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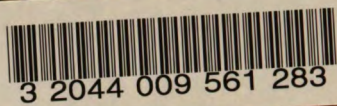
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BRIEF NARRATIVE OF FACTS

RELATIVE TO

THE NEW ORPHAN HOUSES,

(FOR 1,150 CHILDREN),

ON ASHLEY DOWN, BRISTOL,

AND

- THE OTHER OBJECTS

OF THE

Scriptural Knowledge Institution

FOR HOME AND ABROAD.

BY

GEORGE MÜLLER.

This Narrative contains the Record of the Period from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867, and constitutes the TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT of the Proceedings of the above Institution.

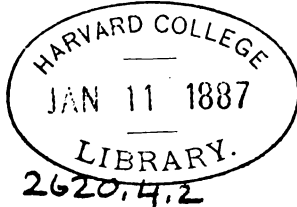
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Sarah E. Hall,
Dorchester.

NOTICE TO THE READER

THE reader who desires to have a minute account of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution *from the commencement*, and, in particular, respecting the Orphan Establishment, will find it in "A Narrative of some of the Lord's dealings with George Müller," Nisbet, London (to be had through any bookseller). Sixth edition. Three Parts. 604 pages. Price 3s. 6d. These three parts contain the Life of the Author before his conversion, the circumstances under which he was converted, the reason of his coming to England, the account of the Lord's dealings with him since he has been in England, many answers to prayer with respect to his own personal circumstances, and the whole account of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution up to July 14, 1844, from whence the Fourth Part, published at Nisbet's, London, in 1856, 402 pages, forming a second volume, price 2s. 6d., carries on the Narrative to May 26, 1856. By sending 6s. in Postage Stamps to Mr. James L. Stanley, Manager of the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, No. 34, Park-street, Bristol, both volumes will be sent postage free. Should the reader desire any of the last eighteen Reports, they may yet be obtained, through a bookseller, from Messrs. Nisbet & Co., or post free from Mr. Stanley, by sending the money in postages to him.

It has repeatedly happened that donors have not known my address, though it has been given at the end of each Report, and I have therefore been desired to give it here, in compliance with which I request that all letters for me be addressed to my private dwelling, No. 21, Paul-street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

GEORGE MÜLLER.

BRIEF NARRATIVE OF FACTS

RELATIVE TO THE

NEW ORPHAN HOUSES AND THE OTHER OBJECTS

OF

The Scriptural Knowledge Institution

FOR HOME AND ABROAD.

As year after year passes, I feel, on the one hand, more and more the solemnity of writing these Reports, on account of the wide circulation they have, and am, therefore, continually led to the Lord for help; yet, on the other hand, my heart is encouraged to do this part of my work joyfully, because of the abundant blessing, which it has pleased the Lord to cause to rest upon these pamphlets; and because I have, in this way, the great honour of being permitted so widely to sound forth the praises of the Lord, in speaking well of His name.

The Institution of which this Twenty-Eighth Report gives an account, has been more than Thirty-three years in operation, having been formed on March 5th, 1834. Its beginning was most small, but it has since then been almost year by year enlarged, and that to such an extent, as that the expenditure in connexion therewith, during the past year, of which this Report speaks, amounted to £34,849. 0s. 6d. To large houses of business, or even to some private wealthy individuals, this sum may not appear a very large one; but it is to be kept before the Reader, that the means to meet such an expenditure are obtained simply by asking God to work in the hearts of His stewards to help us; for in no case is an appeal made to any individual for help. From this we abstain, not that we consider it sinful in itself to apply to individual *believers* for help in the cause of Christ; but, because one of the especial reasons for the formation of this Institution, and especially of that of the Orphan Work, was, that it might be seen to the glory of God, how much can be accomplished simply through the instrumentality of prayer and faith; in order that thus there might be, in this work, a witness to the faithfulness of God for the believer, and that the unbeliever might see, in it, the reality of the things of God, and thus be led to seek Him while He is to be found.

Before entering upon the different parts of the Report, I notice a few out of the many especial blessings, mercies, and answers to prayer, granted to us during the past year, for the encouragement of the Christian readers.

When the Cholera appeared in England, during the summer of 1866, and when there were even some cases in Bristol, it had been, from the commencement, our special prayer, that, if it might be, the Lord would mercifully shield the Orphan Houses against this fearful disease. And so He did. Not a single instance occurred. We had, however, many applications for the admission of children, who had lost both parents by Cholera, and in one single letter 23 such children were applied for.

During the past year the Hooping Cough again broke out among the Orphans. We asked the Lord, that, if it might be, He would graciously prevent the spreading of this trying malady; and He did deal very pitifully with us; only 8 children, out of all the hundreds under our care, took the disease.

During the summer and autumn of 1866 we had also the measles at all the three Orphan Houses. After they had made their appearance, our especial prayer was, 1, That there might not be too many children ill at one time in this disease, so that our accommodation in the Infirmary rooms or otherwise might be sufficient. This prayer was answered to the full; for though we had at the New Orphan House No. I not less than 83 cases, in No. II altogether 111, and in No. III altogether 68, yet God so graciously was pleased to listen to our supplications, as that when our spare rooms were filled with the invalids, He so long stayed the spreading of the measles till a sufficient number were restored, so as to make room for others, who were taken ill. 2, Further we prayed, that the children who were taken ill in the measles, might be safely brought through and not die. Thus it was. We had the full answer to our prayers; for though 262 children altogether had the measles, not one of them died. 3, Lastly we prayed, that no evil physical consequences might follow this disease, as is so often the case; this was also granted. All the 262 children not only recovered, but did well afterwards. I gratefully record this signal mercy and blessing of God, and this full and precious answer to prayer, to the honour of His name.

During the whole year, of which this Report treats, we have been mercifully preserved from trying infectious fevers. I gratefully mention this particular mercy of God, to the praise of His name.

There never was a year, since this work has been in existence, that our current expenses were so great as during the past year, which was occasioned by the high price of provisions, etc.; added to this, the three Orphan Houses have been taxed, with all the ordinary City taxes, which for more than 30 years before, while the Orphan Work was in operation, had not been the case. But while, on the one hand, our outgoings were greater than ever they had been, since the 5th of March, 1834, our income too was greater

than during any previous year, since the Institution had been in existence; whereby God not only has again shown how able He is to meet the increase of expenses in connexion with His work, but He is, as it were, likewise saying to me, I will also provide means, when the two new houses, now in course of erection, shall have been filled with destitute Orphans.

We record it as a marked blessing from God, that we have had no difficulty during the past year, nor for a number of years past, in placing out the Orphans, when ready to leave the Institution; but have had far more applications for apprentices and servants, than we were able to supply.

I cannot pass over noticing especially the small number of deaths we have had during the past year among the Orphans. Only eleven have died, out of 1304 who were under our care from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867. When it is considered, that by far the greater part of these Orphans lost one or both parents in consumption, and that, therefore, almost all inherit from their parents a weak constitution; we have especial cause for thankfulness in the smallness of the number of deaths. We indeed see, on the one hand, the importance of cleanliness, regular habits, wholesome food, and suitable clothing with regard to these children; and we are, moreover, fully convinced, that for want of these requisites, so many tens of thousands of the children of the poor go to an early grave; yet, on the other hand, we do own the gracious blessing of God upon these means, which are used for the preservation of the health and life of these children.

The greatest of all the blessings, however, which it pleased the Lord to bestow upon us in connexion with this Institution, in answer to daily prayer, was the mighty awakening among the Orphans, which occurred while I was writing the last Report, and to which I then referred, though strictly speaking it belonged to the year from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867. This was the greatest spiritual blessing we ever have had among the Orphans, at one time, the precious results of which continue up to this day.

The total income for the various Objects of the Institution amounted, during the past year, to £32,514. 19s. 4d.; and there has come in, since the commencement of the work, altogether Three Hundred and Sixty-Nine Thousand Pounds, by which sum, since that time, above Sixteen Thousand children or grown up persons have been taught in the various Schools, *entirely* supported by the Institution; more than Forty-Two Thousand Copies of the Bible and nearly Thirty-Four Thousand New Testaments, and above Ten Thousand Psalms and other smaller portions of the Holy Scriptures, in various languages, have been circulated since the formation of the Institution; and about Twenty-Nine Millions of Tracts and Books, likewise in several languages, have been circulated. There have been, likewise, from the commencement, Missionaries assisted by the funds of the Institution, and of late years more than One Hundred and Twenty in number. On this

Object alone Seventy Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty One Pounds have been expended from the beginning. Also 2263 Orphans have been under our care, three large houses, at an expense of about Sixty Thousand Pounds, have been erected, fitted up and furnished, and two other houses are now being built for 850 more Orphans. With regard to the spiritual results, eternity alone can unfold them; yet, even in so far as we have already seen fruit, we have abundant cause for praise and thanksgiving.

In the last Report but one I stated at length the reasons which had led me to adopt the plan of issuing a supplement to the Report, printed only for the donors who have contributed during the year to which the Report refers, which supplement contains an account of *every* item in money and articles contributed throughout the whole year, under the initials of the donors, or their place of abode, or otherwise, as they themselves wished it, without, however, in any one instance giving the names of the donors; for I have all along desired to hold out no inducement to the contributing for the sake of applause. I feel grateful for every donation, even the smallest; but if Tens of Thousands of Pounds could be obtained, by holding out such an inducement, God continuing to help me, as he has done hitherto in this matter, it would not be held out.

To save needless expense, there will be only *one* copy sent of this supplement to the Report, though there should be several donors in the same family, who all contribute through one individual; and the donor, through whom they contribute, and to whom therefore this supplement is sent, is respectfully requested to have the kindness to show it to the other donors, so that each may thus be satisfied, that his or her donation is accounted for. In case of anonymous donors, their donations are accounted for in this supplement, as the other donations, to be found under the date on which they came to hand, and under the object for which they were contributed; but if the application was left to me, then they must look for the date under the different headings for the various objects of the Institution.

The order, which I purpose to follow in writing the Report, is the same which has been adopted in former years,—viz., I shall first refer to matters connected with the present contemplated enlargement of the Orphan work; then give a few specimens as to the manner in which it pleased the Lord to supply me with means for the School—, Bible—, Missionary— and Tract Fund; next, give also some specimens as to the manner in which means came in for the support of the 1304 Orphans who were under our care during the past year; and lastly, enter upon the operations of the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution themselves. But as this Report is intended for the spiritual benefit of the reader, so, as God shall help me, the whole will be interspersed with practical remarks, as either the subjects or dates may lead to them, though these remarks should not be immediately connected with giving an account of my stewardship.

I. Donations given towards the Building Fund of the intended New Orphan Houses, No. 4 and No. 5, for Eight Hundred and Fifty Poor Children, bereaved of BOTH Parents by death. Practical Remarks, Letters from Donors and Orphans, &c.

In the twenty-second Report I gave, at length, the reasons which led me to decide on a still further enlargement of the Orphan work, so that the present accommodation for 1150 Orphans might be extended to that for 2000. The readers, who are unacquainted with these reasons, are respectfully informed, that the Report, which contains them, may yet be obtained. I can here only repeat, that, after much prayer and exercise of mind, I determined, in dependance on the Living God alone, my never-failing Friend and Helper, to go forward, though this contemplated enlargement would require not less than Fifty Thousand Pounds; and though the current expenses for the work, already in existence, were becoming larger and larger. In the last Report, the twenty-seventh, I showed how it had pleased the Lord to help me in connexion with this object, and that I had in hand on May 26, 1866, £34,002. 2s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

The position in which I was, at the commencement of the last period, with this £34,002. 2s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. in hand for the Building Fund, was this, that I had been able to sign the contract for the New Orphan House No. 4, and that house had also been commenced on May 7, 1866; but I wanted about £7000. more, in order to be able to meet the expenses for the contract of No. 5, the signing of the contract for this fifth house having been, by agreement between the contractors and myself, made to stand over till Jan. 1, 1867. I might have signed the contract for No. 5, without having the whole amount of the money in hand, and said to myself, that the Lord would send me the means, before what I had in hand (£34,000.) was actually expended on the buildings, which would be enough for about 18 months; but I adhered to the principle on which I had always acted in reference to this Institution, viz. never to go in debt, even for the work of God. I had, on the contrary, always said this to myself, Just because it is the work of God, if indeed I am the person who has to do this work, and if *His own time* is come, I may expect to be supplied with means; but if, for the time being, I have not the needed means, it is plain, that I am either not the person to do the work, or the Lord's time is not yet come. On this ground I did *not* sign the contract for No. 5, but preferred, to the honour of the Lord, to wait yet further on Him in patient, believing, and expecting prayer, until He should be pleased to give me all I required, that thus I might honour Him in this particular. And now see, dear Reader, how abundantly the Lord recompensed my quiet, patient waiting.

In the following pages only some of the donations are referred to, by which it pleased the Lord to help me further with means for the Building Fund, merely as specimens; but every one of them may be seen recorded in the Supplement.

June 7, 1866. From Scotland £20., from a lady "As a thank-offering to the Lord for his gracious preservation of her cattle during the prevalence of the plague throughout the land."—June 9. Anonymously from the West of England Five Pounds from a donor who has for many years sent me many such donations, and generally month by month, and who during the past year also sent seven such donations, all of which were taken for the Building Fund, as their application was left to me.—June 14. Received the following letter from a young Christian lady, with a gold necklace and locket, 4 bracelets, 3 gold brooches, some playthings, and a small smelling bottle for the Building Fund, and £1. for Chinese Missions: "My dear Mr. Müller, Will you please use these my trinkets to help in building the new Orphan House, which you have begun. I have heard some people say, 'I think it is very foolish and daring of Mr. Müller to begin *another* House; he ought to be content with what he has done'; but I will pray the Lord to help you, to prove again, that it is neither foolish nor daring to 'Trust in the Lord,' 'To open your mouth wide, *very* wide,' as He has told us, believing that He will fill it, and *never* tell us to shut it. Please accept much warm love, from your young sister in Jesus, * * * *."

—June 23. From Oxfordshire £7. 18s. instead of insuring 316 acres against hail, with £1. 2s. 6d. for Missions and £1. 17s. 6d. for the support of the Orphans.—June 25. From the East Indies £25.—June 29. From Devonshire £50., with £25. for the Orphans and £5. for myself.

July 5. From a Christian Baker in Bedfordshire £5., made up by giving 1 penny per sack of flour he bakes, by putting aside the first money he takes in the morning in a little shop, and by sending the quarter's money he used to pay into a club. Many such donations the same Christian baker has sent, and even £10. at a time.—July 6. From a Christian mercantile Gentleman at Glasgow £2., with £2. for Missions. This gentleman has sent monthly a donation to me, as the Lord has prospered him in his business.—July 9. From a Christian physician who cultivates ferns, for the benefit of the Orphans, £5. I have had often similar donations from him.—July 17. From London £105.—From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £80.—July 21. From Devonshire £190. 2s. 11d.—July 30. From a Bristol donor £200., with £100. for Missions, £100. for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, £100. for the circulation of Tracts, and £10. for my own expenses.

Aug. 1. Received 3s., with the following letter from one of the former Orphans, who has been for about twenty years a believer, and who is now a teacher in a little school: "Dear Sir, I thank you for the Report you so kindly sent me, the reading of which has greatly refreshed my heart; and now may the result be, more self-dedication to the Lord, whose, through grace, I am, and whom I desire more and more to serve. I feel thankful the Lord has brought you through another year, and has again crowned the work with His blessing, thus proving, that it is no vain thing to

trust in Him. I am indeed a debtor to Him through this work, having there received those blessings which, through Jesus' love, will be to my lasting happiness, until I meet around the throne, to praise throughout eternity the love that brought me there. You will, I am sure, thank the Lord, that He has given me again health to continue in the school, where I have such a blessed opportunity of speaking to the dear children of His love. I long to see some of them brought to know Jesus. May I ask you, to remember in your prayers this little work, that some precious little souls may receive Jesus, and put their trust in Him alone. Many of them have ungodly parents, and seldom hear little else but swearing and other evil things, which makes the work rather difficult sometimes: but our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth, remembering that He will not 'despise the day of small things;' and 'in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.' I feel encouraged to go on, seeing the gracious work the Lord has done among the dear Orphans. May your heart, too, be cheered, my dear Fatherly Friend, by this token of good. Please remember me to Mrs. and Miss Müller with Miss Groves, who, with yourself, I hope are well; and, until I meet you, with all the blood bought company, I remain, Yours in much gratitude, * * * *." P. S. "Please accept the enclosed mite for the Building Fund."—Aug. 2. From London £50., with £40. for Missions, £30. for the School—, Bible—, and Tract-Fund, and £30. for myself—Aug. 3. From M. E. £5. as "A thank-offering for perfect recovery from illness."—Aug. 7. From an Orphan, formerly under our care, £2., with the following letter: "Dear Mr. Müller, I have again the privilege and pleasure of offering my mite for that part of the work which you think requires it most, praying that it may be given from a pure motive, desiring only the approbation of Him who searcheth all hearts, and who daily loadeth me with benefits and tender mercies'. I have had my wages raised and can afford to carry out your suggestion in the Report, viz. to increase my offering according as the Lord increases my means. With grateful esteem to you, and all who labour with you, I am, still, Your happy Orphan, * * * *."—Aug. 11. From Oxfordshire £50. Regarding this donation I cannot help noticing, that the kind donor, a Clergyman, having given me for many years past £10., is now moved by the Lord, as the work is so increased, and yet increasing, to send me this time £50., leaving the disposal of it to myself. The whole was put to the Building Fund.—Aug. 16. £5. from London, with the following letter: "My dear Sir, I herewith send you a cheque for Five Pounds, towards your Building Fund. On Thursday last, I went to the Railway Station, to see a friend off to Paris, and at parting I promised to meet him in Paris on Monday, to witness the great sights of that city during this week. On my road home from the Railway I saw your Reports. I bought one, and on Sunday determined to forego my visit and send you the above sum which I had intended to have spent. It is my first donation, but I do hope and trust

it will not be my last. Trusting you and yours are well, Believe me, dear Sir, Yours truly, * * * *”—From Appenzell, Switzerland, £2.—Aug. 17. With the words “Only believe,” £5., with £10. for Foreign Missions, £10. for Home Missions, and £10. for the Orphans.—Aug. 25. “A thank-offering for mercies” £50.—Aug. 27. From “Sigma” £20., with the following letter: “Dear Sir, I duly received the Report you kindly sent me lately, and for which please accept my best thanks. Enclosed I beg to hand you £20., a donation to the Building Fund, as a thank-offering for mercies through the past year. I may mention, as corroborating your remarks anent systematic giving in the Reports, that I originally commenced by devoting a tenth, and increased the amount from time to time up to the fourth, which I have given for a number of years. The enclosed £20. is a thank-offering in addition to this amount, as I feel that I have been much blessed, although I never asked abundance, my prayer being ‘Lord bless my labours to the providing of things honest in the sight of all men.’ Praying that the work may prosper in your hands, and that you may have many tokens of the Divine favour, I remain, dear Sir, yours respectfully, * * * *”—Aug. 30. From Scotland £50., with £5. for Mrs. C. and £5. for myself.—A Legacy from M. B. of Ireland £18. 9s.—Aug. 31. From J. H. a Half-Sovereign in an unregistered letter. I take this opportunity of again stating, that coin sent in unregistered letters, is not safe; moreover, every such letter is charged with eight pence fine, being the double registration fee.

Sept. 5. From London £50.—Sept. 6. From London £80., with £20. for myself.—£150. from a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven.—Sept. 7. £30., with the following letter: “Dear Sir, I have lately been reading the last Report of your valuable Institution, and am much impressed with the donations and letters therein contained, especially with two of them. One is that of an old Orphan, now in service, who had been enabled to lay by some of her wages, but sent the money to you in preference to its lying useless. Another is that of a poor afflicted widow who had saved some money and acted in a similar way. Being impressed by their example, and by the Divine precept, Matt. vi. 19, I have taken from the Post Office Savings Bank the savings of four years’ work, and lay it at your disposal, trusting that you will devote a part of it to the Missions, and the rest as you may think best. Hoping that you will receive it safely, that it may be blessed by God to the increase of the Redeemer’s kingdom, and that your own labours may be abundantly rewarded, I am, Your sincere donor, * * * *” “P. S. If you will kindly acknowledge the receipt of these halves, I will send the others by return of post.” I took one half of this amount for Missions and the other half for the Building Fund. It has been my happy lot, during the last thirty-eight years especially, to become acquainted with a great number of Christians, who desired, in all childlike simplicity, to

take the Lord at His Word, and to carry it out practically, in order that thus they might obtain the blessing, which ever is coupled with obedience to the written Word. The writer of the above letter is an instance of this kind, whom I commend especially to the prayers of the Christian readers, that God would give her a full recompense for her obedience, both temporally and spiritually, even in this life; and that she never may be allowed, even for one moment, to regret what she has done for the Lord.—Sept. 17. From Scotland £20., with £50. for Foreign Missions, £20. for the Orphans, and £10. for myself.—Sept. 18. Five shillings from one of the earliest Orphans under our care, who was received more than thirty years ago, who has been for twenty-five years a consistent Christian, and who has been for about twenty years in service.—Sept. 19. From Birmingham £200., with £25. for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract Fund, £15. and a large picture in frame for the Orphans, and £10. for myself.—Sept. 21. “From S., Kent.” as “First dividend from a Bank which stopped payment some time since,” £100, with £53. 16s. 3d. for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract Fund, and £10. for myself.—From Blackheath £100.—Sept. 24. From the neighbourhood of Crewkerne £10., as “A thank-offering for a good harvest.”—Sept. 25. From a Bristol donor £50.—Sept. 26. From Holland 40 florins.—Sept. 27. Received from the Girls of the North Wing of the New Orphan House No. 3 £1. 10s., from the House Girls No. 3 (viz., those more immediately under training for service) £1. 10s., from the Girls of the South Wing of No. 3 £2, from the House Girls of No. 1 £1. 16s., from the Orphan Boys £1. 2s. 2d., from the Girls of No. 1 £1. 8s. 8d., from the Infants of No. 1 16s., from the House Girls of No. 2 £1. 10s., from the Girls of No. 2 £1. 6s., from the Infants of No. 2 £1. 15s. 3d. The reason why these ten donations came on the same day, from all these ten different departments of the Orphan Houses, was this. The Orphans had been in the habit of buying a little present for myself out of their little treasure to give to me on my birth-day, and sometimes, also, one or the other School had given me a donation for the Building Fund instead. This time, however, all the Orphans gave their presents to me for the Building Fund, that thus they themselves might contribute a little towards the erection of two more houses for destitute Orphans, as they knew that it would give me more pleasure to receive their money for the Building Fund, than if they had bought with it a present for myself. Each of the ten departments accompanied their donation with a letter, which, however, I cannot give here, on account of the space it would occupy.—From a London donor £25.—From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £50.—From Bedfordshire £9. 19s., being made up by no longer paying into a benefit club, by putting aside every morning the first money taken in a little shop, by giving 1d. on each sack of flour baked, and by the sale of three pigs reared for the benefit of the Orphans.

