

speaker right in the face, and said, 'Sir, it is the Word of God.' 'There is no God.' 'Well, sir, you prove this very moment the divinity of the Bible by realizing its sayings.' 'Prove me that, and I will buy a copy.' 'Nothing is easier;' and I pointed to Ps. xiv. 1: 'The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God,' and Ps. liii. and 1 Cor. ii. 14: 'The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned.' 'Very remarkable; I would not have believed that,' and he purchased a copy."

The condition of Marseilles is described as very sad: Bible work "in the interior of the city is most ingrate; people do not feel their need of anything new; they are tired of all"—of politics and religion alike. Still the two men who visited the mines in the neighbourhood sold freely, and were pleased with the politeness of the workmen, many of whom were Italians. Kübli, who labours chiefly among the seamen, a class loved by him because of the dangers they incur and the special interest they seem to have excited in our blessed Lord, writes:—

"I have sold this year 1,161 copies of the Scriptures. How little if we look only at the figures! how much if we believe on the Lord's power! A thousand copies at least have been sold from Marseilles alone to seamen, generally indisposed and ignorant; and from my ministry a thousand volumes containing the bread of life have been sent, we may well say, into all parts of the world."

A Bible was recently presented to the Society, which, though no such interest attaches to it as is possessed by Coverdale's folio or the buried books of Madagascar, yet has a touching history of its own. Fifteen years ago M. Duffan, who has presented it, was plunged in Romish darkness; he was a member of the congregation of the Perpetual Adoration, and of the Gray Penitents. Everywhere he sought salvation. One day a working man spoke to him of the Bible. From that moment he did all he could to procure the book; but there was at that time no colporteur in the Var, and the bookseller at Toulon to whom he applied laughed at him and put him out of doors. Going to Marseilles, he there bought this copy; in its pages he found truth and peace, and since receiving Christ as his Saviour he has made every effort to spread the Gospel around him. His new faith has not brought to him silver or gold, else he would have subscribed to the Society; as it is, he offers his precious Bible as a thank-offering to those who have put him in possession of his best blessing, and he expresses the hope that they will be encouraged to labour on until every corner of his 'poor country' is filled with the light. It appears that he has been the readier to make this gift because after his death his relations, who are Roman Catholics, are sure to burn the book, and he cannot bear the thought of its coming to such an end.

In one of the Departments of the Southern Division, your colporteur had a singular interview with a priest:

"I was leaving the village of L., when I saw a priest, who looked as if he wished and yet did not dare to speak to me. However, he approached, and asked in a kind tone what I was selling. I answered, 'Bibles and New Testaments;' to which he replied, 'An excellent thing the Holy Scriptures. I should like to hear from your mouth what hope is in you.' 'You put me at my ease, M. le Curé; my hope is in the cross of Christ, who was delivered for my offences and raised again for my justification.' 'You are happier than I am if you believe that: I cannot say as much.' 'But you can enjoy the same privilege, sir, if you believe that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.' We then read together the first three chapters of the Romans, the beginning of the 5th, 7th and 8th chapters, and the opening verses of the 1st Epistle of Peter. 'Here, you see,' said I, 'that both the inheritance and the heirs are kept by the power of God.' 'Your hope is firmer than mine.' He bought a Bible and a Testament, and invited me to call upon him at my next visit to examine the subject more at length."