

in various languages, on the white wall around, of the passage in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, "How hear we in our own tongues wherein we were born the wonderful works of God?" The attendant within speaks German, French, and English; we hope his sales may be far greater than were those to foreigners at the depots during the first Exhibition, viz., 848 Bibles and 1400 Testaments. Two colporteurs are stationed near the building to offer Foreign Scriptures for sale to those who will buy, while another sells English copies. The Society proposes to give away 10,000 portions of the Holy Word (neatly bound, like our small Gospels), in French, German, Italian, and Spanish, to those who will accept them. It has also recently provided 1600 Bibles for the hotels of London; also reducing the prices of Foreign Scriptures, during the time of the Exhibition, by a very considerable amount, to such purchasers as may desire them for sale; and it has taken a stall in the Palace at Sydenham, where the sales of Bibles are already encouraging.

These and similar operations of private Christians who have cared for the making known of the Law of the Lord at this period of the meeting of the nations, are full of interest. But all this, we maintain, is not enough, while it is excluded from its proper place of testimony under one of the domes of the Kensington Exhibition. There is yet space to be filled up, and if there were not, will no one sacrifice for it some toy-trophy, some display of dressing cases, or even a table of railway instruments? The British and Foreign Bible Society should not be represented there merely as the largest bookseller in the world, though that is something in the mart of commerce, it has circulated since the last Exhibition sixteen millions of copies of the message from God to all mankind—a wondrous proportion in comparison with its total of forty millions during its fifty-eight years' history! But it should have its place of mark as the jewel in England's crown, and as that one thing which makes her the Light of the Nations.—*The Book and its Missions.*

### REPORTS OF MISSIONS.

Reports of Missions have from the first followed and anticipated real Mission work.—"The seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name." They were taught, indeed, not to rejoice in this, but rather because their names were written in heaven; for the joy of our service to the Lord must not be substituted for our joy in the Lord himself. The Apostles, after their first missionary journeys, "gathered themselves together unto Jesus and told

him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught." For our first report, if we are good stewards, must be laid before the Lord—and it ought not to be a dry abstract of money received and spent; but a careful statement of what has been done and of what has been taught. These two heads are all-important; for what has been done and what has been taught include all our service. Our Lord does not, indeed, show any indifference to the purse and the scrip. He teaches how we are to go on His work without having them as a burden round our necks. He does not permit us to carry them at all till we know the meaning of his "Provide nothing—Go, and I will give you power." He has himself called for a report about supplies. "When I sent you forth without purse or scrip, lacked ye anything? And they said, Nothing."—Has not this been the answer of all true workers since?

In the early work of the Christian church, Reports have had an important place. After the day of Pentecost was fully come, and the disciples were filled with the Holy Ghost, we read that, "when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together." After the sudden judgment on Ananias and Sapphira, "great fear came upon all the Church, and upon as many as heard these things." It was when the "Apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John." When Peter "rehearsed from the beginning and expounded by order the Lord's work among the Gentiles, they of the circumcision held their peace and glorified God." When tidings came to the ears of the Church at Jerusalem of a great number turned to the Lord, they sent forth Barnabas that he should go as far as Antioch; and he, when he came and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and departed to seek Saul, and brought him unto Antioch. "And it came to pass that a whole year they assembled themselves with the Church and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch." We need not multiply quotations. The whole history of Missions and of the Church shows the power which that history has had in continuing itself. Good News have not only come with Christ to the earth, but have been brought down by angels, and spread by shepherds and wise men and Samaritan women, and lepers and lame and sick folks that have carried abroad the story of their cure. We should hear and tell not only what the Gospel is, but what it does.

Inadequate convictions of what the Gospel is, will be found at the root of inadequate convictions of what the Gospel does; and as faith in the name of Jesus is needful to the