Oct. 1. From the North of England £100.—Oct. 3. From Buenos Ayres, South America, £6.—Oct. 6. "From a farmer's wife" £1., being a penny for every pound of butter sold during the last year.—Oct. 8. From a shipowner £100., with £100. for Missions, instead of insuring his ships.—Anonymously from Dublin a Bank Order for £20., without stating for what it was intended. It was taken for the Building Fund.—Oct. 10. A former Orphan, now in service, 5s., with 5s. for the Orphans.—Oct. 11. From Worcestershire 3s., as "The produce of a little apple tree."—From M. W. £100.—Oct. 12. There was left at my house to-day £1., with the following letter: "Dear Mr. Müller, I enclose £1. towards the Building Fund of the new Orphan Houses, as a thank-offering to God for His great love and mercy towards a poor wretched outcast whilst suffering banishment, in raising me up out of the horrible pit and setting my feet upon the Rock Christ Jesus, praying that our kind and merciful Father may long spare your life to carry on His work. I remain, Dear Sir, Yours affectionately, A Reclaimed Criminal." Observe, esteemed Reader, in what a variety of ways the Lord is pleased to supply me with means!—To-day, also, the senior partner of a large firm kindly promised to give himself alone all the glass that would be required for the 350 large windows of No. 4, and, in the name of his firm, he promised, that the firm jointly would give all the glass which would be required for the 350 large windows of No. 5.—Oct. 17. From Devonshire 6s. for the first bushel of wheat, and 4s. 6d. for the first bushel of barley.—From one of the former Orphans, now in service, 10s.—Oct. 19. "In Memoriam," a thank-offering for upwards of 30 years' hallowed friendship with a saint, now called to glory, £5.—Oct. 20. From Lincolnshire £50.—Oct. 23. From Kent £100.—Received, also, to-day 3s. 0½d. from a Christian grocer, being one penny in the pound of his takings during the past week.—Ever since, this grocer has continued to send me, week by week, one penny in the pound on all his takings, being generally from 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d. per week. The 240th part of what there has been received in his shop, you would say, is a little item; and yet here, again, is another proof, how much by systematic giving, even on the smallest scale, may be accomplished; for, I think, I have received thus from this donor about 10 times more than during any previous year.—Oct. 26. £1. from one of the former Orphans, now in service, who has been recently, in answer to the prayers, with which we follow those, who were formerly under our care, brought to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

Nov. 2. "From F. R., near Hertford, as a thank-offering to God for preserving my cattle from the Rinderpest," £2. 10s., with £2. 10s. for Missions.—Nov. 16. From Scotland £100., with £100. for Missions, £5. for Mrs. C., and £5. for myself.—Nov. 17. From a Christian Orphan, now in service, 5s.—From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £120.—Nov. 21. From a Christian farmer in

Herefordshire £3. 2s. 8d., with the following letter: "Honoured Sir, I have great pleasure in forwarding to you the enclosed Post Office Order for £3. 2s. 8d., Ten Shillings as a per centage on potatoes sold, 15s. for five calves sold, at 3s. out of the money for each, 20s. for a cow that the Lord was pleased to restore to us, that we thought would die, and 17s. 8d. from Mrs. B., being her first takings in the shop for milk, etc., since reading your last Report. Please appropriate to the Building Fund. Yours faithfully, * * *." This dear man and his wife have regularly sent me similar donations, both before and since. By such first fruits, and such thank-offerings, I have received considerable sums since the beginning of the work.—Nov. 28. From Colonel —— £10. "To help in accepting the tender for No. 5." It then wanted 33 days to the time when the matter finally was to be settled about the tender of the contract for No. 5. As yet I had not all in hand, to be able to do so, though expecting to receive it through the gracious hand of my Heavenly Father, for whose honour and glory I desired to build this Fifth Orphan House. I therefore continued patiently, believingly and expectingly, to make my supplication to Him, and, accordingly, He was pleased, day by day, to send in further supplies, as He had done from the time I had signed the contract for No. 4.—Nov. 29. From a soldier, a private, in India £1.—A poor labourer in Staffordshire had had a desire to help in the work of God in my hands, but knew not how to accomplish it, when it came to his mind, to send me half the amount of the money he obtained by the sale of the honey of one bee-hive; and, by being prospered this year more than he had been in any previous year, he was able to send me 15s.

Dec. 4. From Bengal £30.—Dec. 7. From the neighbourhood of Chippenham Ten old guinea pieces. There are yet many of these in existence, and many Christians have sent me some of them, from time to time, so that I have received many hundreds, and during no period more than during the past year!—Dec. 8. From Devonshire, 15 tea spoons, 3 table spoons, a gravy spoon, 3 salt spoons, a table fork, a pair of sugar tongs (all of silver), 3 pairs of spectacles, a compass, an eye glass, a silver top of a pepper box, a gold brooch, 4 pieces of artificial teeth (2 of them set in gold), and a pin cushion.—Dec. 10. From Lincolnshire £8., as the "profit of three lectures."—Dec. 12. A cheque for £20. from Dorchester. The amount of this donation was taken for the Building Fund, as no information could be obtained, how it was to be used.—Dec. 14. From Australia £20., with £10. for Missions, £10. for the Orphans, £5. for Mrs. C., and £5. for myself.—From A. C. S. Scotland, £100.—Dec. 22. From Wishaw £1., saved by giving up smoking.—Dec. 26. From the House Girls of the New Orphan House No. 1 Ten Shillings.—From a former Christian Orphan, now clerk in a lawyer's office, 10s.—Dec. 31. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £50.—From W. C. H. Esq. £25., with £5. for myself.

This was the last day of the year, and on the next day was the

time elapsed, to which the accepting of the tender for the contract of the New Orphan House No. 5 had been postponed. On the 26th of May, 1866, I needed about £7000. more, than I had in hand, to be able to accept the contract for No. 5 without going in debt; but by the 31st of Dec. 1866, the Lord had so graciously helped, as that a little more than £7000. had come in by donations and interest, so that a day before the first of January, 1867, I was able to accept and sign the contract for No. 5, the contracts for both houses being £41,147. I had now the desire of my heart given to me, regarding this point also, and had the precious recompense from the Lord, in having received all the money from Him for this object, without going in debt. Thousands of times I had asked the Lord for the means needed for building these two houses, and now I had, to the full, received the answer. On the 15th of Jan. 1867, the operations commenced in connexion with building No. 5, and, as far as the weather has allowed, the work has been going on since.

In addition to the hundreds of Orphans who had been previously applied for, there were from Jan. 1, 1866, to Dec. 31, 1866, altogether 617 Orphans applied for, for admission, from which the reader may easily judge, how great the delight of my soul was, when I considered myself warranted to sign the contract for No. 5 also, and thus had before me the delightful prospect of being permitted, ere long, to care for hundreds more of destitute Orphans.

I refer now only to a few more specimens as to the way in which it pleased the Lord, further to supply me with means for the Building Fund.

Jan. 1, 1867. From Surrey £50.—From Scotland £100.—From Devonshire £25., with £25. for the Orphans.—From the neighbourhood of Market Drayton £5. as “A little thank-offering to a gracious God for His preserving care of cattle in the midst of disease and death.”—From H. B. £5.—Jan. 9. From one of the believing Orphans, who was many years since sent out to service, £1., with £1. for Missions.—Jan. 11. From R. S. C., Calcutta, £5., with £5. for the Orphans, and £2. for myself.—Jan. 12. From the North of England £40. 11s., with £10. for myself.—Jan. 16. From Demerara £4., with £1. for the Orphans, and 5s. for Reports.—From Clifton £25., with £25. for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract Fund.—From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £60.—Jan. 22. From one of the Orphans, now in service, 5s.—Jan. 24. From Somersetshire £300.—Jan. 26. From Devonshire £148. 16s.—Notice, dear Reader, that after the contract for No. 5 also could be signed, there being a sufficient sum in hand to meet the demands connected with that further responsibility, yet there being about Ten Thousand Pounds more needed for fitting up and furnishing the two houses, the Lord was pleased to encourage His servant regarding that amount also, by sending in means towards these expenses soon after the contract for No. 5 had been signed.

Feb. 6. From Middlesex £100., with £90. for the Orphans and £10. for myself. As several times before donations have been referred to, in connexion with which, as again in this instance, presents were sent also for myself, I repeat here for the sake of the readers who are unacquainted with the former Reports, that in October, 1830, I gave up my regular salary in connexion with the ministry of the Word, for the reasons stated at length in my Narrative, Vol. I, pages 68 and 69 of the Sixth Edition. Ever since then I have had no regular income or salary, either in connexion with the ministry of the Word or as Director of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad; but the Lord has, nevertheless, most abundantly, year after year, up to the present time, supplied all my temporal necessities and those of my family, by putting it into the hearts of His stewards, to send me supplies, and that to such an extent, as that, if I had sought never so much to provide well for myself, it is not at all likely that I should have been able to procure half as much, as the Lord, without my seeking to do so, has been pleased to give me. I add, however, here again my solemn word of caution, that none should act in this way for the sake of imitating me; otherwise he will learn to his bitter cost, what it is to do such things in the way of imitation. The word of God, under the teaching of the Holy Spirit, must be our guide in all our ways. I took this step on the sure ground of the Word of God, trusting in the Lord for help; and thus it has come to pass, that, being upheld by Him, I have now, after nearly 37 years to say to His praise, that I never regretted the step I took in 1830; yea, I am more and more convinced of its blessedness and of the precious Heavenly true Freedom and true Independance and the Joy connected with such a life of faith.

Feb. 13. Received £27., with the following letter. "My dear Sir, May I trouble you with a short history in reference to a sad affliction, which has taken place in my family in the past year.—In the month of June last my daughter was taken ill of fever, which was so severe that all hope was given up of her recovery. The two medical men who were attending her, wished to have further advice, and called in Dr. ——. My fear on that day was indescribable. I felt myself so reduced and perfectly powerless by reason of the heavy load of trouble on me in reference to my dear child, when these words came powerfully to my mind, 'She shall not die, but live to declare the glory of God.' I was compelled to say in return, 'What can I render to the Lord for such mercy and goodness?'—The response was, 'Give £20. to the dear Orphans.'—I had such a sight of the great work, which you have undertaken and carried on so wonderfully under the blessing of God for so many years, that, when these dear children are left entirely destitute of earthly parents, the Lord has provided for them in such a manner, and using you as the instrument in His hands! What a privilege to be able and willing to give a trifle towards such a work!—When my daughter began to be a little better, my

wife was taken ill of the same complaint, although not so severe, but was laid aside for about six weeks. I am happy to say, they are now fully recovered, and have the pleasure of enclosing my promised vow unto the Lord for £20., together with my usual gift of £7., making together £27., £5. of which is for the new Buildings and £2. for yourself, which I will thank you to accept. That your life may be spared many years to come, still further to prosecute the good work you have so long been enabled to carry on, is the desire of Yours very sincerely * * * * *.”—

Feb. 22. From Somersetshire £25. and £75. for the Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund.—Feb. 28. From Somersetshire £50., with £10. for myself.—From one of the former Orphans, a Christian, now in Pennsylvania, U. S., £1., with a grateful letter.

March 4. From Devonshire £50.—March 11. From one of the former Orphans, a Christian young man, with a grateful letter, 10s.—March 13. From Devonshire £100., with £50. for the Orphans, and £50. for the other objects of the Institution.—March 27. From one of the Orphans, now in service, 5s., with the following letter. “Dear and respected Sir, Will you accept of the enclosed five shillings as a token of gratitude from one who can never repay you for all the kindness I received while in the dear Orphan House No. 3. Although I spent few short years comparatively, the pleasant memory of them does still and will ever cling to me through life. I have been away one year. I thought I would like for you to have my letter on the same day of the month that I came to my situation.—How much, dear Sir, I should have liked to have seen you, before I left the dear Orphan House, but you were ill at the time; but I hope, before long, I shall see you. I look forward to it with the greatest of pleasure. I hope dear Mrs. Müller, Miss Groves, and Miss Müller are quite well. With respectful love to them and yourself and Mr. L. and Mr. W., I remain, dear Sir, one of your grateful Orphans * * * * *.”—March 29. Anonymously from Birmingham £10.—From London £25.

Apr. 2. From Pennsylvania, U. S., £14. 16s.—Apr. 4. From New Zealand £2.—Apr. 10. From Scotland £105. 9s. 2d.—From a former Orphan, now in service, 5s.—Apr. 13. From Bengal 100 Rupees.—Apr. 15. From Demerara £5. and £2.—Apr. 22. From Liverpool £20., with the following letter: “My dear Sir, I enclose you Bank Draft for £20., say £10. for the Building-Fund, £5. for support of Orphans, and £5. for your own personal expenses. Having smoked none for twelve months, this is the amount I would have spent otherwise in cigars. Wishing you every success, Truly Yours, * * * * *.” This donation not only shows in what a variety of ways the Lord is pleased to supply me with means for His work, but also, how much money may be saved by giving up needless, yea injurious habits.

May 3. From a Yorkshire donor £25.—May 6. From the neighbourhood of Bath £500. The kind donor of this sum had several times before sent me £50. or even £100.; but now he kindly sent £500. As the work increases, and the outgoings be-

come greater and greater, so the Lord is pleased, not only, in answer to our daily prayers, to raise up new donors, but also to influence the hearts of those, who have given before, to give more than ever. This £500. particularly refreshed my spirit, as it will be a considerable help towards the expenses connected with the fitting up and furnishing the two new houses.—May 9. From a Somersetshire donor £100., with £100. for the Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund.—May 11. £10. for the Building Fund, with £10. for the Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund, as “A thank-offering to the Father of all mercies, for innumerable mercies, spiritual and temporal, to the father and mother of a large family.”—May 13. From Berlin £20.—From Madras £40., with £47. 16s. for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund.—May 14. From Yorkshire £25.—May 22. From Scotland £50, with £100 for Missions, £50. for the support of the Orphans, £5. for Mrs. C., and £5. for myself.—May 25. £50. from a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven.—There came in by interest from 26th May, 1866, to 26th May, 1867, £1880. 13s. ; for I felt it my duty, as a steward, to invest the money, till actually needed for the erection of the 2 houses. There was received, likewise, by drawbacks on Property Tax, for 2 years, £64. 7s. 1d.

I have thus given some out of the many donations, which the Lord was pleased to send me, in answer to daily prayer, for the Building Fund ; but the full particulars can only be learnt from the Supplement.

I now make a few remarks in connexion with the Building Fund and the two Orphan Houses in course of erection.

1, The total income for the Building Fund, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867, amounted to £11,203. 16s. 8½d. Having thus had about £4000. more than was required for the contract of No. 5, only about £6000. more are required for the fittings and furnishing of the two houses No. 4 and No. 5.

2, As both houses are exactly as large as the New Orphan House No. 3, in which we have healthful accommodation for 450 children, I hope that we shall be enabled to accommodate 900 more Orphans in the two houses, now in course of erection ; so that our total number would then be 2050, instead of 2000, as first contemplated.

3, No. 4 is erected and roofed in, and a beginning has been made to plaster the inside. It is expected to be ready in May, 1868. No 5 was commenced, as stated before, on Jan. 15, 1867, and is expected to be completed at the end of June, 1868.

4, I repeat here, what has been stated before, that the land and the two houses, No. 4 and No. 5, and the other 3 houses, already in operation, are vested in the hands of eleven trustees, and enrolled in Chancery.

5, The donors who desire a part, or the whole of their donations to be placed to the Building Fund, are respectfully requested to state it, when sending their donations.

I now proceed to the next part of the Report.

II. *Supplies for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer. Letters from Donors. Practical remarks, &c.*

Out of the donations, which have been given for these Objects, very few only can be referred to; but the donors may see their donations, given during the year, under this head in the Supplement, in which every single donation is to be found.

We began the past year with a balance of £ 163. 10s. 8½d. in hand for these Objects, which, to some persons, might appear a large sum, but which, in our case, on account of the heavy weekly expenses, was a very small amount. The Lord, however, supplied us with more, before the means in hand were gone; and though, afterwards, a few times, almost all was expended, which we had in hand for these four Objects, yet the Lord was pleased soon, in answer to prayer, to give us further supplies. I mention now a few instances as to the manner in which He supplied us with means.

July 4. From Worcestershire £100 for Missions, £40 for the Tract Fund, £ 25. for the School-Fund, £ 20. for the Bible-Fund, £100. for the Orphans, and £ 30. for myself.—July 20. £100. for Missions, as “The first dividend of a new investment.”—July 21. £12. for Missions, “From a Friend in Auckland, New Zealand.”—July 28. From Yorkshire £ 50. for Foreign Missions.—July 30. From a Bristol donor £ 100. for Missions, £ 100. for the Bible-Fund, and £ 100. for the Tract-Fund.

Aug. 1. From Clifton £ 50. for Missions.—Aug. 2. From Yorkshire £ 50. for Foreign Missions.—Aug. 24. From Clifton £ 50. for Missions.

Oct. 25. From Scotland £ 100. for Missions to the Heathen and £ 5. for myself.—Oct. 29. From Scotland £ 56. for School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund, with £ 14. for myself.

Nov. 27. From Yorkshire £ 50. for Foreign Missions.

Dec. 7. Received £ 50. for Missions and £ 50. for the Orphans, with the words “Only Believe.”—Let us pause a few moments, dear Reader, and ponder these words of the Lord Jesus, “Only believe.” As long as we are able to trust in God, holding fast in heart, that He is able and willing to help those who rest on the Lord Jesus for salvation, in all matters which are for His glory and their good, the heart remains calm and peaceful. It is only when we *practically* let go faith in His power or His love, that we lose our peace, and become troubled. This very day, while I am writing this, I am under a great trial in connexion with the work in which I am engaged; yet my soul was calmed and quieted by the remembrance of God’s power and love; and I said to myself this morning: “As David encouraged himself in Jehovah his God, when he returned to Ziklag, so will I encourage myself

in God"; and the result was, peace of soul. Again, this day six weeks ago, a great trial befell me in connexion with this work, and which continues still; but I trust in God for help and deliverance. Some of the readers of these Reports may imagine, that, because I obtain so many answers to prayer, and am so signally helped in so many ways, that on that account I have now no longer such great trials, as I used to have in the years from 1838 to 1843, or at other times. They would be, however, greatly mistaken. The fact is, that it is quite an exception that a day comes, which does not bring along with it its difficulties and trials; and the only difference between the present time and former years is this, that my difficulties are now ten times greater, than they were during the years referred to, because the work is now ten times greater than it was then. Moreover, this might be expected; for the Lord gives faith, for the very purpose of trying it for the glory of His own name, and for the good of him who has it; and, by the very trial of our faith, we not only obtain blessing to our own souls, by becoming the better acquainted with God, if we hold fast our confidence in Him, but our faith is also, by the exercise, strengthened: and so it comes, that, if we walk with God in any measure of uprightness of heart, the trials of faith will be greater and greater, sharper and sharper. But to return to the donation last referred to: the donor of it I never saw, and she has since fallen asleep in Jesus.—Dec. 26. From one of the Christian Orphans, now in service, £1. 10s. for Missions, with the following letter: "Beloved and honoured Sir, It is with the greatest pleasure that I forward the enclosed £1. 10s., as a mite for the Mission work under your direction. It is the produce of a missionary basket. Part of the articles sold were made by myself, and others were made a present to me for the purpose by some of my former companions in the dear Orphan House. Hoping yourself and dear Mrs. and Miss Müller and Miss Groves are quite well, and sincerely wishing you a happy Christmas and a happy New Year, I remain, Beloved and honoured Sir, your grateful and affectionate Orphan, * * * *"—From a Bristol donor £50. for Missions, with £20. for myself. — Dec. 31. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £50.

Jan. 1, 1867. From Worcestershire £25. for the School Fund, £20. for the Bible Fund, £100. for Missions, £40. for the Tract Fund, £100. for the support of the Orphans, and £30. for myself. — Jan. 7. Received 12s. for Missions, with the following account about the donation from the lady through whom the money was sent: "The history of this 12s. is as follows. It was given to me by a very poor old woman, whom I have known for the last 18 years, always suffering, apparently dying of heart complaint, always in poverty, earning a scanty living. She has reared a numerous family as a widow, bearing the character of a Christian; supported in all her trials by faith in the Son of God. This dear old woman said to me, as nearly as I can remember, in the following words:

‘We ought to keep our promises to God, ought we not?’ I did not quite understand her meaning, so she explained. ‘When we have vowed to do anything for God, we should do it.’ She then added: ‘Many years ago I went to a Missionary Meeting, and when I heard the Missionary tell what great things the Gospel had done for the heathen amongst whom he had laboured, I was so stirred up, that I was ready to cry, because I had nothing to give; and I said in my heart, how happy are the rich, who can do something to help the cause of God. I can do nothing, for I can barely earn a living for myself and children; and then I vowed in my heart, if ever the Lord should give me anything that I did not expect, and had not worked for, I would give it to the Lord for Missions to the heathen. The Lord has made me wait a long time; but he has given it to me at last. Ten shillings were given to me by my sister on her marriage, and 2s. by another friend. I have had the money some time by me, and did not know how to send it; for if I gave it to the minister, it might seem like boasting, &c.’”

Allow me, dear Reader, to give the following hints in connexion with the donation of this poor widow. 1. It shows, that, if we are desirous to help on the work of God, He will surely fulfil the desire of our heart. 2. Notice the variety of ways in which God is pleased to supply me with means; how even the very poorest are influenced by Him to send help to me. 3. Remember the word of this poor widow “How happy are the rich, who can do something to help the cause of God.” Is the opportunity, to the full, embraced by, us to whom the Lord has given more than to this poor widow? Is it really the godly aim and purpose of our hearts, to lay up treasure in heaven? Do we, indeed, habitually keep it before us, that we have but one brief life to spend on earth, and that this one brief life is the sowing time for eternity? Let us think of these weighty matters.

Jan. 10. From a clergyman £1. 1s. for Missions, as “A thank-offering for the privilege of preaching the Gospel.”—Jan. 12. From a Staff-Sergeant 5s., saved by giving up smoking.—Jan. 16. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £60.—Jan. 21. From Hyers, France, £5. for Missions.—Jan. 26. From an aged widow, for Missions, £2. 3s. 3d., with the following letter. “I send you a Post Office Order for £2., and 3s. 3d. in Postage Stamps. £1. 19s. 3d. is one penny per pair on each pair of shoes sold during the past year, 1s. 6d. a percentage on a bad debt, which I told the Lord I would give, and 2s. 6d. for 30 Penny copies of the Pilgrim’s Progress, given to me, which I sold.”

Feb. 5. From one of the former Orphans, a believer, now in service, 5s. for Missions.—Feb. 7. Sent as the legacy of the late Miss E. A. H. £50. for Missions and £50. for the Orphans.—From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £80.—Feb. 8. The last work I did last evening at the Orphan Houses was, to go through the list of the Missionary brethren, whom I seek to assist,

and I portioned out £439. for a part of them, viz., writing down to the last Pound all I had left for them. After this, in my usual long season for prayer, before I left the Orphan Houses for my home, I asked the Lord, among many other things, also for more means for Missionary Objects. Now see how soon the Lord answered prayer. This morning I received from Devonshire a cheque for £200., which was entirely left at my disposal, except that the donor kindly wished that I should keep £25. for myself. I took, therefore, £125. for Missions, £25. for the Bible Fund, and £25. for the Tract Fund.—Feb. 18. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £100.—Feb. 26. A servant of the Lord Jesus, having received a present of £150., and desiring to lay up treasure in heaven, gave £148. of it for Missions.

March 7. From a Scotch donor £200. for Missions, £5. for Mrs. C., and £5. for myself.—March 8. £2. 10s. for Missions and £2. 10s. for the Orphans, as a legacy of the late Mrs. W. O'B.—March 22. From Nelson, New Zealand, £2. for Missions.—March 27. Received £2. 3s. for Missions and 7s. for the Orphans, with the following instructive letter: "Dear Sir, Having experienced much of the Lord's goodness through many afflictive circumstances, I felt constrained to devote a small sum out of what the Lord has given me, viz., one penny in the Shilling of what I make of butter and eggs, and five shillings for each calf that we breed. We have lost three calves by an epidemic, nevertheless I send the money, as it was devoted; and the trial to our faith is, no doubt, a more precious gift to us, than the retention of the calves would have been.—We lent one of your Reports to a godly dressmaker of our neighbourhood. She felt desirous to help in the good cause, and she desired that the progeny of a favourite rabbit should be raised and sold, and the proceeds given to the Orphans. When the rabbits were fit for sale, she changed her mind. A part must be kept back, she thought, to help the cause of God at home. That very part, two rabbits, were found dead on the day that they were sold. The proceeds from the sale of the litters of her favourite rabbits amount to seven Shillings, which she wishes to be applied to the maintenance of the Orphans. I also send you £2. 3s., resulting from the sale of butter, eggs, etc., as explained above, for the purpose of helping the Evangelists who labour in Popish countries. Etc." I have given this letter as it contains profitable instruction.

