

encouraging, for though fewer Testaments and Portions have been sold than in the previous year by more than 5,000 copies, yet the increase in the sale of Bibles has amounted to upwards of 10,000, and this increase has been spread over every portion of the German and Swiss field. Cologne yields an addition of 2,686 copies, Frankfort 3,786, Berlin 1,301, Switzerland 2,724; whilst the Colporteurs claim as the reward of their arduous and persevering labours an additional number amounting to 3,685; bringing their total up to 147,920."

Wonderful events are continually occurring, shewing that the promise holds good, "My Word shall not return to me void." The following extract is long, but it will be read with interest:

"In the heart of Suabia, enclosed on all sides by the territories of the sovereigns of Wurtemberg and Baden, lies the little principality of Hohenzollern. It extends from the slopes of the Black Forest across the Neckar, the Danube, and the Stockach, nearly as far as the shores of the Lake of Constance. It is a tiny State, covering not more than twenty-one geographical square miles, and embracing a population of 64,000 souls. At the beginning of the century, Spain was not more Popish than Hohenzollern. The 'unity of the faith' was perfect.

In Hohenzollern there is a little village called Bietinghausen. The priest of the village occupied himself, it seems, with the study of prophecy. One Sunday, when the first Napoleon was at the height of his power, he preached from this text, 'And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished; for that which is determined shall be done.' This king, said the priest, is Napoleon, and God's decree concerning him has gone forth.

Xavier Ruhn, the village schoolmaster, was in church, and was wonderfully impressed by the text. But he had no Bible. He determined, if possible, to get one, and, after waiting and searching for a long time, he induced an acquaintance, in whose house he found one, to sell him his. It cost him eleven florins (18s. 4d.), a large sum at that time, and for a man in his position; but the book had in his estimation a higher value, and became, for him and many others, as we shall presently see, 'a pearl of great price.' The identical copy of the Bible which Xavier Ruhn bought I have now before me.

The spirit in which Ruhn, and those who joined him, entered on the study of the Scriptures may be judged from the following pencil jottings found on the cover and fly-leaf of the volume. One of them writes, 'This is the Holy Bible of the Old and New Testament, but mark well, the Catholic, i. e., the unadulterated Bible.' And again, 'Grace and Peace, Spirit and Life, are to be found in this Bible.' And again, 'The letters are, it is true, dead things; nevertheless, when interpreted according to the right interpretation handed down from century to century, they can be filled with life and spirit.'

I do not know that what was meant by 'the interpretation handed down from century to century' did much for Ruhn. But a strong, vigorous understanding applied to the interpretation of Scripture, and the illumination and aid of the Holy Spirit, did a great deal. A new spiritual