

turn in the tide, and yet never throwing themselves upon the tide, and breasting the waters, like men in earnest. Their province seems to be to wait; not to wait as an handmaiden upon her mistress, but to wait in listlessness and sloth, while the diligent and persevering brush by them, hasten on, and secure the prize.

REMARKABLE STORY.

The Bible-class devotional meeting, held at 165, Aldersgate-street on Sunday, was marked by features of a very peculiar and interesting character. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Achille Manhault, pastor of the French Church, Guernsey; M. Francois Pepin, from Lower Canada; and M. Balogh-Ferenz, from Hungary. The address of M. Manhault afforded peculiar illustrations of the work of this society. "Nine years ago" said he, "your Association was led, in the providence of God, to circulate gratuitously among young men in the large warehouses in the City a little paper, entitled, 'City Life,' prepared by one of your then secretaries, Mr. Tarlton, now the Rev. T. H. Tarlton, incumbent of Stroud. It chanced that a copy fell into the hands of a chemist in the City, who, by its means learned the address and objects of the Association. A few days after a young Frenchman presented himself to the chemist, requesting medicine and assistance. He was wretchedly poor, without food, almost without clothes, a deserter from the French army, and in consequence, unable to revisit his native country; and, even here, he went in terror that by some means he might be arrested, and made to suffer for his fault. The medicine for which he asked the chemist gave him, and for relief he was directed to the Young Men's Christian Association. He came on Easter Sunday, 1855, and found here that welcome with which you are always ready to greet a stranger who comes to throw himself upon your sympathy. He was placed under the care of a foreign Christian gentleman at that time in communion with your Association, and under his guidance and teaching he learned the great truths of Christianity, and resolved to devote himself to the service of God. He continued for some time to attend your meetings, which were the source of much benefit to him; but in his altered state of mind, he considered it was his first duty to make what reparation he could for the fault of which he had been guilty in deserting his regiment. He returned to France, presented himself to the proper officers, and surrendered as a deserter. On his trial much surprise was expressed at his voluntary surrender of himself, and the president specially interrogated him on this point. He replied 'When I ran away from France I was in the darkness of nature, and under the power of sin; now I have learned the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, and am His servant. It is by the teaching of His Word that I come back to my duty, and submit myself to you for the punishment I have deserved.' Kind friends took an interest in his welfare and tried to procure a mitigation of his punishment. They were successful. Twelve years' imprisonment was the ordinary penalty for his offence; this was reduced to four, and the severity of the imprisonment greatly mitigated. After undergoing it for a year and nine months, he was allowed to return to duty in the army. Here he was employed as a sort of a regimental clerk for about two years, and then finally granted a discharge. Released from all obligation, he went to Geneva to study for the ministry. When his studies were completed he laboured for some time in the south of France as an evangelist, and then was appointed to the charge of the French Independent church at Guernsey. He now stands before you to acknowledge that this happy change of position, and far happier change of mind, he owes to the kindly influence of the Young Men's Christian Association. The starving French deserter who sang in the streets of London for a morsel of bread, is the Pasteur Manhault, who now speaks to you." The address of M. Balogh-Ferenz, condensed in a highly interesting manner the statistics (educational and religious) of the Protestant church in Hungary. M. Pepin urged the claims on Protestant sympathy and support of the mission he sustains among the French-speaking Roman Catholics of Lower Canada. The addresses of these foreign brethren were translated by Mr. Hines, and listened to with evident pleasure by a large company of young men.—*City Press*.