

his shako,\* 'I, the ex-claron of the French army, come to tell you, that I obtained my discharge a week ago, and that, without losing further time, I am desirous of re-entering the service, not, however, among the soldiers of one of the kings of the earth, but in the little battalion of distributors of the Holy Word of God.' After the introduction, my conversation with the worthy fellow, very naturally turned to the points, in regard to which it is most important for us to be quite certain; and I must acknowledge that in terminating the conference, I felt assured that he would be a most excellent colporteur. This friend has now been three weeks at work, and has given the greatest satisfaction."

Passing again over many encouraging facts, your Committee select the following paragraph, which well points out the difference between a seller of Romish articles, and a Bible colporteur:

"I was in a village" says a colporteur "talking with some ten females, when a man came up to us, who, after he had listened to me for a few minutes, interrupted me and proceeded to deliver a religious discourse, which he evidently recited from memory, and which had certainly been put together by some clever Jesuit. This concluded, he began to laud his merchandise, contained in a wallet, exactly like mine. This merchandise comprised mass books, scapularies, and chaplets. He specially recommended the copies of a portrait of the Virgin, at the same time exhibiting the original of the portrait, which he affirmed, had been found in the crevice of a rock, where it had been deposited 1700 years ago by an angel. The whole was certified at the foot of the portrait by the signature of sundry Canons and Cures. He then recounted the number of miraculous cures which had been performed by the repetition of a certain number of Ave Marias on the bended knee before the copies of the portrait, which acquired this virtue simply by placing them on the original portrait; after which, in order to give increased weight to his story, he boldly quoted passages, as he said, from the sacred scriptures. At this point I stopped him, and inquired from which of the Gospels he had quoted those passages. At first, he regarded me with some embarrassment, but very quickly recovering his assurance, and regarding me with an air of disdain, he exclaimed in a very confident manner, 'young man, they are contained in the 17th chapter after Epiphany.' 'The name of the Gospel, if you please?' 'That matters not.' I hereupon shrugged my shoulders and turning towards the women, I read to them the real passages as they are contained in the Gospels, and which had been so audaciously garbled. The women, on this asked me a host of questions, to which I replied to the best of my ability. Whilst I was doing this the portrait-seller became so angry, that I thought he was about to strike me; but, at this very moment, a peasant made his appearance from

\* His cap.