

Bible Women.—The London Bible and Domestic Female Mission reports a larger circulation of the scriptures, through the instrumentality of the Bible women than in any similar period. The number of copies sold within the year has reached a total of 12,269, and realized the sum of £1,659, whilst the number of subscribers yet to be supplied amounts to 7,124.

THE BIBLE IN FRANCE.

M. Monod continues to prosecute his work with his characteristic care and energy, giving much attention to colportage. Large numbers of Testaments and portions were distributed among the sufferers from the inundations. No difficulty was found in inducing the people to accept these; on the contrary, great gratitude was expressed for the kindness shown, and in not a few cases the recipients collected what money they could for the purchase of a whole Bible. Sixty-two colporteurs had been engaged for a longer or shorter period.

The total sales by colportage and through the depots have amounted to 71,725 copies, against 64,540 in the preceding year. Those to religious societies and other agencies number 18,078, and the free grants, including the gifts to sufferers from the floods, have amounted to 5,848, giving a total of 95,646 copies.

THE BIBLE IN GERMANY.

Notwithstanding the vast sums which flowed into the German exchequer after the Franco-German war, there had been much commercial depression. There had also been not a little religious excitement. Neither of these conditions is favourable to the work in which the Bible Society is engaged, though both serve to illustrate the truth which the Bible unfolds. But though the power to purchase the Scriptures had been limited, a season of adversity may not have been unfavourable to growth in grace, and if the excitement consequent upon legislative action in connection with questions of ecclesiastical policy has disturbed for a time the peace of the churches, results may yet be developed which shall prove "that the Lord hath founded Zion, and the poor of His people shall trust in it."

The circulation of the Scriptures within the limits of the agency had reached a total of 297,242 copies, consisting of 88,175 Bibles, 185,193 Testaments, and 28,874 portions.

The Rev. G. P. Davies points out that the decrease in the German issues has taken place among Protestant populations only.