

gave him a tract. It was as if he had suddenly fired a shot. The curé was at first astounded, and probably offended; but he thought, no doubt, that the man would not have ventured to take such a step if he had not been firm in his convictions. The priest therefore read the tract; and the end of this story is that the priest died a pastor, and a deservedly respected one, of one of our churches in the north, and the man who had been the means of his conversion became the schoolmaster in his parish."

DISTRIBUTION OF TRACTS.

That tract distribution, says the *Sword and Trowel*, is the scattering of good seed, which from time to time bears abundant fruit, can be proved from the accounts we are constantly receiving. Preachers of the Gospel have frequently testified that tracts have been the instruments of their conversion. Thus Mr. W. H. Webb Peplow, a clergyman of the Church of England, in a sermon preached on behalf of the society, confessed that the reading of a tract on a race-course, whither he went as a young man to banish serious thought, marked the turning-point in his own career. He fled from the ground, and also from the wrath to come, to find refuge in Christ. The case of another clergyman is mentioned, who by a similar messenger was led to renounce error. He read a tract, the doctrines of which were at first distasteful, but were afterwards embraced with joy. Since that day that preacher's ministry has been blessed to thousands of souls. Cases quite as remarkable, or even more so, are frequently occurring in the ranks of lowly life. Many a drunkard's home has become transformed through the reading of a tract; and temporal as well as eternal good has been the result. There appears to be an increasing willingness on the part of the common people to read what is offered them, and this should encourage increased distribution.

Some Christians at Antwerp were asked what they could do for God during the fêtes, where God was not thought of; how they could proclaim *free salvation* to the multitudes in this town, where a few steps from the chapel and from the tomb of Rubens in another chapel, and on the marble of another tomb, Catholicism has for two centuries displayed her chief error in its grossest form in a Flemish distich, of which the following is a translation:—

"Heaven is gained by violence.
Or purchased by the force of money."

They decided on making a large distribution of tracts. In the space of three days more than twenty thousand tracts, and from fifteen to sixteen hundred portions of the gospels, were circulated. The tracts (wrote one of the colporteurs employed in this work) have on the whole been well received. At the Place Verte, a German woman followed me, crying out, "Do not accept them; throw away the