April 1. From a donor then in Devonshire £200. for servants of God who labour among the heathen (China excepted), with £10. for myself.—April 2. From Somersetshire £50. for Missions, with £50. for the Orphans.—April 10. As a birth-day thank-offering £28. 10s. for Missions, with £28. 10s. for the support of the Orphans.—April 13. From Gloucestershire £50. for Foreign Missions.—April 17. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £150.—April 18. From Scotland £70. for Foreign

Missions, with £30. for the Orphans.—April 20. From South Australia £4. 19s.—From an Army Schoolmaster in India £1. 10s., and from a Christian widow, through him, 10s.—April 24. £20. with the following letter: "My Dear Sir, As God gives me grace, I give to Him a fourth part of all money He gives to me. From this, Satan tries hard to move me. Pray that he may not succeed. I have lately come into the possession of a little, of which the enclosed £20. is a portion. Please take it for Missions. Affectionately yours * * * *."—From Yorkshire for Foreign Missions £25.—April 26. From Scotland £60., with £15. for myself.—April 29. From Yorkshire for Foreign Missions £25.

May 4. A valuable gold watch and a gold neck stud to be sold for the benefit of Missionaries amongst the heathen.—May 9. A legacy of the late Miss L. L. for Missionaries at Home and Abroad £10., for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures £10., and £100. for the support of the Orphans.—May 13. Received 10s. with the following letter from Ipswich: "Dear Sir, The enclosed 10s. is given by a very poor Sister in the Lord, for His work under your care, to be used as most needed. She gave it into my care by two-pence weekly instalments. I remain, Sir, Yours in Jesus * * * *." Notice, esteemed Reader, this donation. Ten Shillings made up by weekly instalments. It took this poor godly woman sixty weeks, to give this amount; yet she goes on, steadily, week after week, giving to this brother in Christ her two-pence, until this little sum was made up, for him to send it. She had not a Ten Pound Note nor a Five Pound Note to send; nor had she the means of sending even ten shillings at one time; but she does what she can, she gives two-pence per week. It is not the amount in itself, that the Lord looks at, as to whether it is much or little; but He looks at the spirit in which we do what we do, and at the amount which is left in our hands, after we have given. By this rule the Lord judges of our gifts. The above ten shillings were taken for the Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract-Fund.—May 17. £5. as "Produce of an orchard near Goole."—May 22. From Scotland for Missions £100.—From Norfolk for Missions £20.—From Yorkshire for Foreign Missions £25.—May 23. From a servant of the Lord Jesus, who, constrained by the love of Christ, seeks to lay up treasure in heaven, £148.; for he had received a present of £150.—By the donations which had come in for Missions during the last two days, together with what had been previously in hand, I had the great joy of being able to portion out on May 23, 1867, the sum of £1,267. for brethren who labour in the Gospel, whereby the total amount, expended on this Object, during the past year, amounted to £5,010. 18s. 2d.

I have thus given a few specimens as to the way in which it pleased the Lord, during the past year, to supply us with means for the School—, Bible—, Missionary—, and Tract Fund.

III. Means for the Thirteen Hundred and Four Orphans, who were during the past year under our care, sent in answer to prayer. Letters from Donors and Orphans. Practical remarks, etc.

For the sake of brevity I can only refer to a few out of the very many donations, which were given for the support of the Orphans; but in the Supplement to the Report, sent to the donors, every donation in money and articles, even the smallest, may be found.

May 31, 1866. £1. from Havana. The first donation we ever had from thence.

June 6. From London £12. for the support of one Orphan for one year, with £3. for myself.—June 7. From Berkshire £11. 11s. for the support of one Orphan for one year, with £3. 9s. for myself.—Received the following letter from one of the Orphans who had been about 7 years and 4 months under our care, and for about 16 months before she left a believer, and who was recently sent out to service. “Dear and respected Sir, It is indeed a great privilege to be able to write to you and to thank you in some measure for your unceasing kindness to me whilst in the dear Orphan House. It was whilst there under your fatherly care, that I was brought to know myself a guilty sinner, deserving nothing but punishment I hope that you may long be spared to carry on the work, which our Heavenly Father has seen fit to put you to, and that many more may be brought to know and love Jesus.—I must now thank you for the comfortable situation you so kindly placed me in. My mistress, and indeed all around me, seem to do all they can for my comfort. Please remember me kindly to dear Mrs. Müller and Miss Groves, and with fond love to yourself, I remain, Yours gratefully and respectfully, * * * *”—June 8. From a former Orphan, now in service, 5s.—June 26. From C. A. and M. B. a diamond shirt pin, a silver ladle, a silver mounted tortoiseshell box containing 2 gold and 8 silver coins, a pair of gold earrings and a gold neck ornament.—June 29. The following letter was received from an Orphan who had been recently sent to service, and who had known the Lord about 6 months before she left. “Dear and honoured Sir, I feel it my special duty to return my thanks to you, and also, at the same time, esteem it a great privilege to be able to do so, for all the kindness I received whilst under your fatherly care. It was there that I first put my trust in the Lord, and He has been with me, and helped me day by day; and now I am placed out in the world, He will not leave me. May the Lord more abundantly bless your labours, both amongst the dear Orphans and throughout the whole world. If it be His will, may your life be prolonged, so that many may partake of the same blessings, of which I have so long been made a recipient, though quite undeserving. Will you please to remember me respectfully to Mrs. Müller, Miss Groves, Miss Müller, Mr. W., Mr. L., and Mr. F. I am, Dear Sir, Yours very respectfully and most gratefully, * * * *”

July 7. From one of the Orphans, now in service, as a token

of gratitude, 10s.—Anonymously by post, 2 sets of artificial teeth, set in gold. During the past year also, as during former years, a considerable sum has been obtained by the sale of the gold of artificial teeth, which were sent.—£1,000. with the following communication from the kind donor: “Dear Sir, I have enclosed a cheque for a Thousand Pounds for the benefit of the Orphans. It was what I intended leaving them by will, but now, having the money, I prefer giving it in my lifetime.” This is one of the many ways, in which the Lord was pleased to carry me through the past year with ease, so far as it regarded pecuniary demands, though the price of provisions was so much greater than for a number of years before; and though, in many other respects, also, our expenses were greater than they had been during any previous year, since the work had been in existence.—July 10. £10. as the legacy of the late Miss M. A. W.—July 12. £90. as the legacy of the late Miss A. W.—July 13. From one of the former Orphans, for many years now in service, 7s.—July 14. From a baronet £7., “Instead of insuring against hailstorms.”—A diamond brooch, from a donor then at Clifton.—July 21. £1. from York, with the following letter: “Dear Sir, I hereby enclose a Post Office Order for one Sovereign for the Orphans, being an acknowledgment of the hand of the Lord even in reverses. ‘The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord.’ I am, Dear Sir, yours truly * * * *.”—July 27. £19. 19s. as the legacy of the late Miss L. S.—July 28. From Worcestershire £35., with £2. 10s. for Reports.—£5. from Buckinghamshire as “A thank-offering for the preservation of the donor’s cattle.”—£2. from New Brunswick.

Aug. 2. £50. from a baronet “As a thank-offering for the preservation of his animals from the cattle plague.”—£511. 9s. 6d. as the legacy of the late Mrs. E. M.—Aug. 13. The following letter was received from an Orphan who had been fifteen years and eight months under our care, and who was recently sent out as a believer to a situation for domestic service: “Beloved and honoured Sir, I feel it my duty to return you thanks for all your unceasing kindness to me while I was in the Orphan House. I can never feel sufficiently thankful to my Heavenly Father for placing me under your care and kind protection. There I have learned very many useful things, but, above all, I learned to love and value that Pearl of great price; and it was there I was convinced, that I was a great sinner, and led to put my trust in Jesus.—I thank you, dear Sir, very much for the very nice situation you have provided me with, and I trust I shall show my gratitude by giving satisfaction to my employers. I am glad to say I am comfortable. Please to give my grateful love to dear Mrs. Müller and Miss Groves, Mr. L., Mr. W., Mr. F., and please to accept the same from your grateful Orphan * * * *.”—From Ireland £200.—From a Prussian Gentleman £10.—Aug. 15. From the neighbourhood of London £11. 11s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—Aug. 16. From Honduras £1. and £1.—Aug. 17. From Cape of Good Hope £1.—Aug. 20. £2. from

New Zealand.—Aug. 22. From Greenock £25.—Aug. 27. £5. from Adelaide, South Australia.—From London £11. 11s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—Aug. 28. From France, 50 Francs and 100 Francs.—Aug. 29. From Worcestershire £20.

Sept. 5. From Berkshire £45. for the support of 4 Orphans for one year.—It will be observed that some donors have had their hearts influenced by the Lord, to send me the yearly average expenses for the support of 1 Orphan, or 2 Orphans, or 3 Orphans, or, as in this instance, 4 Orphans, yea even five: so that, out of the Thirteen Hundred and Four who were under our care during the past year, Twenty Seven were thus provided for.—

Sept. 7. From Boston, United States, £1. 1s.—Ditto £1. 1s.—

Sept. 13. £5. as the legacy of the late Mr. A. H.—Sept. 22. Received the following letter from an Orphan, who had been recently sent to service: “Dear and Respected Sir, Will you allow me to address a few lines to you, to thank you for all the care and kindness shown me, while I was in the dear Orphan House. I shall ever feel grateful that I was received in that beloved Institution, for it was while there, I was brought to feel myself a sinner, and to flee to that precious Saviour, who is ever willing to forgive.—I must again thank you, dear Sir, for placing me in such a comfortable situation, where I enjoy so many religious privileges; my master and mistress are exceedingly kind.—My greatest wish is, that I may be taught how I may best love and serve that Saviour, who has done so much for me, and whom, until the last few months of my life, I have neglected. Trusting all the family are well, with Christian love to yourself, dear Mrs. Müller and Miss Groves, Believe me, dear Sir, Your grateful Orphan * * * *.”—Sep. 27. The following letter with 5s. was received from an Orphan who more than 10 years since was sent out to service, after she had been about 10 years under our care. “Dear Sir, May I be permitted to ask your acceptance of this small donation as a token of gratitude for the great kindness I received whilst under your fatherly care; and may you, dear Sir, long be spared to be a father to the fatherless, and a friend to the Orphan. Often do I look back to the period of my childhood spent in the Orphan House, and feel grateful that I was one of the number permitted to find shelter in so good a home. You will, I have no doubt, dear Sir, be pleased to know that I am still in the same situation as when I last wrote to you, where I have been now nearly nine years, and am still very comfortable.—Dear Sir, I wish you many happy returns of your birth-day, and hope you will long be spared with health and strength to see many more, and to carry on the noble work you have undertaken. I hope this will find you with Mrs. Müller, Miss Groves, and Miss Müller quite well. Please remember me kindly to them. Believe me yours gratefully and respectfully * * * *.”

Oct. 2. “From a friend at Cardiff £ 2. 13s. 6d., being a penny on each new bonnet sold during the year.”—From Clapham Common, as a joint donation of several friends, £ 1. 19s. for the support

of two Orphans for one month. The same amount has ever since been sent monthly for the same Object. It would appear from this, that, whilst one of these Christian friends alone, might have found it too much to support two Orphans, that several, uniting together, for the Object, were able to accomplish it; and, also, that whilst the sending the amount for the whole year at once, even thus, might have been too much, by sending the money in monthly instalments, the thing could be accomplished.—Oct. 3. Anonymously left at my house £ 50.—Ditto £ 5.—From Clifton £ 12. 10s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—Oct. 5. From London £ 5. towards the support of one Orphan for one year.—Oct. 6. Received 5s. 8d. with the following letter: "Sir, Having read your Report last year, my husband and myself felt much interested, and had a great desire to do something for God, for His great mercies in raising me up, as it were, from death's door: so, (my husband, being Post-Office messenger) is allowed twopence on a pound for the sale of stamps, we determined to give the profit for one year, which we find to be 5s. 8d., which we send you for the Orphans; and may the blessing of God rest upon our humble endeavours to do good. Trusting you may long be spared to be the Orphan's friend, we remain humbly yours * * * *"

This letter furnishes another illustration how even the poor, if it is in their heart to assist in the work of God, by His blessing have the means, of a limited character though they be, of doing so. The world has the proverb, "Where there is a will there is a way:" how much more is this true, in the best sense of the word, with regard to the children of God, who, through union with the Lord Jesus, have power with God. Only let us each, in our measure, make good use of this power. Our adorable Lord Jesus said to his *poor* disciples, who were themselves supported by the voluntary contributions of the godly Israelites: "Ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good," Mark xiv. 7. How have we to understand this, if not in this way: Though you are poor yourselves, yet, because, as the children of God, you have power with God, and may obtain blessings from Him, not only for yourselves, but for others also; therefore you are able to help the poor. Have we acted on this? Have we indeed used the power, which, as His children, we have with God? If not, let us now arise, beloved fellow-believers, and seek to do so for the time to come.—Oct. 11. £1 as "A thank-offering for an interval of sunshine in the midst of rain."—Oct. 12. From R. B. R. T. £1. with this communication: "As I have twice sent you previously small offerings, and have looked in vain for an acknowledgment in your Report, would you please acknowledge this." If R. B. R. T., whom, together with all other anonymous donors, I would here thank for their kind donations, had read the Reports, he would have seen that in the Report itself only a very small portion of the donations are referred to, lest this pamphlet should grow to a size unsuitable for general circulation, and much money should be needlessly

expended in printing; but that all the donations are given in the Supplement. If R. B. R. T. will kindly state the dates and the amount of his gifts, they shall be pointed out to him in the Supplements. I ask, once more, as a particular favour, that each donation may be accompanied by the name and address of the donor, so that a receipt may be sent at once; but should there be some particular reason, for withholding the name, would the anonymous donors at least put me in the way of being able to acknowledge their donations.—Oct. 16. I received £5. with the following letter: "Dear Sir, An aged saint (86 years old) has long felt a call from God to send you a trifle towards the maintenance of the many Orphans under your care, and has desired me to forward the enclosed £5. to you. She is a poor widow, living in one room, and has saved it out of her little income. With much Christian love I remain, yours sincerely, * * * *."—Here the reader has another instance as to the remarkable manner in which the Lord is pleased to supply me with means.—Oct. 18. The following letter is from one of the apprentices, recently sent out, who had been for 18 months a believer, before he left the Orphan Houses. "Dear and Honoured Sir, I feel it is my pleasing duty to take an opportunity of thanking you for the instruction and kindness which I received whilst under your fatherly care in the New Orphan House. I hope your valuable life may be long spared to be the Orphans' friend. I shall look back to the Orphan House with great pleasure, because it was there I was brought to know the Lord Jesus as my Saviour. I hope I shall by my good conduct commend the good name of the Orphan work. Please to accept my best respects and present the same to Mrs. Müller, and my dear masters. I remain, Dear Sir, yours gratefully and respectfully * * * *."—Oct. 20. From H. T. £10, left at my house, kindly intended for myself.—Oct. 22. Legacy of the late Mrs. M. E. L. £6. 11s. 5d.—From Worcestershire £50.—Oct. 23. From Scotland £60, for the support of five Orphans for one year.—"From W. C." £30.—From South Africa £3.—From Algoa Bay, Cape of Good Hope, £5.—Oct. 24. From Ireland £600. The kind donor of this sum had many times before, during the last 15 or 20 years, given £5. or £10. at a time; and now he is led by God, who sees the greatness of our expenses, and the very heavy increase of them, through the high price of provisions, the city taxes being put on, etc., to send us so much at once. Thus we have invariably found it, in answer to our prayers, that, as our necessities increase, so also the help, which the Lord gives, does not fail.—"From a member of the Society of Friends," £100.—Oct. 26. £5. from the neighbourhood of York, "as an acknowledgment for having escaped loss by the Cattle Plague."—Oct. 27. £5. as the legacy of the late Mrs. H. M. C.

Nov. 3. £1. with the following letter, "Sir, I enclose 20s. towards the Orphanage under your protection. As I said in my last, one very dear to me is too fond of the intoxicating cup, and I

have made a vow to put by three pence towards the Orphanage every night he comes home sober. Will you pray for him? Your prayers may avail. Yours etc. * * * *." I commend this affecting case of an afflicted wife to the Christian reader for prayer.—Nov. 6. Received £10. with the following letter: "Dear and Honoured Sir, As an acknowledgment of the Divine goodness in prolonging my life, until my children are all grown up, I send the first half of a £10. Bank of England Note, and shall be obliged by your appropriating the same (when complete) to the benefit of your Orphanage. Please send an acknowledgment in the enclosed envelope in your own writing, and you will confer a favour upon your admirer * * * *." This letter requires no comment; it speaks loudly without it.—Received with a Paisley shawl the following interesting letter: "My Dear Sir, I have forwarded you, by my wife's request and for the benefit of the Orphans, a Paisley shawl, value £4. 10s. It is now about 10 years ago, since I first adopted the principle of "Proportionate giving," mainly through the effect upon me of a visit to your Orphan Houses, and the subsequent reading of your Reports. Prior to this I used to wonder, with every sovereign I gave, whether I was not doing more than was *prudent*, and the result was I had little pleasure in giving. Now, however, having been greatly prospered in business, I find myself able to give *fourfold* what I did, and I can understand better than I did before what is meant by the 'blessedness of giving.' Applications for help have long since ceased to produce anything like irritation of feeling in me; for I know I am only called upon to dispense a fund which is *not my own*; and when, after a careful apportioning of claims, that fund is expended and I have felt it right to say 'at present I cannot afford' (usually a much abused and convenient excuse), I have derived much comfort from the *certainty* I then had that the adoption of the principle of 'proportionate giving' has enabled me on the one hand to 'guide my affairs with discretion,' and on the other to refrain from 'robbing God.' With an earnest prayer, that the blessing of the Living God may continue to rest on your labours, I am, My dear Sir, yours in Jesus * * * *."—Nov. 8. From a London gentleman £105. "To fill the empty meal barrels." They were not quite empty, though getting low; and as the oatmeal this year is much dearer than for several years past, it was indeed kind of the Lord to send me this donation towards the expenses of the 5000 stones of oatmeal, which we use in the course of the year.—£5. from Peckham as "The first fruits of an increase of income."—From Brighton, a gold watch, a set of opal studs set in diamonds, with gold pin attached, 2 pairs of links, 3 sets of studs, and 1 breast pin of aluminum and turquoise.—Nov. 12. £4. "As a thank-offering for preservation from the Cattle Plague."—Nov. 15. £25. as the legacy of the late Mrs. E. C.—There had been £50. left as a legacy, which was intended for the New Orphan Houses, Ashley Down, as is plain beyond a doubt, by the statement of an intimate friend of the

testatrix ; but, because the will was not clearly expressed, we obtained only one half of the amount. Such like cases have several times occurred during the past 30 years. On this account I take this opportunity of stating, that a proper legal form for leaving legacies to this Institution has been drawn up by a very experienced practitioner, which is printed at the end of this Report. There is no prospect of obtaining legacies, except the will be drawn up properly.—Nov. 20. Received the following letter from one of the former Orphans : “ Dear Sir, I did not receive the new Report and Supplement, that you kindly sent me the end of July, until last Sunday the 11th instant, when I happened to call where I used to lodge, and found it waiting there, or I should have acknowledged it at the time. Though it is over eleven years since I left the New Orphan House, I feel as much interested in it, and all concerned, as ever I did, and suppose I shall for life, having been so long there, and being now more able to see the extent of the good and benefit derived from so noble an Establishment, to Orphans, Christians, and the world at large. Please accept the enclosed 1s. 6d. for the Report and Orphans. I wish that I were in a position to send liberally and frequently ; but I know that your desire is not to receive money, but to see the spread of God’s Kingdom. My dear wife, with myself, feels deep regard towards the work in your hands, and prays for increased blessings from the God of all mercies. I am yours very gratefully and respectfully * * * *.” The writer of this letter had been about eleven years under our care, when in June, 1855, he was sent out to be apprenticed. I have given this letter, and many others received from Orphans, as the best illustration of the blessing, the abundant blessing, which the Lord is pleased to cause to rest upon the Orphan Work.—Nov. 28. From Crediton £ 3., as “ A Harvest thank-offering.”—From the neighbourhood of Croydon £ 5. 10s. for the support of one Orphan Boy for 6 months, and £ 5. 10s. for the support of 1 Girl for 6 months.—Nov. 30. This morning we had only received for the benefit of the Orphans £ 10. 16s. 6d. and for the Building Fund £ 19. 2s. 6d. We gave thanks to the Lord for this, and asked for more. In the afternoon came in further £ 6. 13s. 3d. In the evening, when my dear wife and I were giving thanks for this, came in further, while we were in prayer, £ 5. 5s. We again gave thanks for this, when presently, while we were yet in prayer, came in £ 2. 1s. 9d., and 7s. 6d. We further praised the Lord for this, and told Him in prayer, that even this very evening He could send us more than He had done all the day, when a few minutes after there was a knock at the door, and a letter containing £ 300. was banded in, which a gentleman had just sent. In prayer we had especially spoken to the Lord about the high price of provisions, etc., and asked Him for large supplies on that account. There were also received from London, 2 gold watches, a silver watch, a pair of gold spectacles and a small timepiece. Anonymously, a box, containing 21 pairs of trousers, 2 waistcoats, 4 coats, and 3 pairs of boots.

