

education. In China, among those places where rebellion continued, and where the horrors of war were experienced, all action for good was well-nigh paralyzed; but, in parts where the war had not reached, the good seed was being sown, and there was no doubt of a fruitful season. At Shanghai, the copies circulated were 23,000; at Canton, 7000; and at Ningpo, 7000. In the latter town a vernacular edition of the Scriptures had been published. In New Zealand, the restoration of peace gave hopes of good being effected, and the entire Bible in the Maori dialect had been revised and sent to England to be printed. Madagascar is once more thrown open to missionary enterprise, and the Committee is hastening to reprint the Malagasy Scriptures. Looking at the present sad position of affairs in the United States, the Committee, anxious to sympathize with the American brethren, and to co-operate with them in the great work of Bible distribution, had placed at the disposal of the American Bible Society the sum of £2000. The proffered help, however, had not been needed, and had been declined with every sentiment of gratitude and cordiality. Turning to the domestic record of the Society, the Committee reported that three Vice-Presidents of the Society—namely, the Bishop of Durham, Messrs. John Thornton, and Thomas Farmer—had been called to their rest. The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and the Bishop of Madras, had permitted their names to be enrolled as Vice-Presidents.—The receipts of the year, ending March 31, 1882, have exceeded those of any preceding year, (excluding the special funds).—The amount applicable to the general purposes of the Society is £90,923, 3s. 8d., being an increase of £6668, 12s. 4d. over the preceding year; while the amount received for Bibles and Testaments has been £76,760, 17s. 8d., or £6148, 17s. 7d. less than in the preceding year. The total receipts from the ordinary sources of income have amounted to £167,684, 1s. 4d., being £519, 4s. 9d. more than in any former year. To the above must be added the sum of £631, 13s. 8d. for the Chinese New Testament Fund, and £128, 0s. 5d. for the Special Fund for India; making a grand total of £168,443 15s. 5d. The income of the Society for the year are as follows:—From the depot at home, 999,-

957; from depots abroad, 595,291—1,595,248 copies. The total issues of the Society now amount to 40,610,474.

The Earl of Shaftesbury then briefly addressed the meeting, stating that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe had been requested to attend and take part in the proceedings. The good man, when ambassador at Constantinople, gave the weight of his personal character and the dignity of his great office to this Society, and took the chair of the Turkish branch in the capital of Turkey. The noble Earl added: "I have also to announce to you a contribution to the funds of the Society of £50 from Lord Palmerston. You may well cheer, for let me tell you that a more patriotic and thorough Englishman never lived. I will give you his own words, which he said to me yesterday. He said, 'I am most happy to do anything I can for your admirable institution.'"

In the course of his speech the Rev. Dr. Turner, from Samoa, said:—"In 1850, you favoured us with an edition of the Samoan Scriptures, which cost you £1388. We arranged our sales accordingly, and within seven years we had paid you the last instalment of the amount. We sold 7000 copies of the Old Testament, and 25,000 copies of the New. I speak, therefore, with confidence, when I say that we hope within seven years to be able to repay you your entire outlay on this edition. The simple fact in the past history of the circulation of our Samoan Bible, that these books have been bought and paid for by the natives, will be proof sufficient, to any man's mind, that they are not only valued, but read; ay, and that the truths they contain, blessed by the Divine Spirit, have led many a heart to the Saviour they reveal. But if any be sceptical on that point, I wish you could go to Samoa, and see and judge for yourselves. I frankly admit you would find much there of ungodliness and sin, of various descriptions, over which you would mourn; but you would also see cause to rejoice and to be exceeding glad. You would find the entire system of heathenism, which prevailed twenty years ago, swept away throughout the whole 250 villages there are in the Samoan islands. You would not find ten houses in which there is not at least a copy of the New Testament; you would find that out of a population of 34,000, we have 3000 men