

against the Bible, which I met as I might, and he seemed to be interested in my replies. After some time he said, "I am a Tom Paine man. Did you ever read Tom Paine?" "O yes," I replied, "I read him long ago, and I am willing to say that he held more truth than many who call themselves his followers—those truths of natural religion which even the pagans held; as, for instance, a state of future rewards and punishments. But, now, supposing his teachings and his evils at the Bible all true, what has he done for you? Has he brightened, or darkened, the present and the future? All that he had of truth the Bible has, from which perhaps he borrowed it; but he finds no remedy for the sin and wretchedness of man which it reveals and he admits, while the Bible brings to us a Saviour in whom is found light and life and immortality." I felt that it was my turn and time to talk, and I did so, and again and again he looked at me with glistening eyes and said, "Yes, spread the Bible over all the world;" and I presume, to have completed the sentence, he would have added, "though it has in it no hope for me." I pitied him exceedingly, with his keen intelligence and marked manliness of feeling, and earnestly urged him to learn to love the Bible and the Saviour. I am sad to say, the words seemed to fall on ice or adamant, and a certain sullenness came over him as he demanded, "Did God ever make a soul to damn it?" "No, no! my friend," I replied; "but he made us free and accountable, and will hold us to that accountability. Is it true of us all, we have destroyed ourselves; but in Him is our help. In the death of his own dear Son, He has provided a remedy and a refuge for us." He looked as if he might have said, "That refuge I shall not find," as again he repeated, "Yes, spread the Bible over all the world." May God in his great mercy find and save him!

Met with unexpected and pleasant courtesy from a Roman Catholic family, who pressed me to dine with them, to whom I gave the Bible for a young friend living with them. To another Roman Catholic family I offered the Bible gratuitously, but they insisted on paying for it.—*Am. B. S. Record.*

BIBLE WORK IN PENNSYLVANIA.

In the last report of the Pennsylvania society some interesting facts are related. We give the following as a specimen:—

During the progress of the present canvas the usual variety of incidents occurred. These afford the best illustrations of the nature and importance of our work, and give new inspiration to the patrons of the cause. They also show the immediate results of preaching the Gospel from house to house, and of bringing the Bible distribution into immediate contact with the masses. It is due to this society, therefore, that at least part of these incidents should be reported. The following are submitted:—

A woman desired a Bible with large print, but could not pay full price. "She was a widow, had a large family, had long supported and just buried an aged mother, and had barely finished paying for her coffin. She could pay half price." Of course, according to the rules of the Bible Society, she got it for half price, and some benevolent contributor will gladly pay the remainder.

Another woman received a German Bible as a gift, and with unfeigned exultation she exclaimed, "In my heart I am thankful for this Bible. I have kept house eight years without a Bible, and when I had the means to buy I had no opportunity. Other agents offered high-priced Bibles, but they were beyond my reach." It remained for the Bible Society to put the Bible within her reach, "without money and without price."

Another woman said she "had a poor old tattered Bible, which her mother had given her, and she was not able to buy another, and wished somebody would have compassion on her and give her a new one." She received a new copy with glad surprise, ejaculating, "This book will surely do me good, for I love to read the Bible."