Dec. 1. From Birmingham, 24 doz. tea spoons, 6 doz. table spoons, 3 doz. table forks, 1 doz. sugar bows, 3 doz. salt and 3 doz. mustard spoons, 3 doz. dessert spoons, and 3 doz. dessert forks, all of nickel silver.—Dec. 4. From Cheltenham, a diamond ring.—Dec. 5. The following letter was received from an Orphan Boy, who, after having been seven years under our care, was recently apprenticed. He had been a believer two years, before he left. “Dear and Honoured Sir, I think it a great honour to have the privilege of writing a letter to you. The time will never come when I shall be able to repay you for all the kindness that was so benevolently bestowed upon me, whilst under your care. I thank you for the education I have received, and for all that was needful to keep me alive and to do me good. I thank you for the situation you have placed me in. I hope I shall be able to learn the business and some day to earn my own bread. I trust I shall, by God’s help, be obedient to those that are above me; and I shall never forget to pray to Him to help me in time of need. I remain, Dear Sir, Yours gratefully and respectfully, * * * *.”—£25. from a kind Bristol donor, who has often given a similar amount. The donation was left at my house whilst I was in the very act of thanking the Lord for what He had been pleased to send this morning, and asking him to send more this day.—Dec. 7. From Palamcottah, India, £6. 10s.—Dec. 10. From a Bristol Wholesale House £10., with 12 boxes of raisins and 1 barrel of currants, for the Orphans’ Christmas Puddings.—Dec. 18. From a farm 18s., as “the produce of every tenth egg.”—Dec. 19. From Kent £100.—Dec. 20. From Clifton £12. 10s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—A few days since I had the most painful information, that in a town in Lincolnshire a theatrical entertainment had been performed by a party of amateurs, for the benefit of the Orphans on Ashley Down; and to-day, Dec. 20, 1866, was received a letter, enclosing a Post Office Order for £2., being the net proceeds of this entertainment, stating, that the income had been £20. altogether, and the expenses £18. The £2. was, as the Christian reader will suppose, unhesitatingly returned, as I could not expect the Lord’s blessing to rest upon money thus obtained, which would have been equally done had it been £2000. instead of £2. I doubt not, that there was a kindly feeling towards the Orphans on Ashley Down, connected with this movement, and, therefore, deeply as it grieved me to hear of such things, I should not have referred to this circumstance, in the Report, had not the Orphan Houses on Ashley Down, and thus a work particularly set on foot for the glory of God, been in a Newspaper and by bills coupled with a theatrical entertainment, it being stated that the proceeds were intended for the Orphans on Ashley Down; so that persons might suppose I had taken the money, except I made mention of its having been returned.—Dec. 21. £180. as the legacy of the late Mrs. M. F.—Dec. 22. From H. D. R., Bombay, a Note for ten Rupees.—Dec. 24. From W. H., Esq., £22. for the support of two Orphans for one year.—Dec. 26. From A. E. £5. as “A Christmas

offering for Orphans, instead of a Christmas Feast." The reader, no doubt, understands the meaning: the donor, instead of gratifying herself with a Christmas Feast, sends to the Orphans this £5.—Dec. 28. From a Christian farmer £10. as "A thankoffering to the Lord; the first money received for corn this year."—Dec. 28. The following letter was received from one of the apprentices, who, after having been above nine years under our care, was in Nov. 1864 apprenticed. He had been a believer for some time, before he left: "Dear and Honoured Sir, It is with the greatest of pleasure I have another opportunity of writing a few lines to you, to thank you for your great kindness to me whilst under your fatherly care, in giving me a good education, and in putting me out to a good situation. I like the trade very well, and I hope to make a good workman. My master and mistress are very kind to me. I have nearly served half of my time, and I am the only indoor apprentice my master has; but he has two outdoor apprentices, and I sometimes wish that I had one of my old companions to live with me from the Orphan House; for I believe he would have as good a chance here, as anywhere; for my master makes ever so many sorts of work. I go to my Sunday School and Chapel morning, afternoon and evening regularly on Sundays. My master is very anxious that I should get all the good I can. He is often explaining passages of Scripture to me. I wish you a happy new year, and a very prosperous one spiritually, and that your life may long be spared to be a blessing to many a poor Orphan. I remain, Dear Sir, Yours respectfully, * * * * *"—The following letter was received with 5s. from one of the Orphans, who, after having been 9 years and 5 months under our care, was in April 1859 sent to service: "Dear and Respected Sir, It is with much pleasure I ask your acceptance of the enclosed small sum, to be appropriated to the object most needed. Please accept my thanks for the Report you so kindly sent me. I am always interested in reading of how the work is progressing, and thankful to know so many dear Orphans are now enjoying the happy comfortable home, that formerly I had the privilege of enjoying myself. Your Narrative and the last few Reports have been going from one person to another for nearly two years past, so I hope that many may benefit by the reading of them. I would again thank you, dear Sir, for all your fatherly care and kindness, when I was quite unfit to care for myself, and, desiring my grateful love to dear Mrs. Müller, Miss Müller, and Miss Groves, and hoping you are quite well, I remain, Dear and respected Sir, Your ever grateful Orphan, * * * * *"—Dec. 31. From a young man, formerly in one of the Day-Schools of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, £5.—Received from Malvern, 2 pairs of links gold mounted, a gold serpent necklace, 1 ditto set with diamonds and turquoises, 2 other necklaces, a gold bracelet with locket, an ornamental comb, 10 brooches, 4 waist buckles, a gold ring, a gold locket, a chain, 3 bracelets, a polished agate, and a bead ornament.

Jan. 1, 1867. Early in the morning I found put into the letter-

box at my house, £5., with £1. for myself. Also 5s. from H. T., 10s. from C. G., also £3.—Received also during the day £150. from Clifton, with £5. for myself, and many other donations, of which I only mention the following. From Sydney, Australia, £10.—From Dartmouth £6. and £1.—From a Working Party at Newton Abbot £17. Also £1. 4s.—£1.—5s.—1s.—From the neighbourhood of Uxbridge £12. 10s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—From a Bristol donor £25.—Jan. 4. From Kent £12. 10s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—Jan. 5. Received from Brighton 6s., with the following letter: “Dear Sir, Reading your Report two or three months ago, I saw an account of a Milliner, who put away a penny for every bonnet she made, and another person a penny for every pair of shoes she sold, etc.; and the thought struck me, that we too might help a little, by putting by a penny for every dress which we had to make. Our business is small, and means limited; but this we shall never miss. I enclose you six dozen stamps, the contents of the box up to the present time, and hope to continue to send a mite occasionally to help in the Lord’s work. Etc.”—I delight in referring to such instances, in which those, whose means are very limited, yet out of their little seek to help on the Lord’s work. There are those who have given to me not only Hundreds but even Thousands of Pounds, as I have had donations repeatedly of £2000., £3000., £4000., yea even £5000., £6000., £7000., nay even £8100. at one time; but whilst I would feel truly grateful to the kind donors, who thus intrust me with large sums, I desire, at the same time, to be truly thankful for the very smallest donations, even the shillings and pence of the poorer classes; and all donations, whether pence or Thousands of Pounds, are equally taken out of the hands of God, whom we ask day by day, and repeatedly every day, for help, and to whom *alone* we look for help. And so it comes, that, whatever may be the political or commercial state of England or even of Europe, nay, whether there be famine or wide-spread distress otherwise, we have been always helped. And thus again it has happened during the past year, as often before; whilst the many failures of Banks, etc. have been so universally felt in this country, and by charitable Institutions too, we have had a greater income than during any previous year; because our trust and confidence was in God alone, and to Him we made our prayer, and He helped us, though we needed far more than during any previous year. Thus we have found it times without number, that trust in the Living God, and this alone, is true independence; for it elevates us above death, famine, fire, mercantile depressions, war, loss of friends, and every thing else; but this true independence cannot be enjoyed, without our being in the first place reconciled to God, by faith in our Lord Jesus. Next to this, we must walk in the ways of the Lord, and seek to please Him. And lastly, we must really (not in profession only) trust in God for what we need, habitually make known our wants to Him, and confidently expect help from Him.—Jan. 15. £27. 4s.

from believers meeting at the Sand Area Chapel, Kendal.—Jan. 19. From Worcestershire £20., with £5. for Tracts.—Jan. 22. Anonymously given by a gentleman to one of the Orphans £1. 3s. 3d.—From Haverstock Hill £11. 11s. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—Jan. 25. From Hastings £50.

Feb. 2. From New York £2.—From New Zealand £6.—£1. 5s. as “A thank-offering for a small legacy, received by an elderly widow at Nottingham.”—Feb. 4. From London £100.—From Worcestershire £20.—Feb. 5. Received the following letter from one of the Orphans, sent to service as a believer, after she had been nearly eight years under our care: “Dear and Respected Sir, I esteem it a great privilege in being able to write to you and thank you for all the kindness manifested towards me, while under your fatherly care in the dear Orphan House. I thank my Heavenly Father for allowing me to spend nearly eight years in that happy home, where I not only learned what was to fit me for this life, but also for that which is to come. It was there that I first learned to care any thing about my immortal soul, and I hope, by God’s grace, that the seeds sown, in that dear home, may spring up and bear fruit to His glory. I sincerely thank you for all your kindness to me while under your care, and also to my dear sisters, who are still in the dear Orphan House, and both of whom have professed to be believers. May the Lord spare you many long years to labour in that work to which He has called you, and long may you be the friend and benefactor of the Orphan. Please remember me respectfully to dear Mrs. Müller, Miss Müller, Miss Groves, and all my dear teachers. Your respectful Orphan * * * *.”—

Feb. 9. From East Molesey £15.—Feb. 13. £5. towards the support of one Orphan for one year.—Feb. 20. This morning I received from Kent £300., with the following communication: “Dear Sir, Permit a Stranger to trouble you with the enclosed for the benefit of yourself or your Orphans, as you may most require. Having the charge of Orphans myself, I can fully sympathize with you in the awful responsibility and anxiety. Your efforts have hitherto been most wonderfully blessed. May the same blessing still attend them, and may the enclosed arrive at some moment when your heart needs cheering. Etc.” I make the following remarks: 1, In connexion with the last sentence I mention for the information of the reader, and *now* also for the information of the kind donor, that the expenses of the previous week had been for the support of the Orphans alone, from Feb. 12 to Feb. 19, about £700., and the income had been only about £120. 2, The total of this sum was taken for the support of the Orphans. 3, The kind donor was not only a stranger to me, but up to this day I know not her name; though I was put into the way of being able to acknowledge the receipt of the donation. Thus the Lord is pleased to give me continually fresh proofs, not only of His power to help me, but also of His willingness. In connexion with this subject, as to the way, in which the Lord is pleased to provide me with means, I also mention, that many ladies make clothes, or knit or work

otherwise for the benefit of the Orphans. A manufacturing firm gives gratuitously all the vinegar which is used in the Orphan Houses; another firm gives the barm needed for baking, and another the salt. And all unasked for, and, for the most part, given by those who are entire strangers to me. Thousands of different kinds of articles are sent for sale, as the long list of articles in the Supplement shows. Scarcely an article can be thought of, but I have had it sent within the past thirty-one years. Also valuable plate, jewellery, and diamonds have been sent. By sale of articles alone, sent for sale, has been obtained during the past year £766. 14s. 9½d., and since the beginning of the work £11,467. 13s. 6½d. In connexion with this I would state, to prevent misunderstanding, that we have no bazaars, nor intend to have any; but the articles which are sent are in an ordinary way sold in a large room at the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol.—We have very few regular donors, though there are a few who give at a certain time; the number of them, however, is so small, that not the fiftieth part of our current expenses could thus be met. And even these few regular donors would never be asked for money, suppose they discontinued paying; nay, more, suppose any donation being obtained or not were to depend upon my reminding the donor, though by doing so even Thousands of Pounds might be had, it would never be done; because it is not the money I seek, but the money sent by God through the willing, cheerful giver, unasked for. And have I been a loser in this way? Verily not. The work has been more and more enlarged; and the Lord has laid it on the hearts of His stewards to send me more and more.—Feb. 21. “From E. M. B., South Africa,” £4.—Feb. 26. From a Christian aged widow 5s., as “First money received in the Alms Houses.”—Received also £10., with the following letter: “Dear Sir, Enclosed is £10., which please to appropriate for the reception of Orphans, as a thank-offering for the exceeding goodness of our gracious God to me and my fatherless children during upwards of 24 years of widowhood. It is the amount of a legacy left me by a departed friend, also of small means. I had put it by as a reserve for extra need, as my income is but £20. per annum; but determining, if I could save it, to leave it at my decease to the Orphans. Having had, however, repeated proofs, not only of the Lord’s power, but tenderness in providing, I feel constrained to send it at once, as feeling it scarcely to be my own under the circumstances. Begging your prayers, that the Lord may draw me and mine very near to Himself, believe me, truly Yours * * * *.”—Feb. 28. Received £6., with the following letter: “My dear Sir, I enclose £6. For various reasons my money has not been so rife, as I have seen it. This came to me in this way. A gentleman owed me this sum for a considerable time, and there seemed little likelihood that I should get payment, as he was in difficulties. Without letting any one know, I resolved, if I got it, to

give it to the Orphans. It came in two days: so, what I could not get for several years for myself, came at once when dedicated to the Lord's work. With kindest regards, very sincerely yours,
 * * * * *

March 2. From New Zealand £6. 8s. 9d., with the following letter: "Dear Mr. Müller, we have great pleasure in forwarding you the proceeds of one shilling from every account received during the past year, which amounts to £3. 19s.; also 7s. 3d. from our little girl, part of her pocket-money, and part from the sale of eggs from a hen, which she has set apart for the Orphans, etc." There were two other donations of £1. each, and 2s. 6d. for Reports. See, esteemed Reader, how easy it is for God to help us, and what numberless ways He has to provide us with means, if we really trust in Him, and if our work is really His work! Here are entire strangers, in New Zealand, led to help me, by putting aside 1s. out of every account paid to them; and there is their little girl, giving a hen for the benefit of the Orphans, and selling her eggs, besides giving part of her pocket-money; and there are two other strangers each sending £1. What, then, have we to be careful about? Not, about money; but that 1, The work in which we are engaged, of whatever kind it be, is truly the Lord's work, is verily tending to His honour and glory. 2, That we are the persons to be engaged in this work. And 3, That we trust in God for means to carry it on, so that we are led to the Lord in prayer for means, and that we continue to look to Him for means, really have confidence as to His ability and willingness to help us. If these various points are found in us, coupled with a true aim after godliness in our deportment, the help of God is certain.—March 4. Received 2s. 6d. with the following interesting letter, giving another proof how the poorer classes may help on the Lord's work, if the love of Christ constrains them so to do. "Dear Sir, I and my dear wife have for some time been very anxious to send you something for the Orphans, but, owing to a long and severe affliction, have been hitherto unable to do what we have so long and ardently wished. I am only a working carpenter, and had just completed in my overtime a washing machine; and while my good wife and I were wondering how we could consecrate something of our little substance to His service, a gentleman and lady called at our house and purchased the machine. We acknowledge the hand of the Lord in this, and we promised then, that out of the price of every washing machine we sold in future (the price being only 28s.), half a crown should go to the Orphans on Ashley Down. I enclose you the first fruits, 2s. 6d., praying that God may bless you in your work of faith and labour of love. Our names we withhold, but trust they are written, with your own, in the Lamb's Book of Life."—March 6. £1. 4s. "From a poor dressmaker, the first earnings of a sewing machine, with which she has been presented."—March 7. The following letter was received from one of the apprentices, who, having been nine years under our care, was recently as a Christian boy sent out to be apprenticed. "Dear and honoured Sir, Now

I have left the Orphan House it gives me great pleasure to write to thank you for all the benefits and instruction I received while under your kind care, and I hope I shall always remember the great favour bestowed on me while under your kind care, in that happy home. I feel my thanks are chiefly due to God, in that, when He was pleased to take from me my father and mother, He put me under your kind care and protection, which has so contributed to my spiritual, as well as to my temporal good. And now, being placed with a good and experienced master, I hope, some day, to make a good workman. I like my place very much, and my master and mistress are very kind to me. With best respects to Mrs. Müller, Miss Groves, Mr. L., Mr. W., and all the Masters, I remain, Dear and Honoured Sir, Your grateful Orphan, * * * *."—March 14. From Bradford-on-Avon £6. 0s. 9d., "Instead of Fire Insurance."—March 15. From a Bristol donor, who contributes as the Lord prospers him, £35.—March 18. From Kent £100.—March 23. £3. with the following letter from London: "Beloved Brother, I have this day forwarded a Post Office Order for Three Pounds, which you will please to apply to the use of the Orphans. I would just mention, that this is part of a sum put by as expenses for cost of a yard dog. Instead of keeping a dog, I purposed to apply the money for the Lord's work, and I find my house is well guarded. I have never lost an article, although my premises are so situated that they might easily be entered at night, thus showing how the Lord watches over those who trust Him. I pray the Lord may still prosper you in your work of faith and labour of love. Yours in Jesus, * * * *."—March 25. £21. 10s. as contents of Orphan Boxes, from Woolpit.—Anonymously left at my house, six guinea pieces, with the following words: "These old guineas have been hoarded too long; I now send them on a mission to feed the Orphans."—£90. as the legacy of the late R. B., Esq.

April 2. Legacy of A. R., £20.—April 3. From Perthshire 9s., as the proceeds of "The Orphans' Bee Hive."—April 8. From Surrey £12. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—April 9. From a London donor £13. for the support of one Orphan for one year, with £3. for myself.—April 10. £3. 6s. from the Orphan Box at Monghyr, India—April 11. The following letter, with £2. 11s., was sent by one of the Orphans, who, after having been fourteen years under our care, was on June 26, 1856, sent to service: "Dear Mr. Müller, I have once more the privilege and great pleasure allowed to me, of sending my mite to help forward the work in your hands, to which I owe so much. I enclose an order for £2. 11s. One pound is my own thank-offering, and £1. 11s. is the proceeds of a money box that I keep upon the kitchen table. There have been upwards of forty different donors, many of whom had not heard of your noble Institution before; but they have all appeared pleased to contribute to it, and to desire its success. I hope yourself and all connected with the work are well and prosperous, and I am thankful still to call myself, Your grateful Orphan, * * * *." "P.S. Every day

furnishes me with increased gratitude and praise to Him who has called me out of darkness into His marvellous light. My cup runneth over and I feel daily the force of the word: 'The half was not told me.'—April 12. £28. 2s. 6d. as a further payment of part of the legacy of the late Mr. T. D.—Legacy of the late Mrs. J. D. £19. 19s.—April 13. From Kent £100., with £10. for myself.—From St. Leonard's-on-Sea, 3 gold shirt studs, set with diamonds.—April 20. From Tasmania £1. 4s. and 16s.—April 22. £5 as "A thank-offering from J. T. C. and A. K. C. for the merciful preservation of a child through a surgical operation."—April 23. From 2 Christian Orphans, formerly under our care, and now united in marriage, 5s. with the following letter: "Most beloved Sir, Will you please to accept this mite for the Orphans, as a thank-offering to the Lord, for having had every need supplied during the winter, when so many were suffering for want of work and other causes; and I, with my dear wife, desire to thank you again for the many blessings which we enjoy, which have flowed to us through the instruction we received while under your care. We remain, dear Sir, Your grateful Orphans * * * *."

May 14. From Somersetshire £1., with this statement of the donor: "Being one penny out of every pound, taken in my little shop, since reading your Report."—May 15. Five Shillings with the following instructive letter from the donor: "Dear Sir, Please accept these few stamps as a small trifle to assist you in the great work in which you are engaged, and appropriate them as your judgment thinks fit.—I may here remark, that I do this with deep self-abasement of spirit before God, having proposed in my mind to do it, when I received a sum of money a short time ago, but did not do it then. The consequence is, that more than three-fourths of that sum are dwindled away, I hardly know how, which I can but believe is a just retribution for my unfaithfulness in not answering the dictates of conscience in giving promptly to your noble cause. With Christian love, I am yours in Christ * * * *"—May 16. From New Zealand £7.—May 17. From Belton £5. 2s. 6d. from 27 donors.—May 20. From New Zealand £6. and £3.—From New Zealand £5.—From Sidney, Australia, £3.—From a donor, then at Weymouth, £12. for the support of one Orphan for one year.—From Cape of Good Hope £1. and £12.—May 21. From Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope, £1. 1s. 1d., £1., £1., 5s., and 16s. 11d.—May 22. From friends in Charlton Kings £20.—May 24. From the neighbourhood of Doncaster £1. 3s. 6d., instead of insuring 47 acres, at 6d. per acre, against hail.—From Tadcaster £11. 18s. from 80 donors.—Received through Messrs. Morgan and Chase, from various donors, £24. 3s. for the Orphans, and 1s. for Missions.

I have thus referred to a few out of the many donations, whereby the Lord was pleased to help me to meet the heavy expenses of the past year for the support of the 1304 Orphans, who were under our care; and, in full reliance on the gracious

help of my Heavenly Father, I go on in this new year, upon which we have entered, though I have reason to believe that the expenses from May 26, 1867, to May 26, 1868, will be still greater, and that for all the various objects, including the expenses connected with the building and the fitting up of the two new Orphan Houses, we shall need above Forty Thousand Pounds Sterling.

I now go on to the next part of the Report.

IV. *The Objects of the Institution are:—*

1. To assist Day-Schools, Sunday-Schools, and Adult-Schools, in which instruction is given upon *Scriptural principles*, and, as far as the Lord may give the means, supply us with suitable teachers, and in other respects make our path plain, to *establish* Schools of this kind.

a. By Day-Schools taught upon Scriptural principles, we understand Day-Schools in which the teachers are believers,—in which the way of salvation is scripturally pointed out,—and in which no instruction is given which is opposed to the principles of the Gospel. There have been during this period four such schools in Bristol *entirely supported* by the funds of this Institution, one at Callington in Cornwall and one at Kenilworth in Warwickshire. Thus there are 6 Day-Schools entirely supported by the funds of the Institution, in which there were on May 26, 1867, altogether 425 children.

In addition to the entire support of these six Day-Schools, there have been nine other Day-Schools assisted with money or books, 1 in Middlesex, 1 in Dorsetshire, 1 in Cornwall, 2 in Devonshire, 1 in Worcestershire, 1 in Staffordshire, 1 in Norfolk, and 1 in Scotland.

b. Sunday-Schools, in which the teachers are believers, and in which the Holy Scriptures alone are the foundation of instruction,—are such only as the Institution supports or assists; for we consider it unscriptural that any persons, who do not profess to know the Lord themselves, should be engaged in giving religious instruction. There was one Sunday-School in Bristol, in which there are 150 children, *entirely supported* by the funds of this Institution; and eight others, 2 in Devonshire, 1 in Somersetshire, 1 in Middlesex, 2 in Gloucestershire and 2 in Wales, were assisted with Bibles and Testaments.

c. The Institution does not support or assist any Adult-School, except the teachers are believers. There are two such Adult-Schools, one in Bristol and one at Callington, entirely supported by the funds of the Institution, in which, since March 5, 1834, altogether 3479 adults have been instructed. The number at present on the books is 32.

The adults are instructed in reading and writing. But while these schools are principally intended to teach persons to read, in order that they may themselves be able to read the Holy Scrip-

tures, yet those who teach them take the opportunity of speaking to the scholars about the way of salvation, and make remarks on portions of the word of God which may be read: and thus many have been led to care about their souls during the past 33 years. All the expenses connected with these Schools are borne by the funds of the Institution.

In connexion with all these various Schools, I would suggest the following important matter for prayer. Since March, 1834, there have been 8954 children in the Day-Schools. In the Adult-Schools there have been 3479 persons. The number of Sunday-School children amounts to 3673. Thus, without reckoning the Orphans, 16,106 souls have been brought under *habitual* instruction in the things of God in these various Schools: besides the many thousands in the Schools in various parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, Canada, British Guiana, the West Indies, the East Indies, China, &c., which have been to a greater or less degree assisted. Now, what I would especially request is, that all believers, who take an interest in this work, would help me and my fellow-labourers with their prayers, that not only those who are at present under our instruction may be spiritually benefited, but particularly also *that God would be pleased to work mightily in the hearts of those who were formerly under our care, in bringing to their remembrance the truth which was then set before them.* I am the more induced to repeat this request, as we frequently meet with young men or young women, who many years ago were under our care and instruction, who thankfully own the benefit which they received when with us, and who are now believers in the Lord Jesus, though at the time they might have given us little or no hope. Thus has the Lord been pleased afterwards to cause the seed to spring up and to bear fruit to His praise. As far as I remember, there was never a year, since the commencement of the work, in which we have had a greater number of cases of this kind brought before us, than during the past year, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.

The amount of means, which was expended during the past year, in connexion with the various Schools, is £ 686. 19s. 11d.; and during the past 33 years £13,383. 2s. 1d.

2. The second object of this Institution is, to circulate the Holy Scriptures.

We sell Bibles and New Testaments to poor persons at reduced prices, or, if the cases be found suitable, give them altogether gratuitously. In cases of needy schools, carried on in the fear of God, it would be joy in the Lord to us to supply them with as many copies of the Holy Scriptures as they may require. This applies especially to all missionary efforts in foreign lands, or to any Scriptural means which are used to spread the truth of God in the dark places of our own land.

