

He began to read it; he was interested: he had never seen it before; he was awakened, and, unable to contain the intensity of his feelings, he came to Balaklava, asking for one who had left; he was directed to one well able to instruct him, and who has done much, very much, in carrying on this work. Soon the state of his mind was revealed, and time after time did he come for instruction. At length it pleased the Lord to lead him by his Spirit to behold the Lamb of God, and his soul was set at liberty. High hopes were entertained of his being raised up to preach the glorious gospel to others. The Lord saw otherwise, and he was laid on a bed of suffering and death. In his last hours he was urged to confess and get extreme unction, but his reply was, 'I have confessed to Christ; he and he only can save, all my hope is in him.' Shortly after he fell asleep. . . .

"In the Crimea and Yenikoi I had the pleasure of giving, since the 1st April—Italian Bibles, 2147; Testaments, 1230; French Bibles to Savoyards, 300, besides 4000 books and tracts. Above 250 Bibles have been given to officers of all grades; and instead of in any case hindering the work, they have forwarded it. It would be wrong to say much of the desire has been spiritual to possess the Word, yet it has been given, in no case forced; and surely it is matter of deepest gratitude, to think of 18,000 copies of the Scriptures having gone to Piedmont from the Crimea, a place they were the most unlikely to receive it in, and in circumstances the most adverse to its taking root.

"Who, oh who, can tell the results that may yet follow? Piedmont, the exile's home—the only spot where a man can breathe—where he can express his convictions, and worship free of danger, where all around is a dark despotism, and under the withering blight of Rome's dark sway, may soon be gained to Christ. Nobly, in the struggle now closed, has she done her part—nobly have her soldiers fought—nobly sustained the name of Italy. The eyes of the world look on with interest. Excommunicated by Rome, she seeks the light; and though Romanism still holds sway, and infidelity, the fruit of it, greatly increases, yet the path, we believe, is onward; and the prayer of all who fear the Lord ought to be in her behalf. Statesmen stand aghast at the state of Italy, and how to solve the problem of her wrongs and miseries they cannot tell. The truth, and the truth alone, shall make her free. A nation free without the truth is impossible. We may be called to see many struggles, we may be called to exercise much patience, and often have our hopes sadly disappointed—but it will come. How it cheers in anticipation—how it stirs to prayer—how it excites to effort,—the thought of the truth prevailing in that land, around which our affections cling!