

to mention at the time, that, on the road between Gonesse and Aulnay, on the morning of the 23rd, a road which two hours after was a very *via dolorosa* of exploding shells, I met the same Colporteur coolly jogging forward with intent to distribute his wares among the battalions standing on the slope and waiting for the battle to commence. It was a good time, according to the expressed views of this simple brave Christian man, for men to read good words when they were standing there with nothing to do, and with the shadow of death hanging over them. There are few who will disagree with him, but there are not many who would proceed practically to give effect to their convictions."

Let us hope that the good seed sown under circumstances so solemn and impressive may not have been sown in vain, and that among the soldiers of both nations who have survived this dreadful war, some may prove the blessed instruments of conveying to their own homes and their own neighbourhoods that precious word which cheered and comforted them amid danger and suffering and the hourly risk of death itself.

There is one other subject of great interest connected with the events which have been taking place in Europe to which I would desire to allude before I sit down. The Bible has at last found an entrance into Rome! In one of the principal streets of the imperial city, the Corso, a dépôt has been opened, and Colporteurs are at work, and now enjoy the same facilities in the prosecution of their work within the limits of the once Papal territory as they do in other parts of Italy. But, while thankful for this glorious change, we must not imagine because the door has at length been opened for the admission of the Bible, that therefore the good work is sure to make rapid progress—on the contrary, it will assuredly have to be carried on under many difficulties and discouragements. The barriers, which ages of superstition, and the utter ignorance of the one true foundation of all faith, have opposed to the admission of the truth, can only be broken down by earnest persevering efforts—one of the greatest difficulties, which will have to be contended with, is the spirit of utter scepticism, the rebound, in the minds of the younger men, more especially, from the fetters of superstition to a revolt against all religious restraint. What was said aloud in the presence of many by a young Roman to one of the Society's Colporteurs, but too faithfully represents the state of mind of a large proportion of the population: "We don't believe in our own religion, and you want