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AN INTERESTING CASE.

The following short narrative may be relied on for being literally true. The writer had the facts from the individuals—corroborated in many particulars by persons who were acquainted with both them and the facts.

W. N— was early taught the business of shoe-making, and his religious and moral, as well as intellectual education, was grossly neglected, which is very generally the case, particularly in the town in which he served his apprenticeship, and has spent most of his life. Like most of his companions, he spent the earliest part of his life in pursuing those degrading courses which ruin so many thousands; he was seldom at church or any other place of worship. He was often concerned in drunken affrays, and was considered one of the most degraded characters in his neighbourhood. He married, and his wife, unfortunately, was as much disposed to irregularity as himself. She learnt to bind shoes, which, to a person who is somewhat clever at the employment, is rather a profitable branch of the business. They might now have done very well, and even saved a little money had they both been industrious, and economical, as they had no family. This, however, was not the case; they both drank, and lost much time in this destructive practice. They did not respect themselves: of course they were not respected by others; but were both notorious for disregard to personal cleanliness and domestic comfort. He was married in Manchester, and some time after, in a drunken frolic, when all his money was spent, he pawned all her things, clothes, &c., and then, as a kind of recompence, he bought her a pennyworth of nuts, and sent her to her parents at Bolton.

He was engaged in one of his drinking bouts, some

years ago, when at a loss to raise a little more money for drink, he engaged as a substitute for the militia; he raised six pounds, which he spent with his drunken companions in two or three days. Last October twelve months, he had one of his drunken sprees, as he called them, and having spent all the money he could by other means raise, he went to the gentleman for whom he then worked, and kicked (a common expression for inducing a master to advance money) him for a shilling. His master persisted in his refusal for sometime, but at last gave him three half-pence, and a temperance paper.

William told his master, that would be of no use to him, for he could not read; his master told him to get some one to read it to him. He took it to a public house, and some person read it aloud. There was something in it which recalled to his recollection a relation who had been transported some time before for stealing, whom he had visited in prison. This made a deep and beneficial impression on his mind. He thought he might be brought to commit some crime, and be transported, if he continued to drink as he had done; he therefore determined to enter the Temperance Society. He did so, signed the moderation pledge, to which he adhered tolerably for several months. He was, however, induced at last to sign the Teetotal pledge, which I believe he has kept very consistently for about six months, notwithstanding many efforts of his former drunken companions to induce him to break it. Though to avoid unpleasant interruption in this part of the narrative, I have not mentioned his wife, it is due to her to say, that she too became a member of the Society, and is now quite a reformed woman. They appear together at a place of worship decently dressed; have paid all their former debts, and generally keep a little money by them; they have also added some decent articles of furniture to their former stock.

I had some conversation with him last February, and asked him whether he had ever repented becoming a member of the Temperance Society. His reply was, "No, it was the best thing that ever happened to me: it has already made a difference of seven pounds to me." His wife seemed cordially to accede to all he said.

About three weeks ago, at one of our weekly meetings, at which different reformed drunkards speak their experience of the horrors and evils of drunkenness, he, in a very simple but impressive manner, gave us the following painful narrative:—

"About two years ago, Mary and I went to pay for