

away all vestiges of the faith of Christ in those regions. Many Kabyles speak French and can read Arabic. Their own language is distinct, but it is not reduced to writing, and they have no books. Several Jesuit fathers have for many years conducted schools in Kabylia, teaching French and the Romish catechism. One has translated the Gospels and Epistles of the day into Kabyle in the Roman character.

Mr. Pearse is doing all that he can to promote a similar translation of the whole New Testament. Your Committee are anxiously seeking a young Christian scholar with linguistic talents and willing to devote them in a missionary spirit towards the penetration of Africa from the north with the "word of the truth of the Gospel." Besides the Kabyles, there are other Berber tribes scattered in the mountainous districts of Algeria and Morocco; there are the Khroumirs of Tunis, the Touaregs and Mzabites of the Sahara, and all the unknown tribes in the interior of the dark Continent. East of Tunis and west of Oran lie the vast regions of Tripoli and Morocco. To them, too, your Committee would fain send the light of God's Word.

#### INDIA.

It is not always remembered how large a part of the surface of Europe the area of India would cover. Nor again, that its inhabitants differ as much as the various continental races, and speak languages equally distinct. India has attracted successive immigrants and invaders, entering it by various paths and at different times, and bringing with them fresh languages, or dialects. Sometimes the new comers pushed their predecessors before them into various corners of the land, or into hills and jungles. Sometimes they intermingled with them, modifying the language of their neighbours by intercommunication, or even dropping their own language in its favour. India thus forms a great museum of races, in which man in every degree of culture, and languages of every complexity of construction, are found. And thus the various parts of the country present widely different facilities to the Bible translator and the Bible distributor. In his work on the "Modern Languages of the East Indies," Mr. R. N. Cust bears handsome testimony to the scientific as well as missionary services which your Society has rendered by its readiness to encourage translations of the Bible, and by its providing for their printing and dissemination. He says:—

"One great corporate body has done more than the State, more than private individuals or servants of the State, and has sustained the missionaries in their efforts. I allude to the British and Foreign Bible Society. To no other body of any kind whatever, at any period of the world, has it fallen to be translated into such a variety of Oriental languages."

Much has been done, but much more remains to be done in translating, revising, and circulating this unmatched Book. In 1871, the latest census of which the results in detail are yet available, there were in India and Burmah 186 millions of people under British rule, and 54 millions more under native feudatory princes and chiefs. The former may be divided into four great classes, (1) 18 millions of aborigines, non-Aryan in race, and only Hinduised to some extent by contact with their neighbours; (2) 16 millions of Brāhmans and Rājputs, the purest representatives of the Aryan or Sanskrit-speaking race; (3) 110 millions of Hindus, the mixed population in which Aryan and (in a larger degree) non-Aryan elements have been blended; and (4) 41 millions of Muhammadans. One million remains for foreigners.

There are 128 languages and 257 dialects, or, in all, 385 varieties of living speech, irrespective of such dead languages as Sanskrit, Magadhi or Pali, Hebrew, Syriac, etc., and such foreign languages as Persian, Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Armenian, Chinese, etc.

During the present century translations of Scripture have been provided in all the most important and widely diffused of the languages enumerated