

auxiliaries, the main stream of its revenue, fell from 62,000*l.* to 58,000*l.*; but what the living could not spare for the Society's treasury dropped into it from the hands of the dying; the legacies, which for twelve years past averaged 24,000*l.*, rose last year to the sum of 53,000*l.* This can hardly be expected to repeat itself; but perhaps, if God send peace and a good harvest, the free contributions from auxiliaries will recover themselves. It is not in such a year as this for the Committee to doubt that the needed money for future work will come.

It has been a year of sorrows of unusual poignancy, of anxieties and cares, of moving accidents too, and sudden deaths; but the work has never once been straightened for lack of means. God has buried the workmen, but carried on the work.

FRANCE.—M. Monod, after a series of journeys, during which he minutely examined every part of his fields, finds that his men have circulated 75,000 copies, out of a total of \$134,000. In some countries colportage is an incident of the work; in France it is almost the work itself. 'Patient continuance in well-doing' is the conclusion to which the review of the labours of these earnest toilers leads the mind. It is fifty years since M. de Pressensé organised the staff of colporteurs in France. They have done noble work there. This Society has expended upon France three-quarters of a millions of money, and circulated there over seven millions of copies. The Report, of which this is an abstract, is founded upon work done and observations made in nearly sixty departments. It is impossible to condense them into a sentence. Amidst influences friendly and unfriendly, the men have once more carried a real Gospel to every part of a land in sore need of it. They are all Frenchmen. Their work, and that of similar workmen, contrasts strangely with other French doings in Madagascar and elsewhere. Paley's dictum never had truer application—'Religion operates most upon those of whom history knows the least.'

If proof were needed that the Word of the Lord has free course in France, your Committee point to the fact that fifty years ago ninety per cent. of the circulation