

him from his own happy experience of the Gospel that he called his labourers, and master and servants bought four Bibles and one Testament, and it is a question who were more pleased, those who purchased, or the colporteur who sold the books.

"A rag picker boldly said, 'Oh! I have a book like that,' and he at once drew forth a Testament, in which, though otherwise complete, the title page and a few pages of the Revelation were missing. He had found it somewhere in the course of his peregrinations, and what he had found had evidently served some good purpose, as the ensuing conversation, and the man's cheerful promise to attend a place of worship showed."

**THE NEED OF VULGATE VERSIONS**—"The value, perhaps I ought to say the necessity, of Vulgate versions has been visibly illustrated by an incident connected with our work here. A railway is being built, and our colporteur one day visited the navvies, mostly Italians. One of them fairly leaped for joy when the colporteur told him he had come to bring him the Holy Scriptures. What a pleasure it would be to his good wife! She came, opened the book, but quickly gave it back again exclaiming, with bitter disappointment, 'Diodati the Protestant!' All joy was gone, nothing remained but suspicion and dread. How different would it have been had there but been Martini's name on the title page, the contents being essentially the same. The colporteur wrote on this occasion, 'How often have I witnessed such scenes! Is there really no other edition! If there is, do quickly send me copies.'"

**HOW THE WORK IS HINDERED**—"The enmity of Rome to the Bible has shown itself to an extraordinary extent. In Bohemian districts in the South our colporteur has since had to leave the field. Not only was he unable to sell a copy, but he had to suffer personal injuries. In German districts one colporteur was so badly dealt with that for a time he was utterly unfit for any work. The attitude of the priests may be gathered from the following statements. One priest proclaimed from the pulpit, that wherever a Bible was tolerated in a house, the devil ruled supreme. Another appointed a man purpusley to go from house to house with his authority to collect and bring to him every one of these heretical books that he could find. A third priest goes to the Post Office to take down the names of parties for whom parcels containing the Scriptures arriv. Another, again, instructs the postman to advise people not to take in parcels of this kind, and the postman does the priest's bidding. We have instructed the colporteurs to report more fully on these unlawful proceedings.

"I met a young couple that had bought a Bible of our dear brother Pietschman, now with the Lord. It had become a precious book to them. 'That book,' said they, 'we would not give up for the world. People say it is false and bad, but it is because they do not read it.' Two things were very clear to me, first that the good folk had found the Saviour, and secondly, that it was through the faithful use of the Bible. That was a precious hour.

"One man said, 'What a good thing it was you did not let me off so soon when, the first time you came, I refused to buy. I have now learned to love the book.'"

**THE PICTURE AND THE BOOK**—"The celebrated painting of Munkacsy, representing *Christ before Pilate*, which has drawn thousands of spectators from every part of the realm, being on exhibition at Pesth, where we enjoy full liberty of colportage, a man posted himself near the entrance of the hall, and sold several hundred copies of the New Testament, and it was chiefly Jews who bought the Book, in order better to understand the picture. Even when the exhibition was over, there was a demand at the door-keeper's lodge for the Book. When a Jewish family shortly after this event expressed a desire to join the Christian Church, it may well be supposed that it was not so much the dumb picture as the living Word that had awakened that wish."