

British and Foreign.

DEATH OF THE COUNTESS OF SHAFTESBURY.

By the last *Monthly Reporter* of the Parent Society, we are made acquainted with the mournful fact of the death of "the Countess of Shaftesbury," the beloved wife of the Earl of Shaftesbury, the President of the British and Foreign Bible Society. A resolution of the Committee of that Society, conveying to the afflicted nobleman "the warm expression of their deep sympathy with him in his bereavement," and their ardent prayers that to him might be afforded "the support and comfort of the Holy Spirit," was unanimously adopted, and placed on record.

The name of Lord Shaftesbury is of world-wide reputation—especially in connection with the manifold Christian and philanthropic enterprises of the day, to the establishing and the advancement of which he has consecrated the influence of his pure and noble character, the energies of his vigorous and cultivated intellect, the resources of his means, and the great power of his social position. For him, whose name is co-extensive with the operations of the Bible Society—which is found wherever the Gospel is preached—will sorrow be felt. The deep emotions of many souls will lead them out in heartfelt prayer to God that the support and consolations of the Precious Volume may abound unto him whose life has been so fully given to its increasingly extensive circulation.

POLAND.

WARSAW.—The issues from this Depot, which have amounted to 14,325 copies, and the sales by colportage, which have reached a total of 4,837 copies, making altogether an aggregate of 19,162 volumes, are far from discouraging, though from various reasons they do not equal the issues of the preceding year. The lights and shadows are, however, always beautifully blended in the spiritual landscape, and the eye is soon relieved by passing from one to the other. Diminished circulation is a dark spot, but a lively desire on the part of the Jewish population to purchase the Scriptures, and the admission of the whole Bible into Jewish schools is a very bright one. The incessant attempts of the Romish priests to deprive the people of the Word of God and the requisitions which they make to them for the surrender of all copies in their possession is a very dark feature in the prospect. But whilst some yield, others resist, and even those who have been persuaded to give up their books have so relished their previous taste of Divine Truth and Love that they cannot rest satisfied apart from such heavenly food, and they return and purchase a second copy which they determine never to give up, and the prospect brightens once more as well it may, for the Sun of Righteousness has risen with healing in His wings. The depositary gives one instance of the effect of Divine Truth upon the mind of an Israelite, which is most instructive and encouraging. He states:—

At a village near Warsaw there lived a well-to-do Jewish couple with their two children. The husband was compelled to join the army, and although his sorrowing wife did her utmost to release him, it was too late, and he was sent off with marching orders to Wilna. On his way thither he was accosted by one of our colporteurs, who succeeded in selling a Hebrew New Testament to him. As he got time he began to read, and soon found out that, properly speaking as it seemed to him, it was not a book suited for him, but intended for Christians. However there being no chance of returning it, he