

it must not be argued that the work has been in reality checked, or that the antagonistic powers which their agency has to combat are recovering their former domination. If the laborers could be found in sufficient numbers throughout the land, then there would be a more rapid distribution of the sacred volume, and their Colporteurs, as the pioneers in the great work of arousing attention to the Gospel of Christ, would prepare the way for those evangelical agencies which could follow in their steps, and by providing the means of permanent religious instruction, build up the people in the pure faith of Christ.

In referring to TURKEY the Report mentions the decease of the late Sultan, through whose liberal policy, facilities had been secured for promoting the work in which the Society has taken so large a share; while the concession which permitted a Mussulman to renounce his ancestral faith for the profession of Christianity, without injury to his person or loss of liberty, introduced a period in Turkish government, which has tended materially to mitigate the intense prejudices that prevailed against the Gospel, and to dispose thoughtful Mohammedans to investigate the claims and character of the Bible. Some fears were entertained lest the present Sultan should wish to restrict, or even reverse, the religious toleration granted by his predecessor; but to the present time, few, if any, indications of a reactionary policy are perceptible, and it is fervently hoped that in the future rule of this great Empire, no attempt may be made to return to principles so long enforced in the past administration of Turkey, and which were alike cruel, persecuting and inexpedient.

The circulation of the Scriptures in this country during the past year, exhibits an increase 1530 copies over the issues of the preceding year, and a total of 16,046 volumes. This increase arises not from any unusual occurrence, nor any special and extraordinary efforts, but may be regarded as the