest on this arm of your operations. During the year, Mr. Corfield has had twenty-five men employed wholly, or for a time merely, in the service of the Society, and he closes the year with a staff of sixteen."

Of Italy, the Committee say :

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