five, the preparation of which has been promoted, directly or indirectly, by the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY. In above thirty instances languages have been for the first time reduced to a written form, in order to give the people speaking them the word of God.

In addition to a circulation of *English* Scriptures to the extent of *thirty* millions of copies in Great Britain, Ireland and the Colonies, the Society is prosecuting its work in all the countries of Europe, as well as among the principal Asiatic and African nations, in Madagascar, in the chief islands of the South Pacific, in South America, Mexico, Labrador, and Greenland; and is ever ready to furnish Christian missionaries with the Word of God in the languages of the nations amongst whom they may labour.

(B. S. Reporter, London, England.)

British and Foreign.

SPEECH.

DELIVERED BY THE REV. H. J. PIGOTT, FROM PADUA, AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, HELD IN EXETER HALL, LONDON, ON MAY 1ST. 1872.

May I be permitted to say, at the outset of the few remarks I shall have to make to this Meeting, that I stand here as a Missionary from Italy representing the Wesleyan Missionary Society there. I say this simply to explain and justify the shape and direction that my remarks will take, and to explain why the text and argument of the few observations I shall have to make will be comprised in three words-"Italy, Romanism, and the Bible." I know very well that I am to be followed by a gentleman who has received a special charge and commission to represent Rome in this assembly, and I will endeavour, as far a possible, not to trench upon Mr. Hamilton's domain. I rejoice to n ve the privilege of testifying before this Meeting to the profound and grateful sense which, as a Missionary in Italy, I have of the importance of the operations of the Bible Society in that country. The great work of evangelisation in Italyis greatly helped and facilitated by the operations of this Society. That is saying no more than any and every Missionary from every part of the world will have to say, but rather increases than diminishes the reason why I, standing here, not in my own name only or in the name of the special denomination to which I belong, but in the name of the body corporate of all the Evangelical workers in Italy, should express our love, gratitude, and veneration for the British and Foreign Bible There is a speciality in regard to the operations of the Bible Society. Society in Italy—a speciality not perhaps exclusively belonging to Italy, but at all events not common to every other field of operation in the many fields of Missionary enterprise. In other fields, the Bible agent must advance step by step with the Missionary-or rather, as in many such

98