Our particular aim, in circulating the Holy Scriptures, is, to seek out the very poorest of the poor, through visits from house to

house, in order to find out the need of the Holy Scriptures, and to supply persons either entirely gratis or on the payment of a small amount. With this we especially combine the furnishing aged persons with copies in large type, a point of great moment, as the smallness of the type, even where a copy of the Bible is possessed, would keep many aged persons from reading it; and also because it is well known that Bibles, printed in large type, are, up to this present day, expensive, considering the means of the poor. We have been greatly assisted in these efforts of searching out the most needy persons, destitute of the Holy Scriptures, by many servants of Christ, who, in England, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Nova Scotia, Canada, British Guiana, the East Indies, Australia, Africa, China, &c., have sought to circulate God's Holy Word.

The number of Bibles, New Testaments, and Portions of the Holy Scriptures, which have been circulated from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867, is as follows:

- 1,941 Bibles have been sold.
- 1,252 Bibles have been given away.
- 2,610 New Testaments have been sold.
- 1,962 New Testaments have been given away.
- 43 Copies of the Psalms have been sold.
- 18 Copies of the Psalms have been given away.
- 322 Other small portions of the Holy Scriptures have been sold.
- 6,380 Ditto given away.

There have been circulated since March 5, 1834, through the medium of this Institution, 42,089 Bibles, 33,914 New Testaments, 1,178 copies of the Psalms, and 9,837 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures.

Bibles, New Testaments, and smaller portions of the Holy Scriptures may at any time be procured at the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, 34, Park-Street, Bristol. There are kept in stock 246 *different sorts of English Bibles*, each varying from the other in type or binding, or by being with or without marginal references. Their prices range from 9d. to £3. The large assortment of Pocket Bibles, from 9d. to £1. 6s. 6d., furnishes the public with a great variety for choice. There may be had also 23 different kinds of New Testaments, one kind of which, in clear type, is sold at 4d. for the benefit of the poor, though it costs 10d., bought in large numbers, at the wholesale price. By personal application, or by writing to Mr. James L. Stanley, the manager of the Depository, 34, Park Street, Bristol, a catalogue of the whole stock of Bibles, Testaments, and other portions of the Holy Scriptures, with their prices, may be obtained.

During the past six years and a half we have especially availed ourselves of the openings, which the Lord has been pleased to give for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures in Italy, so that 1,915 Italian Bibles and 3,560 Italian Testaments have been circulated.

For some years past, we have also circulated many Spanish, Portuguese, French, German, Swedish, Danish, Welsh, and Dutch Bibles and Testaments. Likewise Testaments in Russ.

During the past year there have been introduced for sale at the Depository No 34, Park Street, Bristol, cheap Bibles and Testaments in the following languages: Welsh, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish. Also the New Testament only in Russ, Swedish, Ancient Greek, and Greek and English. Likewise the Old Testament and Psalms in Hebrew.

The amount of the funds of the Institution, spent during the past year on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, is £530. 4s. 2d.

The total amount spent since March 5, 1834, is £8,914. 1s. 9d.

3. The third object of the Institution is, to aid Missionary efforts.

During the past year was expended of the Funds of the Institution, for this object, the sum of £5,010. 18s. 2d. By this sum One Hundred and Twenty-five labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were, to a greater or less degree assisted. The amount sent to each of these servants of Christ is as follows:

No. 1. Labouring in British Guiana (a European)	£ 80	No. 31. }		
No. 2. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 80	No. 32. }		
No. 3. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 58	No. 33. }		
No. 4. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 44	No. 34. }		
No. 5. Ditto (a Native)	£ 24	No. 35. }	} Labouring in Italy £ 200	
No. 6. Ditto (a Chinese)	£ 23	No. 36. }		
No. 7. Ditto (a Native)	£ 22	No. 37. }		
No. 8. Labouring in China (a European)	£ 120	No. 38. }		
No. 9. Ditto (an American)	£ 105	No. 39. }		
No. 10. Ditto (a European)	£ 52	No. 40. }		
No. 11. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 34	No. 41. Labouring among Spaniards in England		£ 70
No. 12. Labouring in Penang (a European)	£ 160	No. 42. Ditto		£ 50
No. 13. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 125	No. 43. Labouring in Berkshire	£ 15	
No. 14. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 113	No. 44. Labouring in Buckinghamsh.	£ 25	
No. 15. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 105	No. 45. Ditto	£ 15	
No. 16. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 65	No. 46. Labouring in Cheshire	£ 50	
No. 17. Labouring in the East Indies (a European)	£ 110	No. 47. Labouring in Devonshire	£ 55	
No. 18. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 110	No. 48. Ditto	£ 50	
No. 19. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 55	No. 49. Ditto	£ 45	
No. 20. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 55	No. 50. Ditto	£ 45	
No. 21. Ditto (Ditto)	£ 40	No. 51. Ditto	£ 40	
No. 22. Labouring in the United States	£ 60	No. 52. Ditto	£ 35	
No. 23. Labouring in Canada	£ 55	No. 53. Ditto	£ 35	
No. 24. Ditto	£ 55	No. 54. Ditto	£ 35	
No. 25. Labouring in Nova Scotia	£ 85	No. 55. Ditto	£ 35	
No. 26. Ditto	£ 55	No. 56. Ditto	£ 25	
No. 27. Labouring in France	£ 60	No. 57. Ditto	£ 25	
No. 28. Ditto	£ 38	No. 58. Ditto	£ 25	
No. 29. Labouring in Belgium	£ 64	No. 59. Ditto	£ 25	
No. 30. Labouring in Switzerland	£ 44	No. 60. Ditto	£ 25	
		No. 61. Ditto	£ 20	
		No. 62. Ditto	£ 20	
		No. 63. Ditto	£ 20	
		No. 64. Ditto	£ 20	

No. 65. Labouring in Devonshire	£ 20	No. 97. Labouring in Norfolk	£ 20
No. 66. Ditto	£ 20	No. 98. Labouring in Nottingmsh.	£ 35
No. 67. Ditto	£ 20	No. 99. Ditto	£ 30
No. 68. Ditto	£ 15	No. 100. Labouring in Somerset-	
No. 69. Ditto	£ 14	shire	£ 38
No. 70. Ditto	£ 10	No. 101. Ditto	£ 35
No. 71. Ditto	£ 10	No. 102. Ditto	£ 35
No. 72. Labouring in Dorsetshire	£ 70	No. 103. Ditto	£ 30
No. 73. Labouring in Co. Durham	£ 30	No. 104. Ditto	£ 25
No. 74. Ditto	£ 30	No. 105. Ditto	£ 20
No. 75. Labouring in Glo'stersh.	£ 65	No. 106. Ditto	£ 20
No. 76. Ditto	£ 60	No. 107. Ditto	£ 11
No. 77. Ditto	£ 35	No. 108. Labouring in Suffolk	£ 30
No. 78. Ditto	£ 30	No. 109. Labouring in Surrey	£ 32
No. 79. Ditto	£ 30	No. 110. Labouring in Sussex	£ 40
No. 80. Ditto	£ 30	No. 111. Ditto	£ 15
No. 81. Ditto	£ 25	No. 112. Labouring in Warwick-	
No. 82. Ditto	£ 15	shire	£ 45
No. 83. Labouring in Herefordsh.	£ 40	No. 113. Labouring in Westmld.	£ 25
No. 84. Labouring in Lancashire	£ 40	No. 114. Labouring in Wiltshire	£ 30
No. 85. Labouring in Middlesex	£ 50	No. 115. Labouring in Worces-	
No. 86. Ditto	£ 45	tershire	£ 50
No. 87. Ditto	£ 37	No. 116. Ditto	£ 50
No. 88. Ditto	£ 30	No. 117. Labouring in Yorkshire	£ 40
No. 89. Ditto	£ 30	No. 118. Ditto	£ 20
No. 90. Ditto	£ 30	No. 119. Labouring in Wales	£ 25
No. 91. Ditto	£ 20	No. 120. Ditto	£ 10
No. 92. Ditto	£ 15	No. 121. Labouring in Scotland	£ 90
No. 93. Ditto	£ 15	No. 122. Labouring in Ireland	£ 60
No. 94. Ditto	£ 10	No. 123. Ditto	£ 25
No. 95. Ditto	£ 10	No. 124. Ditto	£ 25
No. 96. Labouring in Norfolk	£ 40	No. 125. Ditto	£ 15

There was also expended in connexion with some preaching places in spiritually dark villages in Somersetshire and Gloucestershire, £42. 18s. 2d.

As the Christian readers may desire to know some particulars respecting the labours of the servants of Christ, whom I seek to assist out of the funds of the Institution, I give extracts from some of the hundreds of letters, which I have received from them, during the past year.

A brother labouring in British Guiana, writes on Dec 7, 1866 :—"The Lord has blessed the preaching of His word among us: on Wednesday night I baptized fourteen persons, eight of whom were males and six were females. Of these, eight came from Victoria; three from Craig and three reside in Georgetown, one, quite a boy, who has lately been led to rejoice in the Lord as his Saviour, another was a Chinese woman. Our brethren K., W., F., and Ah Fook were present. We had a very happy time, and all felt it to be a time of solemnity: the Lord was present to help, and He did help us. Oh! what a blessed privilege to be able to come to the Lord and to have fellowship with Him; may we never be so foolish as to attempt to do any thing without Him, seeing He has given Himself to us; and may we always hear the words of Jesus saying to us 'Without me ye can do nothing.' The room was filled, and many, had to stand. I have no doubt that the Gospel that was preached, and the testimony that was given, will be made a blessing to some. A young man came to me this morning to speak about his soul; three others have come to me this week professing faith in Jesus and asking to be baptized; but we think it good for them to wait until we have the next church meeting. There are many who seem to be awakened to a sense of their danger; may the Lord bless them and bring them to a knowledge

of Himself! We were much refreshed and encouraged by reading the last Report, and led to give thanks for the conversion of so many of the Orphans—encouraged also to pray for the school children with us. Two of the young women baptized were brought up in the school at Craig: my wife had had a hope of them for some time.”

Another brother, likewise labouring in British Guiana, writes on Dec. 8, 1866:—“The Lord is working by the Holy Ghost with the Gospel in many hearts here, I am happy to say: some backsliders, too, are being restored; four were received some months ago, and last Lord’s day I proposed two others; also six who were newly converted; and besides these, several are professing to seek the Lord. Some of them were children in the school, the first years of my labour here, whose parents are in the Lord.”

Again the same brother writes on March 22, 1867:—“I baptized seven, at Arcadia, about four miles distant from Bagot Town, on the 3rd instant, and there are seven to be baptized at Bagot Town; also four backsliders restored to fellowship. Thus you see the Lord is with us and using us in His service.”

A brother labouring in China writes on March 2, 1867:—“We have daily one or two hundred persons brought under the sound of the Gospel; four or five profess faith in Christ, and one or two others say they have given up the worship of idols. The daily number of patients in the dispensary varies from eighty in wet weather to one hundred and forty or more in fine; the average is more than one hundred.”

Another brother labouring in China writes on May 15, 1866 (the letter was received on July 20, 1866):—“I thank you sincerely for your kind remembrance, and I value it the more, because I feel assured that I am remembered also in your prayers. The money I have applied towards the support of Mrs. L’s school, that being now the most expensive department of our missionary work; you will be glad to know that it is prospering. Six of the pupils have recently made profession of Christianity: four of them were baptized on the first Lord’s day of this month, the other two being prevented by illness. In connexion with these four from the school, I baptized six others, two women and four men, making ten in all; and there are some other applicants. I believe similar encouragement is had by the missionaries generally here. The work of course is not without its difficulties, and its trials; but, upon the whole, I think it is encouraging. ‘*First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear,*’ is the Divine order. We may not expect the full corn at once.”

The same brother writes on Nov. 23, 1866:—“Your note dated the 17th of September, enclosing a cheque for £25., intended as pecuniary aid in my missionary work, came to hand by the last mail. I trust I am thankful, both to you for this continued confidence, and to our kind Father in heaven, who knows all our wants, and who suffers us to lack no good thing—nothing which He sees to be for our good. I have applied the amount sent wholly towards the expenses of Mrs. L’s school, which I am thankful to say is still prospering. Our work also in other respects is encouraging. At our last communion season, the first Lord’s day in this month, I baptized three persons. The work generally at this port, and the surrounding country, is spreading. The Lord seems not only to be opening the field wider to His servants, but to be blessing their labours with more hopeful results. But while we have encouragements, we have also our discouragements. Our faith is often tried—sometimes severely tried. But we try to bear in mind the injunction, not to be weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not.”

Another brother writes from Ningpo, China, on July 14, 1866:—“My beloved brother in the Lord, Your kind communication dated May 25, 1866, enclosing your cheque for £20., has, through God’s goodness, safely reached me, and for which I most sincerely and gratefully thank you, in the name of our ever-adorable Lord Jesus Christ. This gift which the Lord has sent me through you is very encouraging and strengthening to my faith, and I do pray that God will use it to encourage me to greater trust in Himself than ever. On that very day on which your note was written I was in the interior about 100 miles from this, and I took (i. e. rented) a house in a large city named ‘Ziao-Hying,’ and ever since that day I have given myself to special prayer for means ere I go to that city, because a Chinese house, of course, requires some repairs ere it is habitable; and I now can

see, that, although God loves to be enquired of for our need and would have us to pray and believe, still, before I called, the answer was on the way. What a blessed thing, we have God to deal with, who knows the end from the beginning and anticipates our needs, and graciously supplies them out of his infinite fulness in Christ. I am trusting, if the Lord will, to go and live at that large city with my dear wife and child in about six weeks or so; as soon as the hottest of the summer is past, which is very prostrating. In this city, *i. e.* Ziao-Hying, there are no preachers of the blessed Gospel at present living, only the Roman Catholics have a mission station there. I am praying the Lord to send me a native brother to go with me, to act as an Evangelist—may the Lord answer. I do not know where to look for one, but I leave it with the Lord. Since I arrived here, which is now over five months, I have been giving myself to the study of the language and going out amongst the people with a native brother preaching the Lord Jesus. I have every reason to believe that God has helped me, so far, with the language *remarkably*. I endeavour to put in use what words I know and I am now able to talk and understand a little.”

The same brother writes from Ziao-Hying, China, on Dec. 17, 1866:—“I arrived in this city with my dear wife and child on the 29th Sept., with a native brother and sister. Since the beginning of October there has been regular preaching of the Gospel, and we are now preaching every day. We open our chapel every afternoon, and when the native brother has preached awhile, he asks those present to ask any questions about the Gospel: or if they do not quite understand what has been spoken, they are invited to inquire; and really it is most interesting to hear them inquiring and talking of Jesus. We also distribute Scriptures and tracts. Although we have none yet added to our number by baptism, still the Lord has not left us without great encouragement; there are *three*, I trust, whom God has been leading to the path of life; but regarding the Chinese, one feels the need of caution in speaking, and also of waiting to see if the good seed really has found a lodgement in the heart or not. My prayer and eyes are up to the Lord, that He would manifest Himself more and more to us in the conversion of very many precious souls to the Lord Jesus, that the name of Jesus may be magnified in our midst.”

The following communication is from a brother, who, having been in Europe on account of his health for about 18 months, returned again at the end of 1866 to his field of labour. The extract is from a letter dated Penang, 10 Dec., 1866:—“We arrived safely here on the 30th ultimo, after a passage of forty-one days. Truly our God and Father watched over us and greatly encouraged our hearts in Himself. After a few days at sea, and we had gotten over our sickness, I went down into the fore-castle among the sailors; from between thirty and forty were present. I told them I had come to read to them a portion of the Word of God, and to say something to them, that would be for their good. Some of them consented to my request, and had no objection, others were engaged in playing at cards. I read to them, and afterwards spoke as the Lord enabled me; those who played at cards taking little notice apparently. After I had concluded, I told them I would come again among them, and to this some readily consented. Two days elapsed and I went down among them again, in the evening. I opened my Bible and read, and preached for about an hour. I saw none playing at cards, but all listened to me with deep attention. After I had left them, and had gone to my own quarters, I was informed that one of the sailors wished to speak to me. I went up to him, and found him in great distress about his soul; he said, that something I had said touched him, meaning, his conscience had been awakened to see himself a poor sinner. I spoke to him for a considerable time, pointing him to Jesus, who died for him, whom God raised again from the dead. He left me, and prayed much during the night, entreating the Lord to have mercy upon him. He found peace, the Lord revealed Himself to him. His countenance indicated the change that had taken place in him; he truly rejoiced in the Lord for the salvation of his soul. He told me a few days after, that he had no idea such a change could have taken place in him, in such a short space of time. He said he felt he did his work in a different spirit from that he used to do it in; he now coiled the ropes and pulled the ropes for Jesus. I went again a third time and read and spoke to them, and, after leaving, another wished to speak to me; he

also was in distress about his soul. I endeavoured to show to him his ruined state as a lost sinner. His spirit was very contrite; he also found peace in believing and was truly happy in the Lord; their names are H. B. and G. L. On arriving at Alexandria they were truly sorry that we had so soon to separate; they both were determined, through the strength and grace of God, to live to Jesus.

The same brother writes from Penang on 9th Feb., 1867:—"Since I last wrote I have been engaged in preaching the Gospel to Malays, Chinese, country born people, soldiers, sailors, and Europeans. The Lord has not left us without some fruit to our labours. Two soldiers, one a serjeant-major and the other a gunner, and a soldier's wife, have believed in Jesus, and are truly happy in Him, believing that all their sins are put away, through faith in his precious blood."

Again this brother writes from Penang, on 8th April, 1867;—"Since I last wrote to you, we have had some very refreshing seasons. The Lord has been working by the power of the Holy Ghost, in bringing sinners to Jesus. During the week we have had two evenings for the preaching of the Gospel in English. Last month, on the 27th and 28th, eight were baptized, seven men, six of whom were artillery men, and the chief clerk in the Post Office, and a soldier's wife. One young man said, he must put off every rag of the old uniform and put on the new. He was truly bold for Christ, the change was most manifest. They said they never thought they could have been so happy. It was indeed a passing from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. At the baptizing a great number were present; nearly the whole of the Chinese brethren were there, and were truly delighted to see so many brought to Christ. I am glad to say, those of the native brethren who are here go on very well. About one half have removed to Singapore. God willing, it is our purpose to visit Malacca and Singapore in order that we may preach the Gospel in those places, lifting up Jesus before the eyes and hearts of men as the only way by which they can be brought nigh to God.

"The School numbers nearly sixty boys, the greater portion of them are children of Mohammedans; they are very attentive whilst listening to the expositions of Scripture."

Another brother, labouring at Penang, writes on 24th Oct., 1866: "My dear Brother, I had resolved to write you when it pleased the Lord to work in these parts, that you might be still more encouraged in service for Him, by hearing that prayer and labour are owned by Him here also. I received a letter from a brother, a ship carpenter, last month, in which he tells of some souls no doubt brought to the Lord. His letter will show you how it was, and how completely it was the Lord's doing. He says 'I take the opportunity of writing you a few lines to inform you of our safe arrival at home, after a long voyage; and to give you an account of how the Lord blessed us on our passage home. Shortly after we left Penang, I think about three weeks, one of the crew was terribly convinced of sin. For about a fortnight he became altered in his features; he told me afterwards that the Lord laid His hand on him in the very act of some sin: I do not know what it was, he never told me. Well, when I saw him in such a state, I tried to point him to the Lamb of God—told him that Christ's blood could wash away his sins however great; but for days and days he remained the same, sometimes crying like a little child for his sins, and wished to be forgiven. I spoke many and many a time; but one Saturday night while I was speaking to him, he was in terrible agony of soul; I never saw anyone in such a state. Sunday morning, after breakfast, I went to the hands to give away some of the tracts you gave me. I gave him one and told him to read it; but it made no difference to him. I went to see him during the forenoon of the same day, and gave him a tract entitled 'I have got my ticket.' By and by he came out with a face smiling, and said 'I can say I have got eternal life, though I never could see it till this moment.' And by him another was led to think about his soul; and soon after another and another, five or six of them were under convictions of sin. Directly I commenced to read, and try to explain the Scriptures to them almost every night all the way home; sometimes there would be seven or eight but four came regularly every time, and I have good hope that two were

truly converted, and the third before we arrived home, but not so clearly as the first two: the fourth professes, but I fear he cannot truly lean on the Saviour alone for salvation.'"

The same brother writes 22nd April, 1867:—"Notwithstanding the arrival of our brethren and sisters from England nearly five months ago, and many thoughts about removing to another field, I am still in Penang; and still enabled to do a little in the work of the Gospel. During last month the Lord has been pleased to give testimony to His word and to the mission of His servants in the conversion of several persons, European soldiers, of whom six men and one woman, a soldier's wife, confessed their faith. A day or two after they were baptized, the Battery to which they belonged was unexpectedly removed to Rangoon; and we have just heard from our brother E. there, how delighted and refreshed he was to see them. Some of them were signally delivered from the mire of sin into the grace of Christ; and thus the Lord has answered our many prayers, and those of saints at home likewise: using in a great measure our new fellow-labourer Mr. M., rather than us who have been bearing the burden and heat. So it seemed good in His sight, and we have all been much refreshed. On Friday the 19th, we all went to a district about 5 miles off, some of us to preach the word, and others to improve in the language by contact with the natives. Brother C. had an audience in a native school, while Mr. M. and I went to a Mosque by the sea side, where we found the people assembled. We sat down by the water, until they should finish, and to lift up our hearts to the Lord to open our way. Soon a young man came from the Padre, to call us to come and speak to them. We went and followed him, while he called the people to follow, to a covered place in front of the house. We there took our seats, and had a very earnest and interesting conversation for more than an hour. Both Brother M. and I said much truth before him. The 5th of John is especially to the point, showing how the Jews, whom the Mohammedans condemn, take the same ground as they, opposition to the Sonship of our Lord Jesus. The preaching of Christ is openly rejected by the Mohammedans here; but not so by the Chinese idolators; they suffer the word preached, and desire to hear it again. Only the hand of the Lord with us is needed, to turn them to Him. Miss O'C. left this for Malacca on the 20th, but not before she saw one or two, and those Mohammedans, confessing Jesus as the Son of God; though unable to confess Him in baptism hitherto."

