

B. S.; so that equipped with the weapons which duty to their country make necessary, they may not be without that essential weapon, "the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God." But before concluding our Report, we have a duty to perform, which, though melancholy in the associations it presents, is not without its pleasing memorials. We refer to the death of three of our honoured friends and supporters, the Rev. Dr. Caldicott, one of the Directors of the Society, who took part in the anniversary services of last year, and the Rev. Dr. Burns and the Rev. Dr. Lillie, two of its Vice-Presidents. Full notices of these honored brethren appeared at the time of their removal from our midst. We have also to record the death of Mr. James Carless, who for nearly 30 years was the faithful and respected Depositary of the Society. At the last quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors, suitable resolutions expressive of high esteem were placed upon the journals, and will be published in this month's *Recorder*.

CONCLUSION.

We recognize the hand of God in the triumphs of the past, and we will endeavour to obey the commands which belong to the future. Assured that the Bible is God's gift to all men, we purpose by Divine aid and guidance, to be identified with the great Parent Society in giving it to the world. Never were there so many open doors; never was there so much eagerness on the part of the people of all lands to receive and retain this great boon of heaven. Barrier after barrier has been swept away; citadel after citadel which have refused to admit it have been razed to the ground, and now Rome ALONE stands out in foolish antagonism to the progress of the truth. But she must yield, and in her yielding will be her blessing. Now more, perhaps, than at any former period, must we be convinced that the circulation of the Word of God has to be accomplished in the face of Rome's unrelenting antagonism. Illustrative of this, your Committee would incorporate the following utterance from the closing remarks of the last Report of the Parent Society:—

"It may be observed that although the obstinate and severe prohibition imposed by Governments on the introduction of the Scriptures has been almost universally repealed, and legal restrictions long in force have been removed, yet prejudice and active opposition are arrayed in great strength and firm phalanx against the work of your Society. It is not simply the scornful objection of the Bible on the part of the materialistic and infidel classes of society to which the Committee refer. There is the sleepless and unappeased hostility of the Church of Rome which has to be endured. The crime of Bible burning, which commenced as soon as the newly-discovered art of printing began to multiply copies of the Scriptures, and which has been practiced more or less for three hundred years, has by no means ceased. The repugnance of Rome to the free circulation of the Word of God is as deeply seated in the bosom of her priests as a body, in spite of admitted exceptions, as ever. The traditions of past ages have not died out. The Bible and Rome cannot stand face to face. Let us not flatter ourselves into the persuasion