

Let me say a word too about India. The Bishop of London, at a great meeting at the Mansion House lately, said: "You are educating the conscience of the world through your circulation of the Scriptures." Educating the conscience of the world! The Rector of a church in Oxford, who has spent a long time in India, and has lately returned, said, that just before leaving the city of Bombay he was present on two occasions when a highly educated man occupying the position of a judge in Her Majesty's service, but not professing himself a Christian, addressed two large audiences on moral and religious subjects, and the first of his addresses was based upon the words in the Gospel, "Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." The second, on I. Corinthians, xiii. And in that second address he contrasted the comparative failure of modern religious reformers in India, with the success that attended the ministry of St. Paul and the Apostles, and he said the reason of the failure in the one case and of the success in the other was to be found in the fact that St. Paul and his fellow-workers had the life, teaching, and character of Jesus Christ as the chief weapons of their warfare; the religious reformers of India did not possess these, and, said he "if we are to succeed as they did, we must use their weapons and adopt their methods." The secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, a very energetic and able man, visited India some ten years ago, and has lately been there a second time, and he has told us of the remarkable contrast between the condition of things ten years ago, and the condition of things on the occasion of his recent visit. He said, when he went to India ten years ago he attempted to distribute copies of the Gospel among the people where he went. They were constantly rejected with scorn, torn up, spat upon, trodden under foot. Now, he said, he did exactly the same work, and in no single instance did he meet with a reception of that kind. He knew of cases of colporteurs attending great religious festivals who would sell in the course of a few days as many as five thousand copies of the Gospel in the native languages. He said, when you get into a railway carriage, if you happen to sit by the side of a young Indian gentleman, an educated man, he is not only ready, but eager to talk about the character of Jesus Christ, and if there is anything exciting the mind of India at the present time it is the subject of Jesus Christ, interest in His character, what He was, and did, and taught. Now, this is wonderful testimony, and this, to a very large extent, is the work of the Bible Society in disseminating far and wide thousands and tens of thousands of copies of God's Word in whole or part. We were delighted three years ago to find that the issues from our depot in Calcutta amounted to nearly 1,000 copies weekly—50,000 in the course of the year—and these nearly all sold; but last year that circulation doubled; now we are circulating 100,000 copies from that single depot in Calcutta, and by means of colporteurs in the immediate neighbourhood of that great city. Truly we are educating the conscience of the people in those far off lands.

I might speak about Malaysia; during the last few years, we have established an agency in Singapore, sending out an earnest and able man, who, when he began the work, was almost the only evangelistic agent amidst a population of nearly 40,000,000 Malays. Our friend Mr. Haffenden says they receive him as a