

churches in these countries have many difficulties and hardships to contend with, and they need and deserve our sympathy, assistance, and prayers.

ITALY.—Several evangelical denominations are labouring in Italy; among these are the Wesleyan Methodists, American Episcopal Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians, the Free Church of Italy, and the Waldenses. The strongest and oldest are the Waldenses, who in all the corruptions of the Church, and through fierce persecutions, have held the truth in its purity. They are poor, but growing in strength and influence. The king of Italy regards them with great favour. Their ministers and workers are all Italians; they love Italy, and long and labour to see her brought into the light of the Gospel. A most interesting reformatory work is also going on under Count Campello, who aims to rid the Romish Church of its corruptions and to restore its ancient purity. Another bright feature is the wide dissemination of the Scriptures. Besides the work of the Bible Societies and private distribution, an enormous circulation has been effected by the issuing of the Bible, with illustrations, in half-penny parts, by Signor Sonzogno, editor of a well-known Milan newspaper, the reason given for its publication in this popular form being "that it is from a literary point of view the Book of books," and "because the nations where it is most read are the most prosperous." It is stated that in 1890 there were sold in Italy more copies of the Bible than of any other book. Italy is open for the Gospel. The great danger now is, that having broken away to a large extent from their old religion, the people will, like the French, fall into indifference or utter unbelief.

SPAIN.—Since 1868, the year in which freedom of worship was guaranteed to Protestants, twelve thousand citizens of Spain have embraced the evangelical faith. At present 12 foreign societies, more or less, are at work in this country. The *general position* may be briefly summarized thus: preaching places, 114; pastors, 54; evangelists, 35; attendants at public worship, 9,194; communicants, 3,442; day-schools, 111; day-school pupils, 4,640; Sunday-schools, 80; Sunday-school children, 3,231. There are 6 church papers, 3 orphanages and 2 hospitals. A large number of Protestant periodicals printed in Spain are sent regularly to Mexico, Chili and Argentine. There is a Presby-