

tunity of speaking about the Word. In this way the work of the Bible Society and that of the Missionaries of the Cross mutually assist each other.

BANGALORE.—Among the colporteur incidents occurs the following, given by Rev. P. Bildaingingappa, of Belgam :—

"An old man about ninety years of age, an inhabitant of Bail Hongul, died a month ago. He used to come to our Mission House, and I read to him now and then portions of Scripture and talked to him about religion. In his latter days he could not hear well unless we talked to him with a very loud voice. His deafness was caused by a long-standing ulcer in his ear, so that it was not an easy thing to speak to him. Though he could not hear, he could read. He got some of our books, which his grandson had bought with a view to find fault with the Christian religion, and he felt an interest in reading them. Sometimes he told me their contents, and gave vent to his convictions, and said, 'There is only one true God in the world. The worship of the Linga and of Jangams is all vain; but if I walk according to my convictions, the people would say, "This man got mad in his old age;" therefore I cannot make an open profession of Christianity.'

"Jewanna, a Christian bookseller, not a recognised colporteur, says that the head-man of the village, Hoonasikatty, and the head-master of the school therein, have each of them a Bible. They read them, and sometimes tell the villagers their contents. And at all times when he goes there they help him in his work, and encourage both the young and old to buy his books, telling them that they teach useful things.

"Thus our books do what we sometimes are not able to do. Those who possess them and read them, have been silently taught those things that pertain to their eternal welfare. May the Spirit of God attend the colporteurs' work for the accomplishment of the end designed by it!"

MADRAS.—Testimony comes from various and unimpeachable sources of the influence of the Bible in this Presidency. Thus a lady whose work lies among high caste Hindu females in Madras says, "I know there is an evident desire to become acquainted with the Scriptures amongst some natives of this country who are able to read." A gentleman labouring among the lads who come to Madras for higher education says, "I scarcely meet a Hindu who does not admit that the Bible teaches the highest morals of any book within the range of his knowledge;" and a missionary who has large experience of the educated natives says, "I am convinced that the Bible, as circulated and read among the young men and students, is moulding the minds of not a few, and that there is springing up in Madras a class of men who are letting idolatry slip away from them . . . a class of men who feel a greater sympathy with missionaries and the truth they teach than with anything which has come down from their ancestors."

In the Telugu country one missionary mentions the gratifying fact that he knows of a dozen cases of conversion through the reading of the Scriptures, and others speak, though not so decidedly, of the good accomplished by the same means in their respective fields.

Last year 500 Testaments were given to those of the Famine Orphan children who could read.

In acknowledging the gift, many missionaries speak of the delight with which the books were received, and of the good likely to result from this distribution of the Word of God.

The Rev. G. T. Washburn says: "I can assure you that the children will value them not only as the Word of God, but as gifts from your Society to them as children saved from the famine, and many of them from heathenism. One of the benefits of having the books, and one which I think very important, is that they will begin reading them through in order. Some of the children have obtained an extraordinarily good knowledge of the parts of the Bible they have studied. It will interest you, I think, to know that one of the Pasmalai orphan boys got the first prize in a competitive written examination at our Mission Schools last March. This boy was found in a famish-