

past year in this Province, the claims of the Society have been so constantly acknowledged and met. The liberality of the friends of the cause continues unabated, and the interest taken in the Parent Society's operations, and the determination to aid in supporting it, are as deep as ever. It is felt that this noble Institution is doing a work for Christ second to none in the world, and every phase of its career is followed with eager attention.

To this work your Committee would now briefly refer, and they begin with

FRANCE.—Of this country the Parent Society states, that there is much in its present state to awaken the profoundest solicitude of all who are interested in its religious condition. Evils of appalling magnitude are actively at work, diffusing a most disastrous influence. In the face of these evils it could scarcely be expected that the operations of the Society would be conducted without serious resistance and much obloquy. Yet their excellent agent, M. de Pressensé, who from his long and intimate acquaintance with the Bible work in France, is surely competent to give a trustworthy opinion on the subject, affirms that the past year, in all that constitutes real and abiding success, has proved a period of labour which he can review with unmixed satisfaction, and in which he can clearly discern the guidance and blessing of Almighty God. The circulation of the Scriptures during the period referred to has amounted to 92,465 copies. Among other causes for this circulation, M. de Pressensé mentions that the works of the infidel Rénan, especially his recent one on the Apostles, have actually induced many to purchase and read the New Testament, in order to compare the reality with the fiction.

The operations of the colporteurs continue as successful and interesting as in former years, especially among the military. The Agent writes :—