

LANGUE ANGLAISE

ROWLAND HILL AND THE FOOTPAD

The reverend Rowland Hill while travelling alone from London to Bristol, fell in with a footpad who ordered him to stand and deliver up his money and his watch. The order was given in such a feeble and nervous manner that Mr. Hill was sure the man had not been long engaged in this unhappy profession. So, after he had given up his watch and all the money he had with him, he asked the footpad, "How long have you been at this sort of thing?" The man replied that he had never done anything of the kind before, and that he had been driven to it, because his wife and children were at home starving. Mr. Hill saw that the man was speaking the truth, and told him to call on him the next day. He did so, and Mr. Hill took him as his servant and kept him till he died. All the rest of his life he proved a very faithful and diligent servant to Mr. Hill. The man's story was never known till Mr. Hill told it at his funeral.

- OUTLINE.—1. Rowland Hill is ordered to stand and deliver.
2. The order is given in a feeble manner.
3. He gives up his watch, and asks the footpad how long he has been in this occupation.
4. "Never before; but my wife and children are starving."
5. Mr. Hill tells the man to call on him next day.
6. Mr. Hill takes him as his servant.
7. He proves a most faithful servant to Mr. Hill.
8. No one knew the man's story till Mr. Hill told it at his funeral.

Taken from Meiklejohn's "*Fables, Anecdotes and Stories for teaching Composition.*"

