

listened to the conversation. At last the Bible was talked of, and one of the guests said it abounded with lies. Without making himself known, the colporteur remarked, 'Perhaps you will point out some of these lies?' The young man who had spoken looked perplexed, and then said, 'The New Testament may possibly pass; but as for the Old Testament, it contains lies enough.' Being pressed to give some instances, he said, 'If I had a Bible I could show you plenty,' feeling quite secure that one could not be produced. The landlady, when appealed to, said she had not a copy, and none of her guests ever asked for one. 'Well,' replied the colporteur, 'if you have not a Bible, I have; and now, perhaps, you will show us the lies of which you say there are so many.' The principal speaker turned the leaves over and over, and at last said, 'Adam and Eve could not have been the first man and woman, for Cain, when he went from them, found a woman to marry.' The colporteur read them the whole story, and then went on to unfold the promises of redemption in the Old Testament, while the company listened with eager attention. The conversation began at eight; it went on till nearly midnight. Then the original objector said, 'I have gained quite a new view of the Bible; I must buy a copy to-morrow!' 'And so will I,' said the landlady. 'If this is your wish,' replied the colporteur, 'I can gratify it; for I am a Bible-bearer, and to sell this holy Book is my daily employment.' The surprise was great; and who can tell what good may not thus be done by godly men going about among the people and using every opportunity of commending the divine Word?

SWITZERLAND.—The Swiss circulation (which is included in the figures for Germany given above) has been 49,381, of which 10,319 have been required for the Italian workmen who, year by year, as spring comes in, pour over the Alpine passes to labour on railroads and other public works, and then carry the books with them, when in autumn they migrate to their southern homes.

AUSTRIA.—We now approach the East of Europe, where so much of agitation has prevailed during the past year. The circulation of the agency has amounted to 144,376 copies, or 27,066 more than in 1875. This is partly due to large sales at half price to the military, and partly to the free distribution in Servia, referred to below. The

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