Another brother, likewise labouring at Penang, writes on 10th April, 1867:—"Our brother Mr. C. tells me he has written you fully an account of what our Heavenly Father has been favouring us with in the conversion of several persons here. It has been most refreshing to our spirits, to have been thus greatly honoured, in this highest of services. As yet amongst Malay people and others there is no apparent fruit of my labour. I have been enabled to set the Gospel before many Malays, some few Chinese, and also Klings, besides occasionally other East Indians who may be acquainted with the Malay language. Yesterday morning early, dear brother G. and I started for a large village in the Siamese territory, or rather, in the Kedda country, which is, I understand tributary to Siam; it joins the Province Wellesley, owned by the British, lying North of it; and a very fine river is the boundary line between the two. We took our passage in a small boat, managed by two Chinese, for the opposite shore, where we arrived after about two hours rowing. There we had to take off our shoes and stockings and wade through soft mud about eight inches deep, for about eighty yards. After washing our feet and legs we proceeded some little distance, and, needing a little food and rest we sat down under the shade of a tree by the road side. We had no drink with us, but our Heavenly Father cared for us; for we had only just opened our little parcel of food, when a Malay man came, and asked us to accept the milk of a young cocoa nut. We were glad to do so, and he thereupon climbed a tree and procured two which he brought with a chopper and a glass to our resting place, there he opened the nuts and poured out a glass of the milk for us. After prayer we went off again on our journey, and my soul was refreshed considerably by the conversation of dear brother G., who, for no little time, was speaking of Jesus. The heat from the ground occasionally puffed up so as to give a half suffocating sensation, the atmospheric heat, too, had increased, as it was now about noon; and we again found a pleasant rest, and also a pleasant

breeze which newly had sprung up. But I am forgetting to tell you, that just previous to our second rest, we stayed a little in a village called Penaga; there brother G. spoke to a number of Malays about Jesus, and I waited for an opportunity to do so a little further on. Most of the people were about their business, some buying, and some selling. Standing a little time in front of a closed shop, opposite to a fallen house on the other side of the street, a Malay conversed with me, and soon several others joined; and, by the time a fair congregation had formed, brother G. came up and preached to them, both in Chinese and Malay. Resuming our journey, we went to Collom Mudah, our destination, and after waiting awhile this side the river and eating a mysterious Chinese preparation, brother G. spoke to the Chinese who were standing and sitting about us. Then we went across the river in a canoe and were out of British territory and British order. A destructive fire, four months ago, had literally swept the village of houses; some of the people about said, it was God's judgment, because of the wickedness of the people; robbery, violence, and gambling were prominent features of their lawlessness: yet the Gospel was to be preached to them, (Oh! what a yearning came into my heart, that some of these poor sinners might be converted. Yes, it seemed I could have sat down and wept to contemplate the state of these poor rejecters of mercy. We went amongst them. Brother G. and I sat down in a temporary shop of a Chinaman. People soon came in, both Malays and Chinese. Brother G. commenced to speak to them; but when he had proceeded but a little, there was a report of a robbery close by. It was said, three Malays had stabbed a Chinaman and stolen cloth from him. Most of our congregation went to see about the robbery, and after waiting a little we left also, walking further on through the village. We soon came to a large shed, where a number of Chinese worked. Into this we entered, and the Gospel was preached to several who listened with great attention and manifest interest. Coming out, we turned back towards the river, as darkness was soon to be upon us and we were to sleep on the other side. As we were walking on, a Malay man asked for a book, which we gave him: and, whilst reading to him some passages of Scripture, a few others came up to hear, and to them also the Gospel was preached, and they assented to the word spoken. Leaving these, we walked on, and passing the Rajah's house re-entered the village, where Mr. G. spoke to Chinese and to Malays. I read to them the 5th chapter of John and spoke to them; a few mocked, but most of them listened respectfully. Darkness was now upon us; we recrossed the river, and, after a little slipping in the mud on the bank, we walked to the Police Station, that being apparently the only place where we could get a lodging. Thin mats were given us and we were glad to lay down our wearied bodies, notwithstanding a hard bed. The mosquitoes gave us a little trouble, as we had neither a sheet nor curtains to protect us from them. But we had the consolation of Christ; and, committing myself and all dear to me to my Heavenly Father, my rest was peaceful; for the journey and the work had been for Jesus, and according to His word He was with us, giving us the peace which the world cannot give. We rose this morning while it was yet dark, that we might be able to walk in the cool of the morning; and now we are back at Penang once more, finding our Heavenly Father's love had prepared blessing there for us, through you."

The following letter from one of the labourers at Penang, dated Feb. 7, 1867, is especially given, in order that the Christian readers may help these dear Missionaries with their prayers. "My beloved Mr. Müller, By last mail I received your order for £12., for which I return you my grateful thanks. My God and Father thinks of me, though I seem to live for nothing here. The people have no desire for salvation. I turn from one to another, Chinese, Malays, Klings, Hindoos, Europeans, but, 'who hath believed our report?' My comfort is, the *certainty* of being led by Him, and therefore of my being in the right way, and in the right place. If I were not sure of this, I should be miserable. I have access freely to the jail, where the poor Malays always draw up close to the iron grating and listen with apparent interest, while I tell them of Jesus. In the House of Correction also there are willing listeners; and last Sunday I had a class of ten English-speaking sailors there, who were most attentive. Hoping to find that some of them had received the Gospel, I visited them to-day, but a w

no sign of God's working. I had a fine congregation of Malays there, but everywhere people are willing to listen. It is on my heart to press the Gospel individually on the Europeans, who are as dead as the heathen; but this is hard work, nervous work; but He helps me and will accept it. Dear brother M. and I often visit together. Through the Lord's mercy we are now all in love and peace, but should the way be opened for our spreading abroad, I should be glad. Many places are more destitute, and perhaps He may send me about a little. The Girls' School has been most disappointing, the boys' also, and the native church *most mournful*; so many walk no more with us; but blessed be God for those who remain steadfast. Not one shall perish who was given to Jesus, so that, though often feeling sad and crushed at the want of success, at the word of the Lord I let down the net, and it has been a comfort to think that Peter was as much in the path of obedience, and therefore pleasing the Lord, when he cast in the hook for the one fish, as when he enclosed a great multitude of them: so if but *one* poor sinner be saved here, that will be something that Jesus has need of."

The next extract is taken from a letter dated Oct. 20, 1866, written by a brother who has been labouring in India since 1835 among the idolators. "Since writing to you, two Europeans and seven natives have put on Christ in baptism here; one of the Europeans is the youngest son of our sister B. The Lord met him by His grace on the Neilgheries, where he made a profession of his faith; but on returning here he desired to confess Christ by being *buried* with Him in baptism. The other European is the father of our young sister Mrs. J. B. He was converted here about two years ago, and on re-visiting this place in September, submitted to the ordinance of believers' baptism. The natives were from four different villages, they were three men and four women. One of the brethren is at present in our Normal School, where he is being trained for a village school master. He has considerable aptitude for learning. About a month ago four persons, two men and two women, were baptized at Cocanada, and a happy day we had there on the occasion. More are desiring baptism there, as well as here. I hope to go there in a week or two, when it is probable the baptism may take place. Since the baptism, two of the four, husband and wife, have been severely beaten, I hear, by their neighbours and former associates. May they have grace to glorify God in the fires of persecution, which they are enduring for the Lord's sake."

The same brother writes on April 13, 1867 from Cocanada, India:—"Dear Brother, Accept my thanks for the cheque for £25., as pecuniary aid in the Lord's work, enclosed in your letter of 2nd March, 1867. The Lord graciously helps us from time to time with means to maintain the work we have in hand. Since I last wrote to you, we have visited two heathen festivals, and, by God's grace, preached the Gospel to hundreds—perhaps thousands have heard on these occasions. At Antrivedy there was some opposition, and a board which was suspended between two Palmyra trees over a main thoroughfare, on which were painted in large letters some texts of Scripture, was an object of attack by some Brahmins; and, after a noisy talk with brother H. and myself, one of them struck a heavy blow at the board and split it; however, there it remained, a silent witness to the truth as well as to their animosity. This attack on the text-board appears to have been premeditated, as it is very unusual to see such a strong stick as the blow was struck with in the hands of a Brahmin on such occasions. I noticed the stick in the man's hand while he stood near us, but never dreamed of the object he contemplated. Several native brethren were with us, and, according to their several abilities, preached Christ under various circumstances; the day of the Lord will alone reveal the result. At the other festival, at Rameshvarum, besides preaching Christ to hundreds, we saw several who professed to have come there to meet us, and who, more or less, professed faith in Christ, and did not engage in any heathen ceremonies, as far as we could learn. Sister H. and my wife left Nursapoor with us to be at the festival and we had been at some considerable extra expense in providing suitable shelter for them; but, on reaching Martair, about 8 miles therefrom, no palanquin bearers could be obtained; consequently they were obliged to remain there while we went on; they, however, visited the villages near and preached Christ to the people.

especially canvassing for children for the school which is established there under a Christian master. The School is held in a European house, which has kindly been appropriated for our use by the Christian gentleman to whom it belongs, and in this house our families remained during our absence. I am afraid our wives were not successful in inducing any parents to send their children, as there is at present a great prejudice against their doing so, fearing the children will become Christians. We wait patiently on the Lord in this matter, and go on with the few children who come, as the village is an important centre for preaching the Gospel from. One Christian family, besides the schoolmaster and his wife, live there.—In the middle of March, three females were baptized at Palcole, and we have joy in thinking of them as sincere followers of Jesus. The hot season is now rapidly advancing, when it will be almost impossible to move about much among the villages; however the native brethren will be able to continue their itinerating. They and I have lately been at Perevelle at which place about a year ago I purchased a small cottage for £ 17. 10s., it is palmyra thatched and must be re-roofed, if possible, before the rain season sets in. At this place we remained many days, the brethren visiting the villages around. I saw one of twelve young men living in several villages, who, they say, have determined to follow the Lord; but, from the extreme opposition of their relatives and families, who are all priests, I think it more than probable will go off to a distance to make their profession. One, the leader, made an attempt to come to me while I was there, and go with me to Nursapoor; but his father prevented. May the Lord guide them and direct aright, and bring glory to His holy name by them. These are all indications, of how surely the Gospel is taking root in this district. The report of these young men only reached me about a month since. We are through mercy preserved in health. I go back to Nursapoor to-day, D.V. With love in Christ, whose return seems near at hand,—Yours in Him, W. B.”

Another brother, also labouring in India, writes on 21st July, 1866: “Many thanks for what you have again sent us. May the Lord guide me in using this sum for his glory. Some part of it I shall require for the Book and Tract Depository in the town, in which a native brother, Alisahib, resides.—He does not sell many tracts in this place, but has frequently some one to converse with. He sometimes takes a number of tracts to other villages where markets are held, and sits there all day, selling them or speaking to any who come. In this way many hear of Jesus, as, at such times, people are constantly coming and going. Texts also in large characters are of great use at such times.”

The same brother writes on 1st March, 1867: “After returning home I went to Antrivedy festival, in company with some native brethren, and preached the Gospel to large numbers. Brother B. was there also, so, with three colporteurs, and two native preachers, we numbered more than usual. We also had silent preachers in 4 texts on boards, 3 of which I hung between two palmyra trees, so that almost the whole multitude passed under them. They were suspended about five feet above their heads, and it was very pleasant to see whole crowds stop to read them. May we not hope that the seed which is incorruptible will spring up, although after many days. Brother B. and I stood on a bank about three feet high, close to the road, along which the continual stream of people passed, and told of ‘The Lamb of God which taketh away the Sin of the World.’ We generally had to speak at the top of our voice, as the crowds which constantly assembled were very large. We met with opposition, but nothing to speak of. On the third day, the people remaining being mostly Brahmins, the opposition was greater; but I did not hear of many tracts being torn up. The colporteurs sold a good number of tracts and portions of the Scriptures. To-morrow I hope to leave, with the whole of my family, for another festival, which takes place in a village about thirty miles from this. Many poor people assemble there. I hope to take the texts with me, and dear Brother and Sister B. will accompany us.”

Another brother, also labouring in India, writes on March 7th, 1867: “My dear Mr. Müller, Yours of the 19th December came safely to hand (enclosing 2 cheques for £ 10 each for my dear mother and myself) and afforded us another sweet token of the ever watchful care of our dear Lord over us, so unworthy, as well as of His readiness to answer prayer and deliver out of difficulties. In His wise dealings with us, He has thought fit, for some time past, to make us

experience the case of the Widow's handful of meal and cruise of oil; but, blessed be His name, we have never been permitted to come to the last of our little stock, without His graciously replenishing it. Thus have we abundant encouragement to trust all our cares in His hands, making our one object in life here below but to 'seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness,' leaving all secondary matters in His hands, with the full assurance, that, as He has promised so He will faithfully perform 'All those things shall be added unto you.' We have lately been permitted to see much that has afforded us encouragement to go on perseveringly sowing the good seed, the blessed Gospel of our dear Saviour. About a fortnight ago the usual celebrated heathen festival of Antrivedy, (a place six miles distant), came off, attended, as usual, by thousands of poor deluded souls with the hope, alas how vain! of purging their sins away in the waters of the river. With the desire of rendering some assistance to our brethren, who usually go there, by adding a few words of testimony for Jesus, I, together with my brother, had resolved to close school for a few days and run down to this festival, and had made arrangements accordingly, but the Lord saw fit to order it otherwise; for my mother having been, suddenly, taken very ill, we were not able to do as we had very much wished. I could not help noticing, however, a rather remarkable movement among some of the boys in the School who seemed very desirous to go and speak to the people of Jesus, and actually carried their desire into practice, though one or two of them encountered much opposition and even violence. I cannot help believing that, in at least two or three cases, these dear youths speak from the fulness of their hearts, regarding those precious subjects of redeeming grace which they have been led to love and prize: indeed I have learnt, from other sources, that one or two of them generally take advantage of occasions that they meet with to speak boldly to many of their fellow countrymen of the insufficiency of their attempts to obtain pardon of their sins and favour from God, and, at the same time, set salvation through Jesus and Him Crucified plainly before them. I trust the Lord is working in the hearts of some of them; indeed with regard to one of them, I think, I can say hopefully that he is one of the Lord's. We do not find it easy work sometimes in the School, for we have to contend against many prejudices which the natives naturally entertain against the principles carried out in our School. Our not permitting any caste differences in the admission of boys, is very odious in the eyes of some, possessing, what they term 'high caste,' who, though very desirous of acquiring knowledge, cannot bear to do so at the expense of associating with any one who may, perchance, cause them 'defilement;' and so, rather than attend our School, which they would gladly do, were this and other restrictions removed, many prefer attending the Government School in which caste is tolerated. The daily use of the Scriptures in the classes is also another objection to many who would otherwise attend: indeed many of the boys in the School have to encounter much scorn and ridicule for learning what in blindness of heart they think unnecessary 'nonsense:' so, in spite of much that tends to hinder us, it is a matter of thankfulness that we can get so many as we have to attend; nay, more, that we find several among them interested in what they learn of that loving Saviour who laid down His life for them. As instancing the blessed result attending the simple reading the Word of God, we have had two or three cases of interest lately. I have heard of two or three who, after careful searching of the Hindu religious books for some solid foundation to rest their souls upon, and not finding any therein, have turned to the Bible, and, after perusing its contents, have declared themselves satisfied, and have openly professed their belief in those precious truths which belong to their salvation. But very lately I had a visit from two highly respectable Brahmins who stated that they wanted to make some enquiries regarding 'the things of God.' I appointed a time for them and they punctually attended, and I must confess I was greatly surprised to perceive the thorough acquaintance with the Scriptures which they displayed; they had evidently studied them very carefully and had marked the prophecies regarding our Saviour and their fulfilment as well as some of Daniel's prophecies. I asked them what they thought of the one principal character in that Book, namely Jesus, and they at once owned that His was the most lovely character which could ever be seen in any being. This enabled me to ask them more concerning

their state, and how they hoped to be saved and cleansed and made fit for the presence of so holy a God; on which points they seemed to be very uncertain, though with some dim notion that it was through 'believing.' I then spoke on the free salvation offered to us poor sinners through the blood and righteousness of that same Jesus, to which they listened with marked attention and interest and then went away. They appeared to be residents of a place considerably distant from here, so it is all the more interesting as showing the way God is able to work by the influence of His Word alone: and also as indicating that beyond what is apparent to our eyes there is much of the silent work of the Spirit in the hearts of many of the masses who hear the Word. May we then be encouraged to go on steadily sowing the good seed, for we may rest assured as the promise stands that God's Word shall not return to Him void."

A brother labouring in the United States of America, writes on the 11th June, 1866: "Having had a strong desire to preach to the 'freedmen,' and having resolved, if the Lord permitted, to spend some time next fall amongst them, I could not resist the impression that the present opening is of God. A vessel had been wrecked on this Island (Chincoteague); and one of the owners informed me of the ignorant condition of the Islanders who spend their time in the Oyster fishery and wrecking vessels which often are lost here. I came down here in his company, and yesterday, being Lord's day, I called the people together at 10 A.M. to hear the Gospel. The place was filled by half-past eight. I named half-past three in the afternoon for another meeting and they assembled at two o'clock. I had much joy in the testimony of Jesus, while I told them of the works of the flesh and their condemnation; and how to escape it by believing on Jesus. I am informed that about 500 were present. In the afternoon meeting many seemed bowed in spirit and manifested great earnestness of desire to know Jesus. I invited those who were anxious to meet me in a large building in the evening, but there was not room enough for those who came, and they really trod one upon another. I addressed them as unsaved but anxious sinners. After a few words of encouragement to trust in Jesus, the meeting became a place of violent weeping. * * * I found that some resistance was offered to the poor *black* people. Some evil disposed ones who will not abandon the slavery *spirit* made a disturbance outside the house, because I particularly told the *coloured* people to come in and I should try to make room for them where I stood; but the sympathies of the meeting were with me and the opposition ceased; but I hear it whispered that the favour to the Negroes will not be permitted, and that I shall hear of it again. But I will not be partial even to the oppressed; I seek only the Soul's salvation of the Blacks and Whites.—Tuesday the 12th: Had another happy time. The meeting to-night exceeded in interest any of the preceding ones. There was no loud crying, but the whole assembly seemed broken in heart. Black and White alike yielded to the all-prevailing spirit of power. The people did not want to leave and go home. Perhaps there was not one dry eye among the hundreds present. In conversation we found some in joyous peace. Wednesday, 13th. I felt so happy to-day in a general household visitation. But few persons can read. Not one Black and not more than five out of a hundred Whites know the alphabet; but God is now educating their *souls*. Several who met me after the meeting told me, I had 'hurt their feelings.' One man said, 'You hurt a good many bodies' feelings last night.' This is the way they express what Scripture calls being 'pricked in their hearts.' Some, in further explanation, said, they 'never felt they were sinners as they did then.'"

Under date of June 20th, 1866, the same brother writes, from Philadelphia: "On my journey from Horntown, East Virginia, to the Railway for this City, I rode in a waggon driven by a reduced 'Confederate' or 'Rebel' Officer. I was permitted to preach to him Jesus; and, after some hours' conversation, he saw the grace of God in salvation for *him*, through Jesus. He burst into tears, exclaiming 'I see it! I see it!'—thanked God, that I had spoken to him, and declared that, to his latest breath, he should remember that hour. In parting I gave him some copies of Matthew's Gospel and several little books and tracts."

A brother labouring in Nova Scotia, writes on Feb. 1, 1867: "The man of whom mention was made in one of my last letters is still living, but evidently nearing the eternal world; as yet, without a good hope in the Redeemer. There

is also a young man in town, just 20 years old, who is near his end from consumption also, but in his case. I am happy to believe, he has found a resting-place for his soul in Jesus, within the last four months, and is now waiting in passive quiet of soul to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. He possesses a nice spirit; his simple resting by faith on Jesus is quite assuring and comforting to his poor father who is a Christian. We are now experiencing very severe weather. Snow is piled up in heavy drifts from six to nine feet in height, with about three feet on the level. The cold also is very intense, as well within as out of doors. I found on entering the meeting house at P. on last Sunday week, that the heavy pressure of snow on the roof had caused the rafters to give way, and quite a quantity of snow had fallen through on the floor. Moreover, the shifting of the roof by the pressure had displaced the stove-pipe, so that we could not have a fire; nevertheless we had a short service with those who had assembled. Some present had travelled nearly three miles, through deep snow, to be present at the meeting. We hope, D.V., to be able to repair the roof as soon as the weather will permit. Good has been accomplished in that place. Five precious souls have been given me in the Gospel of God's grace since I have been permitted to labour there, now nearly seven years. We have a preaching service there every other Lord's Day afternoon, as well as occasional evening services, when I can attend. It is, however, still a dark region, though morally, it is considered to have undergone a great change by nearly every one who knew it, before I visited it with the Gospel. Oh that many more may yet find the Saviour of the lost, even there, and bring forth the fruit of righteousness to the glory of God the Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ!"

The same brother writes on March 9th, 1867: "I buried a dear young man, since my last to you, who died of consumption; but his end was peace. For nearly five months he had been resting his soul on Jesus, and found Him to be indeed 'The Rock of Ages,' 'The Covert from the Storm,' 'The Refuge in Time of Need.' He said to me occasionally, when I called to see him, 'Oh I long to go,' 'I long to be at home with Jesus.' Finally he fell asleep peacefully and happily about a fortnight since."

A brother labouring in France, writes on April 1st, 1867: "One of the regiments which left Rome last winter has been garrisoned near to us. Some of our Christian Sisters gave them Testaments and Tracts as they passed along the road, and this led to two visits to the garrison by one of our colporteurs, who distributed, with the Colonel's permission, 400 Testaments, more than 100 Gospels and some hundreds of Tracts amongst the men. Each soldier wrote his name in the Testament as he received it. May the Lord bless the seed thus sown!"

Another brother labouring in France writes on 13th March, 1867: "There is some encouragement in the district where I go to the North East of this. I have had meetings composed of 30 or 40 Roman Catholics in a village near C., the result of which is, that a young man is seriously seeking to know the truth. Some Roman Catholics also attend the meetings at La G——; and in another village I have had very serious conversations with an earnest Roman Catholic, who blessed God for having met with me and said, that, while I prayed with him, he felt the power of the Grace of God. The day before yesterday I had a very animated conversation with two Jews, who, alas! like most men of a little education in this country, content themselves with natural religion and reject or neglect revealed truth. May God give to his Children to shew the reality and power of divine things which is so much needed in this infidel land."

As the Christian reader will, doubtless, be interested in some particulars regarding the Work of God in Italy, I give here some extracts from two letters which have come into my hands. The first is dated Nov. 26th, 1866: "Since I last wrote you, I have passed nearly four months in Piedmont and Lombardy. On leaving G. I went to visit the brethren in the Waldensian Valleys, as I had received an invitation to a meeting for Christian fellowship in the Val de P. On the Saturday preceding it I went, accompanied by my wife, to St. G. Very early in the morning Christians from the other valleys began to pass through the village on their way to the place of meeting. We arrived there at 11 o'clock and found the place, where the meeting was held, full. Some of those present

had left their homes at 2 o'clock in the morning to cross the mountains on foot. Many dear brethren spoke with great outpouring of the Spirit, and it was altogether a most refreshing meeting, the memory of which will long dwell in our hearts. It brought forcibly to our recollection the words of the Psalmist, 'Behold how good a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.' In the afternoon we had a second meeting for prayer and praise, and we remembered especially those Missionaries who have lately gone with Mr. Taylor to China. We left St. G. on the following evening and went to T., where we spent a week amongst the believers there who walk together in peace and unity. Their number has increased since my last visit, and there is altogether a very living testimony, for which we cannot sufficiently bless the Lord. In A. our dear and faithful brother, who has suffered for Christ's sake, received a visit from a priest one day lately. He had some texts of Scripture printed and hanging on his wall. The priest read them, and, when he had finished, said 'Good, very good, continue in your faith.' Another priest in A. met a poor widow, a Catholic, who had many children. He asked her where she was going and she replied 'to Don —— (another priest) to get him to say masses for the soul of my husband.' Her husband was a Protestant. The priest replied 'My good woman, your husband's soul is now with the Lord; but if he were in hell, all the masses in the world would not avail: go home and spend your money in buying food for your poor children, *but don't say anything of this to your neighbours.*'

"At —— there is also a very dear company of the Lord's people, brought to know Him amid great persecution. One of the Elders is a retired Marshal, a picture of an old Soldier. He has vineyards, and my wife went to see the vintage. It was a beautiful sight to see the great waggon, full of grapes, drawn by two oxen, leave the vineyard, followed by the gatherers with baskets full of fine bunches on their heads. The old Soldier, as he walked along by the side of the wain, took occasion to talk to the young people of Jesus Christ who said He was the true vine, and pointed out how beautifully it exemplified our Saviour and His people in the process of its culture. He said, among other things, that, as the vine grows best in an arid soil like that of this village, so the life of Christ is developed in the heart of the humble. That there are two plants, (the vine and the olive) that say to man—give nothing to me and I will make you rich: in these plants we may see the Lord who gives us everything without receiving anything from us. That, in pruning the vine, the more useless branches are cut off the more the vine yields: this is very good as regards discipline in the Church, &c. While I was at S., a religious movement had manifested itself at M. C. A place of meeting was found, and I went there on the Saturday in time to preach in the evening. On Sunday morning I preached at nine o'clock, and again at 3 p.m., then walked to A., where I preached the same evening. At the conclusion of the morning service I exhorted all my hearers to persevere and to nourish their souls with the bread of life. I said to a dear old man, 'How many times a day do you feed your body?' 'Twice, Sir,' he answered. 'And how often do you feed your soul?' '*Never*' was the answer, given in a tone which I can never forget. And this is the deplorable spiritual state of nearly all the Italians! A few brethren from M. served lately under Garibaldi. They were under Colonel G., and when Sunday came they were ordered to attend mass with the other Soldiers. They refused to do so, alleging that they were not Roman Catholics. The Colonel then said 'If you show me some document to prove this, I shall exempt you from attending.' They produced their little New Testaments, as the only document they could give concerning their faith; but the Colonel said that was 'not enough, because anybody might be possessed of them, there were so many distributed gratis by the Bible Society, and seemed to think, altogether, that it was a trick of theirs to elude going to mass.' However, they wrote to their Ministers at M. and they sent them their certificates of Church Membership, properly signed by the Elders. The Colonel was satisfied, and the young men had permission to worship God according to their consciences. They withdrew to a neighbouring hill, took off their caps and joined in prayer, sang an hymn, read a chapter, and broke bread in their simple way, returned thanks to God, put on their caps, and joined their companions, having borne a good testimony. The Colonel and Chaplain went to witness their simple service, and stood respectfully, with their

heads uncovered all the time. The Colonel expressed his satisfaction to find that they were so in earnest in their religion. Is it not delightful to hear of these poor youths worshipping God among the Alps far from their meetings, and with no one to guide them but the Holy Spirit !”

