

me, and then opening out the books and sitting down on a stone, I read passages which seemed to turn up accidentally. Sometimes, when the crowd seemed menacing, I became aggressive and questioned them or exhorted them; and when it appeared a case of casting pearls before swine, I began to buy their old coins and medals. I always returned to my colporteur with an enormous following, swarming out of dens and lanes, and all converging to the books.

"The colporteur, a bold and indefatigable man, with texts of Scripture always ready, seemed sometimes amazed at my temerity, and sometimes the crowd looked very savage; but I have never yet seen a crowd in Syria that could not be rendered good-tempered by a happy proverb, or a well-timed joke; and an impertinent man can always be driven from the field by a touch of sarcasm. His own people take up the laugh against him—they are so well-pleased to hear you using a well-turned phrase in their own language. In all the villages, whether we sold or not, we told the people we had brought the Word of God to their doors, and they all heard a simple, brief statement of the Gospel of the Grace of God.

"The son of one of the most powerful of the Druse sheikhs, taking up one of our Testaments, when I was sitting on the divan beside him, said to me confidentially, 'Do you really understand what that means,' as he pointed out the words, 'The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,' 'Oh yes,' I said, 'I do, and I want you to understand it too.' He looked at me for a moment incredulously, and then tried to change the subject.

"The Moslems and Druses despise us as Christians, and the Christians hate us as Protestants, and both parties have been previously taught that they obliged us by receiving our books as a gift. Taking all these things into account, I am sure that all, except those that despise the day of small things, will join with me in thanking God for the success He gave us; and in asking His guidance and support in all similar future operations."—*Monthly Reporter*.

MISSION PRESSES, AND THE BIBLE IN INDIA.

The following brief but valuable extract is taken from "a Parliamentary Blue Book," entitled, "A statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India during the years 1871-72, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 28th April 1873.

"The mission presses in India are twenty-five in number. During the ten years between 1852 and 1862 they issued 1,634,940 copies of the Scriptures, chiefly single books; and 8,604,033 tracts, school books, and books for general circulation. During the ten years between 1862 and 1872, they issued 3,410 new works in thirty languages; and circulated 1,315,503 copies of books of Scripture, 2,375,040 school books, and 8,750,129 Christian books and tracts. Last year two valuable works were brought to completion, the revision of the Bengali Bible, and the first publication of the entire Bible in Sanskrit. Both were the work of the Rev. Dr. Wenger, of the Baptist mission in Calcutta."

AMERICAN MISSIONS, AND THE BIBLE IN INDIA.

"How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." We have unmingled pleasure in presenting here the accompanying intelligence selected from the *American Bible Society Record*. From the Rev. L. Jewett, of the Baptist Telugu Mission, we learn that the mission continues active in