

be committed. Now, how does it come to pass that with all this zeal for the conservation of human life, large numbers of men who "can render a reason" will look upon the trade in rum and its adjuncts, with as lack-a-daisical indifference as if the annual holocaust of victims to mammon were just so many swine or pestiferous vermin? How can they? The problem is of difficult solution.

We have often been impressed with the conviction, that an unslumbering Providence so orders matters as to make the agents of evil to others to execute upon themselves a fearful retribution. God cannot, it is true, be the author of sin, but he may abandon men to the very temptations they place before their fellows. Who will gainsay the justice of this principle? If a man dig a pit for others, who will lament him if he should himself fall into it?

Now, we come to the HAVOC; and without circumlocution we are bold to affirm, that of all classes of men none other furnishes so many victims to drunkenness as the dealers in Alcohol. Of all the arguments against rum-selling, this is the most cogent and irresistible. Reader, look round among the tavern-keepers you have known, and without controversy you will reach the conviction, that of all the trades, professions, and pursuits, none is so hazardous, none so destructive of life, as this. *To sell rum, is to book an early place in the hearse, if not in hell!*

Some twenty-three years ago we became acquainted with a family, all the elder members of which were remarkable for their extraordinary size and vigor. It might have been predicated of them, that with reasonable attention to health they would all attain a patriarchal age. All lived to have families of their own; and

the two generations, with the members annexed by marriage, made up a very large circle indeed. The elder brother, whom we shall call A., emigrated to this country about the year 1810, and sometime after began business as a grocer. One by one his brothers and sisters followed, and all of them adopted the line of business in which A. had already made a good deal of money. It was indeed with his help that they established themselves. We have then in this family—all of whom were professedly religious people—a fair opportunity of learning the influence of the liquor traffic upon the dealers themselves. Please remember that these people were remarkable, 1st, in a very unusual degree, for extreme physical strength; and, 2nd, for an open profession of religion.

The family consisted of ten brothers and sisters, whom we shall designate by the first ten letters of the alphabet.

Well, A. married three times; his first wife died of a cancer, and left two daughters; the two girls married, one of them a cousin, the other a stranger; the two young couples began the grog business, and in a few years the wives died of drunkenness; the two widowers married again, and in a few years more one of the husbands and one of the wives fell victims to the trade; the remaining husband became bankrupt, and seven or eight years ago, when we last saw him, he was a loafer; the widow of the other continued her husband's business, became a drunkard, and the concern went to the dogs. Put down six drunkards and four deaths.

The second wife of A., a highly educated woman, took to drink early and died, leaving two infant girls; both married young men brought up to the liquor business, and they too were soon noted as hard drinkers;