The second letter is dated 22nd April, 1867: The writer says, “It is written ‘in the last days perilous times shall come.’ We are living in them and the hour is near when those who have not received the love of the Truth will run after the Man of Sin, who shall come in his own name, while those whose blessed hope is Christ, will be taken to Heaven by Christ Himself. And yet, midst the great confusion of this world, continue the spreading of the Gospel and the weak testimony of the children of God in Italy. Therefore we feel thankful to the Lord, for we can always bear witness of His glorious dealings in grace with many poor sinners, and acknowledge that He is still with us, although we are so unworthy of Him and so full of miseries. His dealings with us are not all joys, but deep trials also; but both joys and trials are grace and blessing for us when they come from the Lord. The Lord has taken to Himself D—— a dear and faithful Elder of the Church in A. In former times he was so much opposed to the Gospel that he tried to get a bill of divorce to desert his wife who was a Christian. But the Lord saved him also in 1858, and he became for us a true epistle of Christ that could be read by any one. After a very long and painful illness, he was obliged, for want of means, to go into the Hospital, where he went through a long series of persecutions, until the Lord called him to Heaven. A Romanist lady of influence, the same who offered 20,000 francs to the Evangelist of A. if he would only leave the town, went several times, with priests and nuns to visit him. Once they had a dialogue, as follows, Lady: ‘I came to visit you, for I know that Christ left the 99 sheep and went after the lost one: You are this lost sheep.’ D. ‘Yes, I *was* the lost one; but I was found by Jesus and He brought me home.’ Lady. ‘No, you are mistaken, it is the Church which can save.’ D. ‘No, dear Lady, it is Christ who came into this world to save sinners.’ Another day she called and offered him money to relieve him from his distress, but with the condition that he should confess to a Priest. D. answered very quietly. ‘As for the money, it is written, ‘Thy money perish,’ and, as for the confession, I can assure you that I confess always my sins to Jesus, and it is written, ‘If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.’ The friar, who offered himself *every day* to D. to receive his confession, was always rebuked with texts from the Scriptures, and once, full of anger, said to his wife, ‘You speak always of the Bible; I do not believe in the Bible! I do not believe it is the Word of God! I believe only in the Church! I c . . . thee, for on account of thee thy husband will go to Hell, and the Bible will not save him.’ She replied ‘Certainly, the Bible will not save him, but Jesus Christ who is spoken of in the Bible.’ One day, poor D. was suffering very much; an elder of the Church tried to console him; D. said ‘What are these, my sufferings! they are nothing compared with the sufferings of Christ for me. I am a poor sinner and must suffer, but he was without sin and suffered much more than I;’ and he wept, remembering the love of the Lord on the Cross. The brethren went every day to visit him, and when they approached he spoke to them, exhorting them to continue to be faithful and to walk in simplicity without making any noise in the World. ‘We are known by *Him* and that is enough.’ Many times he paused and remained silent. Once he was asked why he so often continued silent, ‘Because I pray’ was his reply. He departed at midnight, and neither his poor wife nor the brethren were allowed to be near him.—The Churches of A. and S. are going on quietly. The Church of T., which I have visited lately, goes on very well and happily. They had some trouble on account of a ‘Spiritualist’ leader who wished to preach his doctrines in the meetings, but he was not allowed to do so, and now he preaches in another locality. There also two brethren have departed to be with the Lord. Dear —— has gone to M. where a large door is opened by the Lord. I shall translate some portion of his letters to let you know the origin and progress of the Christian movement there.—M., 15th March, ‘I opened the preaching place on the first day of Lent. In the morning we had 12 persons; in the evening nearly 40. Next day we numbered 100 persons, when a Priest came from the Archbishop to dispute with me, but the Lord shut his mouth

with the Word of Truth. Next evening we were more than 400 persons. The room was filled, and some were on the stairs and in the street.' 21st March.—'The landlord of the place is a Jesuit and wishes to send me away. Meanwhile the meetings continue crowded. An hour before the meeting, hundreds of persons are before the door, waiting until it is opened. They are all full of anxiety to know the truth, and they are very attentive. The priests have begun, in all the Churches, a series of sermons against us. Pray God the Father that He may strengthen me and give me more gift and knowledge of the Truth that I may glorify Him through our blessed Lord.' 5th April.—'We had another discussion with a Priest upon Matt. xvi. 18., and the Lord gave to me a great victory. The Priest went away very quietly, saying that he 'came to the meeting to be taught.' 10th April.—'Every class of citizens come to hear the good tidings of the grace of God, gentlemen, ladies, Jews, officers of the garrison, sheriffs, clerks, artizans, &c. We want very much another Evangelist.'

"We have also good news from the assemblies at F., R., T. S. S. B., and S. M."

"Pray for us and remember the Work of God in Italy, when you approach the Throne of Grace. Have it in your hearts, dear brethren, for it is the *Lord's* work. Forgive our imperfections, errors and mistakes, and love us *just as we are*, if the Lord Himself loves us. How good, how merciful, how gracious, He is always with each of us!"

A brother labouring among Spanish Sailors and others in Liverpool, writes on Nov. 5th 1866: "I received this morning £5. for which receive my best thanks. My wife and I were saying yesterday, that we were coming to a time of need; but as there was yet meal in the barrel and oil in the cuse, we would be thankful for what remained, and seek God for more when that was gone; but the Lord has answered before we called, and by your timely supply has made our cup to run over and our hearts to rejoice in Him who always has and who always will supply all our need because we trust *Him*. We are happy in our work here and we have many doors opened to us for the ministry of the Gospel, as well as for the helping onwards Saints. Among Spaniards I still find many opportunities of speaking of salvation through the blood of Christ, in visiting the ships and at the Bethel. In the former a colporteur accompanies me, and he sells the Bibles and Testaments while I speak to them. We have a good supply of single Gospels, which we give. A few days since I spoke to the Mate of a ship about his soul. 'Oh! I am a fatalist' said he, and he cast the responsibility of his salvation or damnation upon the Lord, said he wanted 'no books' (referring to the Scriptures). I then put the responsibility upon himself by quoting Mark xvi. 15, 16, and warned him of his condition. He appeared to be unconcerned and reluctantly received a Gospel. About half-an-hour after I was passing near the ship again and saw him pacing the deck and reading the Gospel with apparent avidity. At the mid-day meal hour I often get a congregation who listen to me. Sometimes one will oppose and they will raise a controversy among themselves, which gives the opportunity of answering error by Scripture. Many will listen when I speak to them alone, and I find that my speaking to them in their own tongue begets attention. I have opportunities, on the week evenings, of speaking to many poor souls, and the word has been blessed. My wife finds many ways of bringing the Gospel to sinners. She has a mothers' meeting; one was brought to Jesus by this means, and baptized last week. There are others who are in concern about their souls."

The same brother writes again on Nov. 9, 1866: "I have this morning received the parcel containing the portions of Scripture, for which we are very thankful. We find that portions in large type meet the cases of many who live in dark cellars, and to whom we can freely give a portion where we may not be able to give a Testament. We use these portions, &c. in connexion with the Medical Mission. I think I before mentioned, that, in the most wretched locality in Liverpool, the inhabitants of which are, for the most part, Irish, there is a house opened for the purpose of giving to the sick advice and medicine free. The door into the waiting room is opened at 12.30 and closed at one o'clock P.M. During this time the patients are gathered. Dr. O—, the resident physician, who has given himself to this work for Christ's sake, then comes into the room and preaches the Gospel to them. He then retires, and they come to his private room

by turn. Meanwhile some godly woman remains among the patients reading the Scriptures or speaking to them individually. On Thursdays we give ourselves to this work. I speak the Gospel and my wife remains among them while I visit in the neighbourhood. We were there yesterday, and, notwithstanding the heavy rain, there were nearly one hundred persons assembled. Such a pitiable sight, all in rags and wretchedness! God has blessed this work in the salvation of several souls. I have attended the dying beds of some who first heard the Word at the Mission House, and have no doubt that some of them died in the Lord, and amongst them some who were Roman Catholics. I would mention that we were just come to the last of our Gospel portions and were thinking about getting more when your timely supply came to hand. The Lord be praised."

A brother labouring in the county of Chester, writes on Aug. 24, 1866: "The Lord is blessing me still in His service. Six precious souls have been led to a saving knowledge of Himself, through my instrumentality, since last I wrote to you. I cannot preach in the Park now, as the Commissioners will not allow any preaching; but I go out every Lord's day afternoon and distribute about 300 or 400 Gospel tracts, and speak to those to whom I give them from the title of the tract given. I thank the Lord that my labours in this way have been much blessed. I have an opportunity of speaking more pointedly to them than I could in public preaching."

A brother labouring in Devonshire writes on June 1st, 1866: "I beg to acknowledge the receipt of 4,500 tracts, which, according to your kind direction, were forwarded to me per rail, and for which I would render most sincere thanks. As an encouragement to those who distribute your tracts, and to show how the Lord uses them, I would mention the following fact. Some time ago I felt much impressed to visit these houses which are scattered about the Moors and where hardly ever any tracts find their way. After leaving a large village which immediately bordered the Moors, the Lord directed my footsteps into a bye-road, which I pursued for about three miles; and, seeing a few scattered houses at a distance to the right, I made for them, and, after climbing a number of low stone walls and crossing several half dry ditches, I reached a cottage, when a gentle knock at the door brought an old man to me, with tottering walk, heavily leaning upon a stick. I tendered him a tract or two and began to preach Christ to him at once, continuing, with much liberty and power for about 15 minutes. During this time he was evidently drinking in every word, looking at me with apparent wonder and surprise, and, at last, uplifting his clasped hands, he said, with deep emotion, 'The Lord has sent you here, and I see it now, I'm a saved man,' after which he broke out in exclamations of praise to Him who freely pardons the ungodly. After this he told me, that for a term of six weeks he had been prostrated upon a sick bed and nigh unto death, had been convinced of sin, while the knowledge of the just reward of the wicked drove him to call mightily upon the name of the Lord. He recovered slowly, and when only just able to answer the door, the Lord sent me to set his agonizing soul at liberty. He believed according to the Scriptures and was at once ushered into the glorious liberty of the Sons of God."

The same brother writes on Oct. 12, 1866: "Mrs. —, the wife of one of the believers, was prostrated by cholera and inflammation, and, while in this state, the Lord used me in her conversion; she is now rejoicing in a sin-pardoning God. Another female, Mrs. —, who for some time past attended at our meetings and was deeply convinced of sin in the sight of God, I visited when ill, and the Lord blessed my endeavours to the saving of her soul. Three days after, she said to me: 'Oh Mr. —, what a comfort it is to *know*, that *all* my sins are forgiven.' A labouring man, who had been deeply concerned about his soul's salvation, through the hearing of the Gospel at our Meeting House, one morning early went out to work, was speedily afterwards attacked by cholera, brought home and put to bed, when he desired to see me. That day I saw him five times, and once every succeeding day, placing Christ Jesus before him, as the Saviour of the lost. After several days illness, coming again to see him, he caught eagerly hold of my hand, thanking me for my visits to him, declaring, that he 'knew Jesus died for him.' Two young men are professing to have experienced the new birth through hearing the Gospel proclaimed by me at our meetings, one a miner 19 years of

age, and a ship's carpenter 20 years of age; both of them are exceedingly zealous in inviting careless sinners to come to our room. May the God of all grace use me to the pulling down of strong-holds, for Jesus' sake. Evidently the Lord is blessing me here as an instrument in His hand, to the building up of saints and the salvation of souls. Once, at my first coming here, we had but very scanty congregations, and all old people, but now the young, from 16 to 20 years of age form almost the greater part of our congregations, and seem greatly interested, eagerly devouring the word spoken."

Again he writes on Nov. 26, 1866: "Since my last letter to you, dear Sir, the Lord has again used me in some conversions. On Oct. 14, a servant girl, E., for the first time came to our room to hear the Gospel proclaimed. Under the sound of it she appeared to be totally broken up on account of sin, weeping bitterly, and shortly after declared that she had found peace through believing. On Oct. 28, a Mrs. —, mother of the young convert —, while speaking of the Rock smitten, which issued forth its waters on behalf of the dying, all at once was able to speak to that precious Rock, and found there and then joy and peace through believing. This is a most remarkable case. Her own son had induced her to come of late to hear the Gospel proclaimed by me, which had to him been made the power of God unto salvation; and now, after having for the last 20 years heard the Gospel not more than twice, by her own son is awakened to a sense of her danger, goes a few times to our room, and now is the saved of the Lord. On Oct. 30, a half-witted lad, an awful character, a drunkard and swearer of extraordinary description, for some time past had been attending all our Meetings, and had become such a changed character, that everybody is talking about him. When coming to our cottage Meeting, for the proclamation of the Gospel; some one asked him 'Well, do you delight in all kinds of wickedness now?' When he answered 'I used to do, but I don't now.' 'How is that?'. 'Because I feel the power of Christ in my soul.' Upon asking him myself, when and where he received that power, he answered: 'I cannot say exactly what day it was on but I received it one night at the room, while you were speaking.' He says, Christ is very precious to him, and he loves to sing: 'There is a fountain filled with blood,' with the chorus 'Hallelujah to the Lamb that died on Mount Calvary, etc.' Truly his walk is that of a consistent Christian. Is not this a brand plucked from the burning?"

Still again this brother writes on Feb. 11, 1867: "Since I wrote to you, dear Sir, last, the Lord has used me as the instrument in the conversion of three persons: H. R., F. a servant, and Mrs. H. Since Jan. 6, 1866, the time when I came here, up to Jan. 6, 1867, 19 persons professed to be converted through my instrumentality, and one person since then. Twenty-one believers were added to us in fellowship up to that time and four since, and four were baptized."

And once more the same brother writes on April 6, 1867: "Since you heard of me last, the Lord has used me in five conversions; W. A. on Feb 24. S. on March 18, an old man of nearly 70 years of age, converted on March 24. He told me: 'The form of godliness I had, but never knew the power.' Also on the same day W. L. was found of the Lord, to his great joy. On March 31, Mrs. — confessed to have found eternal life on Thursday previous."

A brother, labouring in Cornwall, writes on Feb. 16, 1867:—"For the glory of Christ, I desire to mention the following case: about two miles herefrom there lives an old man, 71 years of age. For many years he considered himself a religious man. Often when I endeavoured to speak to him of Christ, he would, if he possibly could, get out of my way. About twelve weeks ago he was seized with inflammation in the bowels. As soon as I heard of it I made my way to his residence, but could not gain access to him; when I left I said, if at any time he would consent to see me, whether by night or by day, if they would only let me know, I would be in attendance: this was on the Friday. I cried to God on his behalf and asked Him to open a way for me to visit Him. On Sunday morning a Christian brother who lives near him came here to say, that the old man was worse and greatly desired to see me. Of course I was soon at his side: I spent all the forenoon with him, endeavouring to point out God's way of salvation to him and in pleading for his conversion: the Lord helped me mightily; and on that morning he appeared to chase away from this aged sinner's soul all the ignorance and religiousness of a lifetime, and to give him peace through the blood of Christ. After dwelling much

on the 53rd of Isaiah I repeated several times the 7th verse, and then asked him, 'Do you believe your sins were laid on Jesus on the Cross, and that He bore them all away?' He exclaimed, 'Yes, surely! surely!' and appeared to realize Rom. v. 1, 2. I then left him. In the evening, after preaching here, I called again and found him peaceful. Next day I called again, and he told me that on the night previous he had the best night he had had for many a day. I have continued to visit him from that time till now; and as far as I can discern, there is every reason to believe that he is a child of God, resting entirely on the finished work of Christ; moreover, his daughter-in-law informs me that he is quite an altered man. When on former occasions he was afflicted, he was full of murmuring, fearing he should not be able to get work when he recovered, &c.; but now there is nothing of the kind; on the contrary, he is quite peaceful and contented. I was seeing him again yesterday, he appears to be getting better. Upon leaving him, he thanked me with tears in his eyes for my kindness in visiting him so frequently; he had often done this before. 'Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?'

A brother labouring among English, German, Norwegian, Danish and Swedish sailors, writes on Nov. 26, 1866:—"Again I have been permitted to conclude another year in the service of our blessed Jesus. The dear Lord opened my lips last year to preach the Gospel of Jesus to thousands of Germans, Norwegians, Danish and Swedish seamen: some were awakened to flee from the wrath to come and put their trust in Jesus. Dear Mr. Müller, I may, perhaps, give you an account of my labours in Jesus. On last Lord's-day morning got on board of a large Bremen ship, went into the round-house, found the place filled with the ship's company—all Germans. Gave them tracts, asked them to let me read to them a portion from the Scriptures; some appeared to be surprised, but all sat around me, listening most attentively to the Gospel preached to them: some wept. Afterwards, got on board of two Prussian ships, each time invited poor sinners to Jesus. After 12 o'clock went down to the chapel, and put up to the mast the Prussian flag, which floated above the chapel. At half-past two o'clock, the seamen from the ships, where I had preached this morning, and many other sailors from other ships and lodging-houses in town came. It was a large and blessed meeting, great attention was paid to the Word, and I felt much power in speaking to my hearers of the *lovely* name of Jesus. After this, I held an English meeting at 6 o'clock, the place was filled and there was great attention. After this meeting was concluded, now nearly 8 o'clock, I felt rather tired, but hastened down to the South Docks, and in the dark crept on board of a large Prussian ship, got into a large round-house filled with Prussian seamen, sitting round a large seaman's chest, playing cards, the faces of all blackened with charcoal, which gave them a fierce appearance. I opened my German Bible and read to them from its blessed pages the story of God's love to sinners in giving His dear son to die. The cards were taken away, and these men with the blackened faces sat round me weeping, hanging down their heads. I had now spoken that day six times. A few days after, on coming on board this same ship, I found that Jesus had blessed the word spoken to some young sailors on board whom I could point to Jesus. Oh! dear beloved brother Müller, these are blessed opportunities. Will you be so kind as to send me some German tracts."

A brother, chiefly labouring in Gloucestershire as an Evangelist, writes on Aug. 17th, 1866:—"I believe, this year already, the Lord has let me know of more than thirty precious souls brought to Christ; and concerning others I have hope. In many places I have preached this year in the open air."

The same brother writes in the early part of this year, 1867:—"On looking through a little diary which I keep of the Lord's dealings with me, and a record of His work by me, I find He used me (as I trust) in the conversion of about fifty precious souls last year in the various places I visited; praise Him, dear brother, with me for this."

A brother, labouring on the Black Down Hills in Somersetshire, writes on Oct. 26, 1866:—"One is humbled in the dust to see souls brought to the Lord, and kept by His power through faith, walking in newness of life. Twenty-five have confessed to salvation in baptism, since the summer began, and an equal number give evidence that a good work of grace is begun in their souls; also at a distant place, where I have gone and preached Jesus, very many have been blessed."

The same brother writes on Feb. 11, 1867 :—" I am rejoiced to say, the Lord is giving us much blessing, though we are in the midst of trial. Many souls are being brought to the Lord; indeed we never had a time of greater blessing on these hills than the present. Prayer meetings every night, and preaching the Gospel by the converts, have resulted in many being brought to the Lord; but this has stirred up the wrath of the enemy. At a meeting of some of the persecutors, a few days since, they came to the determination to crush this work; or, as they said, the whole parish would be turned to this faith. Already above one-third of the inhabitants are converted. But, thanks be to God, greater is He that is in us than all that can be against us; and we have to praise His name, that the trials are all from *without*, none from *within*—that is to say, we have no sorrow on account of evil walking, which is a cause of great joy; for one trial from within is worse than two from without. You will be glad to hear that the young Evangelist, who cares for the day-school, about whom I wrote some time since, is cheered in his work. A large number of children are on the school books, of whom the greater part are free; also the meetings are well attended and some blessing has resulted from his labours."

Again this brother writes on April 6, 1867 :—" I desire to thank you very sincerely for the £ 5. now sent, and pray that our gracious God and Father may abundantly bless you in all the work which He has called you to serve Him in; but, above all, that your own soul may be richly fed with Jesus, the inexhaustible treasury of His Grace by the Holy Spirit. This is the most refreshing service to our God, that we may know more of Jesus who is the joy of His heart; this alone can make any service effectual to the blessing of others. You have, doubtless, heard of the trial we have been receiving in the way of opposition to the Gospel; but, through His grace, who has called us to His kingdom and glory, we have been sustained in the trial for His name's sake, and we can all say, by His grace, that therein we do rejoice, though to the flesh it is hard. No complaint in the way of murmuring escapes any of the believers; on the contrary, much good has resulted to them, and much blessing to unsaved ones also, who have, by means of it, been brought under the sound of the Gospel, and saved through faith in Jesus. Nor has one of the believers wavered by all the threats of loss of work, houses, &c., which, in some cases, have been carried into effect. Some have to choose between ejection and giving up the meetings; but, through grace, I trust, they will be steadfast. Some go forth from the meetings here to preach the Gospel to others, and the Lord has been pleased to own their service to His name in several conversions."

Once more this brother writes on May 27, 1867 :—" It is with no little joy and thankfulness that I write to thank you for the help sent us by you in the £10. just received. For many days past we had been asking our gracious Father to send us help; for some days since the last shilling had been given to supply a little bread for a very needy family of the Lord's poor, who have had many times this past winter to cry to the living God for help: this is a family of the persecuted ones, who have had to bear no little share of trial. This has been a year of very remarkable blessings with us, as also of deep trial of faith. Very many precious souls have been converted to God, and there has been much real growth in grace among the believers. There has been very much persecution from the world, and, added to this, a very long and severe winter; yet out of all our trials the Lord delivers us. Since January of this year we have been keeping an account of prayers for certain things asked of God, and also putting down the answers as they are received; and I have before me a long list of *scores* of answers to prayer. A large number of persons mentioned by name, in prayer, have been converted; the need of hundreds of poor and all the need of the work on these hills has been met in answer to prayer. We are, through the Lord's mercy, constantly receiving blessing, there is scarcely a meeting without some being blessed, and many of the first converts go out to various places to preach the Gospel, the Lord's blessing following them. On Good Friday last, seventeen fresh converts were baptized, and since then many others have been blessed. The young brother who labours in the large school, whom I wrote to you about some time last year, has his hands full of work; he has the preaching room full of children; he is also very diligent in visiting among the people, and preaching the Gospel in various places around and with some success."

The following extract from a letter, dated Feb. 12, 1867, is given to show not only how timely the supplies have come, which I have been enabled to send to these labourers in the Gospel, but, also, how greatly they needed such help. "My dear Brother, Yours of the 11th, enclosing £5., as help in the Lord's work, duly reached me to day; for which I desire much to praise the Lord. I beg you to accept my very sincere thanks. As has frequently proved the case before, this help reached us in a great emergency and much and long pecuniary trial, and in answer to many prayers. For some time previously, I think since Christmas, it has pleased the Lord to allow our faith and patience to be very much tried. We have repeatedly been reduced very low indeed, so as to be entirely without food, except bread, and lacking means to obtain more: and once we had to stop fires on account of the reduced state of our finances; but the Lord, in tender mercy, has continually come forth for our help: so that we have not wanted either food or fire; for in one way or another has He helped us. But our trial of faith has been very sharp, and I am thankful for the grace that has sustained us in it. I trust these words may not be regarded as the language of complaint; for, by His grace, they are not so meant. He has done all well, and I would justify God; but it appears right to inform you of as much as this of His dealings with us, that it may be seen how real is the service He enables you to render. I trust His blessing may continue to rest on you, and that His gracious recompense may be given you both now and hereafter."

The last extract is from a letter written by a brother who labours in Ireland.

The letter is dated Nov. 30, 1866. "I am also thankful to write that my labours have been followed by manifest blessing: five young persons and one aged woman have been brought to the Saviour and are now united with his people: three of these live at a place where I preach once a fortnight. For their salvation I had long prayed and laboured. One young man only made known his decision for Christ a few days before he sailed for a distant land, and desired the last Lord's day to break bread with us, saying he had given his heart to Jesus, and loved that Saviour who had first loved him."

As I received many hundreds of letters from the 125 labourers in the Gospel, whom I was enabled to assist during the past year, I might give many more extracts; but, as it seems, for many reasons, desirable to limit the Report to a moderate size, I stop here. I trust, however, that the Christian reader has seen enough, to perceive the importance of helping such brethren by our prayers and by our means. In reference to the latter I may say, that, at least, in one hundred instances the supplies came to hand, when those, to whom they were sent, were in great need; and had I had three or four times the amount which I was enabled to send, I should have had good openings for expending the whole of that sum on Missionary objects. I thought it right to state this as a guide to those whom the Lord has intrusted with means, and who count it an honour and a privilege to use them for the Lord, in the spread of the Gospel.

With regard to these 125 labourers in the Gospel, in various parts of the world, whom I sought to assist during the past year, I repeat, that they are not the Missionaries of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, nor do I bind myself to give them a stated salary; for this would lead them out of the position of simple dependence upon God for their temporal supplies; but when I hear of any man of God labouring for the Lord in the Word, whether in a more public or private way, whether at Home, or Abroad, who is not connected with any society, nor in the way of receiving a regular salary, and who seems to me to stand in need

of help, and is working in such a spirit, as that, with a good conscience, acting in the fear of God, I could help him with the means with which Christian donors intrust me ; I am glad to assist such an one. Moreover, as the number of these brethren, who have been brought to my knowledge by the Lord's ordering, has more and more increased, and a large sum has been required to help them even in a small degree, I have laboured in prayer, that the Lord would be pleased to intrust me with means for this purpose ; and, accordingly, He has given me larger and larger sums.

The total amount of the funds of the Institution, which has been spent on Missionary operations since March 5, 1834, is £70,741. 8s. 4½d.

4. The fourth object of the Institution is, the circulation of such publications as may be calculated, with the blessing of God, to benefit both believers and unbelievers. As it respects *tracts for unbelievers*, I seek especially to aim after the diffusion of such, as contain the truths of the Gospel clearly and simply expressed ; and as it respects *publications for believers*, I would aim after the circulation of such as may be instrumental in directing their minds to those truths, which, in these last days, are more especially needed, or which have been particularly lost sight of, and may lead believers to return to the written word of God.

There has been laid out for this object, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867, the sum of £731. 1s. 11d. ; and there have been circulated within the last year more than Eighteen Hundred Thousand (exactly 1,824,604) Tracts and Books. The sum total which has been expended on this object, since November 19, 1840, amounts to £15,882. 9s. 6½d.

The total number of all the Tracts and Books which have been circulated since Nov. 19, 1840, is nearly Twenty Nine Millions (exactly 28,768,117).

More than One Million and Four Hundred Thousand (exactly 1,403,432) of the tracts and books circulated during the past year, were given away *gratuitously*. Hundreds of believers have been engaged in spreading them abroad, not merely in many parts of England, Scotland and Ireland, but in various other parts of the world. I give now, as an encouragement for this service, the following extracts from letters, received from individuals to whom these tracts were sent.

A brother in the Lord, whom I have often supplied with Tracts for gratuitous circulation, writes on July 2, 1866 :—" The Tracts which I last received have been *carefully* distributed, and I have reason to believe, by communications made to me, that much blessing has resulted through these silent messengers. A poor woman told me, three weeks ago, that she found peace through reading one of the Tracts which I left at her cottage."

Another, residing in Wiltshire, writes on Aug. 14, 1866 :—" I was rejoiced to find, that a Tract entitled ' I do depend upon the Blood ' was blessed to the salvation of a poor profligate woman. She was one who had drunk deeply of the cup of this world's pleasure, but at last, in the decline of her life, her only theme was, ' The blood of the Lamb. ' "

The next extract is from a letter received from London, dated Feb. 22, 1867 :—" You kindly sent us during the past year 18,000 Tracts. I have much pleasure

in informing you, that two distinct cases of conversion have come under our notice by their distribution. One of the Tracts was lying on a table at a Factory, and, while the men were having their breakfast, one of them read it and was deeply convinced of sin. Before the day closed, he found peace through believing in Jesus by no other means than the application of the words of the Tract by the Spirit to his soul. He is now earnestly engaged with us in scattering far and near these heralds of mercy, praying that the Lord would again choose the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty. The other case is that of a young woman who was very worldly; she was aroused to a sense of sin by reading a Tract, and is now trusting in the Lord. She has since been the means of bringing her sister to a knowledge of the truth: they are both about to be baptized. We know another case, which was by means of a Dublin Tract. We have distributed about 60,000 during the past year; they have been distributed during open air services, at lodging houses where services are conducted, in the hospital, in every house in the neighbourhood, and by the way side. The Lord has, in mercy, set His seal to each of these efforts, and though He has not yet given us our hearts' desire, still we go out, trusting to Him, who hath said, 'They who go forth weeping bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing their sheaves with them.' We are in need of Tracts, and if the Lord should incline you to send us more, they will be gratefully received and prayerfully distributed."

The following is an extract from a letter, dated Aug. 1, 1866, written by a believer in Wales, whom I have often supplied with parcels of Tracts for gratuitous circulation.—“We are still distributing many Tracts round the hills, and, praise the Lord! we have reason to believe much good is being done by them. I neatly folded, and prayed for the divine blessing on a number, that my dear sister N. took to the Pontypool fair, last month. She gave one to a poor man, he unfolded it, and having read the title, 'Behold He cometh,' he said, with tears in his eyes, 'I hope I shall be ready to meet Him.' Brother N. has been very much blessed in giving Tracts at a village about two miles from where we live, where backsliders have been reclaimed, believers strengthened, and a prayer meeting begun: to God be all the praise and glory. And, dear brother, I must tell you about a poor man who had a stroke about a year ago. Sister N. called to see him, and left him a Tract. The next time she called, he said, that Tract had showed him the way of salvation, and he repeated nearly all the Tract to her, and said he now saw that Jesus had paid his debt, and that he that believeth hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life. He got a little better, and managed to reach our house a few months ago; he was quite clear on these truths, and trusting in what Christ had done for him: but he said he wanted to feel fit for heaven, he did not always feel happy. We had a nice time in prayer together, and we gave him a Tract we thought the Lord would bless to him. I was glad to see him again this week, he said he had seen from the Tract he had last, that Christ was his righteousness in which he was to appear before God, and that what he had to do, was, to trust in Christ, to look to Him and not trouble about his feelings: he said, 'Payment, God will not twice demand, first at my bleeding Surety's hand and then again at mine.' He said, when I am persecuted, these words keep me up: 'Love your enemies, and pray for them that despitefully use you,' and I tell it all to the Lord in my simple way. Praise the Lord for this victory gained! My dear brother, we should be very glad of another grant of Tracts, if you could please to send us some. Many thanks for past favours."

Tract distributors, *who can afford to pay for publications*, and who desire to procure them from us, may obtain *Tracts* for this purpose with a discount of one half, or 50 per cent. from the retail price, and *Books* with a discount of 25 per cent. or one fourth from the retail price. I state this, as many believers may not like to give away what does not cost them anything, and yet, may, at the same time, wish to obtain as much as possible, for their money. Applications for this would need to be made verbally or

in writing to Mr. James L. Stanley, at the Bible and Tract Warehouse, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol. To him, also, application may be made for specimen packets, containing an assortment of the Tracts and small books which are kept. By sending 3s., 5s., 7s., or 10s. in postages to Mr. Stanley, packets will be sent to any part of England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Jersey, Guernsey, &c., containing specimens to the amount of the postages which are sent.

A Catalogue of the various Books and Tracts sold at the above Warehouse of the Institution, with their prices, may be had there, by applying either personally or by letter to Mr. Stanley. There are now kept on sale 768 different books, large and small; and 740 different Tracts, which number is continually added to. During the last year many new books and tracts were introduced.

5. The fifth object of the Institution is, to board, clothe, and Scripturally educate *destitute* children who have lost both parents by death.

At the commencement of the last period there were 1149 Orphans in the New Orphan Houses No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3. During the past year 154 Orphans were admitted into the three houses; so that the total number on May 26, 1867, would have been 1303, had there been no changes; but of these 1303, eleven died during the past year. Eight of these eleven fell asleep in Jesus as believers, one was an infant, and the two others gave us no satisfaction as to their spiritual state. Three out of the 1303 were expelled during the past year, on account of violence of temper, insubordination, and habitual bad behaviour. They were all three girls, able to earn their bread as servants. Fifteen Orphans were during the past year removed by relatives, who, by that time, were both able and willing to provide for them in future; out of these fifteen, six left us as believers in the Lord Jesus. Nine boys were apprenticed, of whom eight left our care as believers. One hundred and fifteen girls were sent out fit for service, of whom sixty were believers. These one hundred and fifty-three are therefore to be deducted from the 1303, so that on May 26, 1867, we had 1150 Orphans under our care, viz., in the New Orphan House No. 1, 300; in No. 2, 400; and in No. 3, 450. The total number of Orphans, who have been under our care since April 11, 1836, is 2263

I notice further the following points respecting the Orphan work :

1. From what I have just stated as to those who died as believers, or who were apprenticed or sent out to service as believers; and from the letters received from Orphans, which have been given in this Report; the reader must have seen already how greatly the Lord is pleased to bless the Orphan work spiritually. To this, however, is be added, that there are now a considerable number of converted Orphans under our care, and that hundreds left us in former years as believers, or fell asleep as true Christians whilst in the Orphan Houses. For all this we thank the Lord, and in it we gratefully own His

hand; but we expect far greater spiritual blessing still, as it regards the Orphans.

2. The greatest of all the spiritual blessings, however, resulting from this work I judge to be this, that the Reports which have been issued in connexion therewith, have not only been instrumental in the conversion of many sinners, by leading them to see the reality of the things of God, but have, also, in the cases of many thousands of Christian persons, as their letters have testified to me, during the past 30 years, been a great spiritual help to them, in comforting them, leading them more fully to cast their burdens upon the Lord, increasing their faith, showing to them practically and experimentally that the Living God is still the Living God, and in other respects benefiting their souls. This point was the great and chief end of the establishment of the Orphan Work, that thus God might be glorified. This end has been answered beyond the largest expectations which I had in the year 1835. But now, my faith having been greatly increased, by the grace of God, since then, which I thankfully own to His praise, my expectations are far greater in this respect than they were in the year 1835, and I expect far greater blessing, therefore, in this particular for the time to come, although I am in myself unworthy of being thus used by the Lord, even in the very least degree.

3. The girls, who are received into the Establishment, are kept till they are able to go to service. Our aim is to keep them till they shall have been sufficiently qualified for a situation, and, especially also, till their constitution is sufficiently established, as far as we are able to judge. We uniformly prefer fitting the girls for service, instead of apprenticing them to a business, as being, generally, far better for their bodies and souls. Only in a few instances have female Orphans been apprenticed to businesses, when their health would not allow them to go to service. If the girls give us satisfaction, while under our care, so that we can recommend them to a situation, they are fitted out at the expense of the Establishment. The girls, generally, remain under our care till they are about 18 years old. They very rarely leave sooner; and, as we receive children from their earliest days, we have often had girls 13, 14, yea above 17 years under our care. They are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, geography, English History, a little of universal history, all kinds of useful needlework, and household-work. They make their clothes and keep them in repair; and, in a word, we aim after this, that if any of them do not do well temporally or spiritually, and do not turn out useful members of society, it shall at least not be *our* fault.—The boys are, generally, apprenticed when they are between 14 and 15 years old. But *in each case* we consider the welfare of the *individual* Orphan, without having any fixed rule respecting these matters. The boys have a free choice of the trade they like to learn; but, having once chosen, and being apprenticed, we do not allow them to alter. The boys, as well as the girls, have an outfit provided for them; and any other expenses,

that may be connected with their apprenticeship, are also met by the funds of the Orphan Establishment. It may be interesting to the reader to know the kind of trades to which we generally apprentice the boys, and I therefore say, that during the *last* eighteen years, all the boys who were apprenticed were bound to carpenters, or carpenters and joiners, basket makers, shoe makers, tailors and drapers, plumbers, painters and glaziers, linendrapers, printers, bakers, grocers, hair-dressers, ironmongers, tin-plate workers, confectioners, hosiers, builders, millers, gasfitters, smiths, outfitters, provision dealers, sail makers, upholsterers, wholesale grocers, chemists, seed merchants, umbrella makers, or electro plate manufacturers. The boys have the same kind of mental cultivation as the girls, and they learn to knit and mend their stockings. They also make their beds, clean their shoes, scrub their rooms, and work a little in the garden-ground round the Orphan Establishment, in the way of digging, planting, weeding, &c.

4. Without any sectarian distinction whatever, and without favour or partiality, the Orphans are received *in the order in which application is made for them*. There is no interest whatever required to get a child admitted, nor is it expected that any money should be paid with the Orphans. Three things only are requisite: *a*, that the children should have been lawfully begotten; *b*, that they should be bereaved of BOTH parents by death; and, *c*, that they should be in needy circumstances. Respecting these three points, strict investigation is made, and it is expected that each of them be proved by proper documents; but, that being done, children may be admitted from any place, provided that there is nothing peculiar in the case that would make them unsuitable inmates for such establishments as the New Orphan Houses. I state here again, that no sectarian views prompt me, or even in the least influence me in the reception of children. I do not belong to any sect, and I am not, therefore, influenced, in the admission of Orphans, by sectarianism; but from wheresoever they come, and to whatsoever religious denomination the parents may have belonged; or with whatever religious body the persons making application may be connected; it makes no difference in the admission of the children. The New Orphan Houses on Ashley Down, Bristol, are not *my* Orphan Houses; nor the Orphan Houses of any party or sect; but they are God's Orphan Houses, and the Orphan Houses for any and every destitute Orphan who has lost *both* parents, provided, of course, there be room in them. I particularly request that persons would kindly refrain from applying for children who only virtually are Orphans, but who have not lost BOTH parents by DEATH, as I shall be obliged to refuse them admission, without exception; since this Orphan-work has been from the beginning only for destitute children who have *neither father nor mother*.

5. The New Orphan House No. 1 is fitted up for the accommodation of 140 Orphan Girls above eight years of age, 80 Orphan Boys above eight years, and 80 male and female Orphans from

their earliest days, till they are about eight years of age. The infants, after having passed the age of eight years, are removed into the different departments for older boys and girls. The New Orphan House No. 2 is fitted up for 200 Infant female Orphans, and for 200 elder female Orphans. The New Orphan House No. 3 is fitted up for 450 elder female Orphans.

6. The New Orphan House No. 1 is open to visitors every Wednesday afternoon, the New Orphan House No. 2 every Tuesday afternoon, and the New Orphan House No. 3 every Thursday afternoon; but the arrangements of the establishments make it needful, that they should be shown at those times only. No exceptions can be made.—The first party of visitors will be shown through the Houses at half-past two o'clock, God permitting; the second at three o'clock; and, should there be need for it, the third and last party at half-past three o'clock.—As it takes at least one hour and a half to see the whole of each establishment, it is requested that the visitors will be pleased to make their arrangements accordingly before they come, as it would be inconvenient should one or the other leave, before the whole party has seen the House.—From March 1st to Nov. 1st there may be *three* parties shown through the houses every Wednesday, Tuesday, and Thursday afternoon; but from Nov. 1st to March 1st *two* parties only, at half-past two and three o'clock, can be accommodated on account of the shortness of the days.

7. Persons who desire to make application for the admission of Orphans, are requested to write to me and address the letter to my house, No. 21, Paul Street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

8. I again state, as regards the funds, that the income for the Orphans has been kept distinct from that for the other objects, and I purpose to keep it so for the future. Donors may therefore contribute to one or the other of the objects exclusively, or have their donations equally divided among them all, just as it may appear best to themselves. If any of the donors would wish to leave the application of their donations to my discretion, as the work of God in my hands more especially may call for it at the time, they are requested, kindly to say so, when sending their donations.

9. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything* by me, the sum of £ 259,089. 0s. 11½d. has been given to me for the Orphans, *as the result of prayer to God*, since the commencement of the work, which sum includes the amount received for the Building Fund for the houses already built. It may also be interesting to the reader to know that the total amount, which has been given for the other objects, since the commencement of the work, amounts to £ 95,942. 1s. 6¼d.; and that which has come in by the sale of Bibles, since the commencement, amounts to £ 3546. 11s. 1½d.; by sale of Tracts, £ 7594. 6s. 11¾d., and by the payments of the children in the Day Schools, from the commencement, £ 2995. 1s. 4¼d. Besides this, also, a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., have been given *for the use* of the Orphans.

V. THE INCOME AND EXPENSES OF THE INSTITUTION.

<i>The Income of the First four Objects, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>The Expenses connected with the first four Objects, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>The Income for the Orphans, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>The Expenses for the Orphans, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.</i>	£	s.	d.
By Balance in hand on May 26, 1866.....	163	10	8½	For all the Schools ...	686	19	11	By Balance in hand on May 26, 1866	5864	1	4	The current Expenses in connexion with the three Orphan Houses.....	2888	3	9
By Donations	6071	14	5½	For Bibles	530	4	2	By Donations in Money.....	13286	9	2½	For the Apprentices....	214	19	5½
By Sale of Articles given for the purpose	24	3	0	For Tracts.....	731	1	11	By Sale of Articles given for the purpose	708	16	2½	For 22000 copies of the Twenty-seventh Report, and 4500 copies of the Supplement....	221	13	0
By Sale of Tracts	508	5	5½	For Postage	21	14	10	By Sale of Reports ...	194	14	10½	For Postage and Carriage of Boxes and Parcels	104	7	2½
By Sale of Bibles	192	16	10	For Stationery	3	18	0	By Cash paid on behalf of Orphans.....	209	12	10	For Stationery	27	13	11
By Payments of the Children in the Day Schools	114	9	8	Balance in hand on May 26, 1867	90	3	1½	Balance in hand on May 26, 1867	20363	14	5½	Balance in hand on May 26, 1867	6906	17	1½
	£7075 0 1½				£7075 0 1½				£20363 14 5½				£20363 14 5½		

<i>The Income for the Building Fund, from May 26, 1866, to May 26, 1867.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Expenses in connexion with the Building Fund.</i>	£	s.	d.
By Amount received up to May 26, 1866.....	83791	3	2¼	Expended up to May 26, 1866	49789	1	2
By Donations in Money	9135	1	0½	Expended since May 26, 1866, on the Building of the New Orphan Houses No. 4 and No. 5.....	14407	6	2
By Sales of Articles.....	33	15	7	Balance in hand on May 26th, 1867.....	30798	12	7½
By Rent of the Fields	90	0	0				
By Interest	1880	13	0				
By Drawbacks on Property Tax	64	7	1				
	£94994 19 11¼				£94994 19 11¼		

We have carefully examined these Accounts, and find them correct.
Bristol, June 28, 1867.

H. M. BECHER.
 SAMUEL BUTLER.
 ROBT. H. RICKARDS.
 H. S. TIREMAN.

It seems desirable to add the following remarks to the accounts:

1. Of the donations given for the support of the Orphans, the sum of £188. 7s. 9½d., was contributed by the visitors of the New Orphan House No. 1, through the boxes in the Establishment, £71. 9s. 7½d. through the boxes of the New Orphan House No 2, and £81. 1s. 7½d. through the boxes of the New Orphan House No. 3.

2. It is stated that £209. 12s. 10d. was paid on behalf of Orphans. This money was received in the case of a few children who have a little money paid to them on account of their fathers having been sailors, or their possessing a very small share of property which cannot be sold till they come of age, or their possessing a little at the time they were admitted. In no case is money paid *for* admission; yet what little is possessed, is expected to be spent first, before the child partakes of the benefit of the funds of the Institution. Should an Orphan possess something considerable, the child would not be admitted at all, even were the money offered to be paid; because I should not consider such a child to be a *destitute* Orphan; for such only I receive.

3. The average expense of one Orphan, during the past year, was £12. 8s. This includes every expense, without exception.

Having been often asked for a form how to leave a legacy for the Orphan work, or any other part of the Institution, I think it well to give here a proper form drawn up by a legal practitioner, accustomed to such matters.

Form of a Legacy for the Orphan work:—"I give to George Müller of Bristol, or such other person or persons as shall, when this legacy shall become payable, be the director or directors of the New Orphan Houses on Ashley Down, Bristol, the sum of _____, to be paid out of such part of my personal estate as shall be legally applicable thereto; and to be applied by the said George Müller, or such other director or directors for the purpose of such New Orphan Houses, and his or their receipt shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors."

Form a Legacy for the other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution:—"I give to George Müller of Bristol, or such other person or persons as shall when this legacy shall become payable, be the director or directors of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad (of which the said George Müller is now the director), the sum of _____, to be paid out of such part of my personal estate as shall be legally applicable thereto; and to be applied by the said George Müller, or such other director or directors, for the following four objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, viz.—assisting Schools, circulating the Holy Scriptures, aiding Missionary efforts, and circulating religious publications, or for any of those objects; and the receipt of the said George Müller, or such other director or directors, shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors."

The articles, given for the benefit of the Orphans, are sold by Mrs. Stanley, on the first floor of the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, No. 84, Park Street, Bristol; but it is requested that all boxes or parcels be sent to my house, and not there; as a list of the Articles is taken at my house.

As year after year many applications have been made for the new Report, long before it possibly could be ready, I remind the reader that it can only be written after the 26th of May, and therefore is not to be expected to be out of the press till end of July or beginning of August.

To avoid mistakes, delays, and other difficulties, I would request that all letters for me should be directed to my house, No. 21, Paul Street Kingsdown, Bristol.

GEORGE MÜLLER.

Bristol, July 2, 1867.



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