

let us have fair play, it's my turn now.' 'At what is it your turn, pray?' said the captain. 'At swearing,' I replied. Well they waited and waited, until their patience was exhausted, and then wanted me to make haste and take my turn. I told them however, that I had a right to take my own time, and swear at my own convenience. 'Perhaps you don't mean to take your turn?' 'Pardon me captain,' I answered, 'But I do, as soon as I can find good of doing so.' My friends, I did not hear another oath on the voyage.

THE CAPTAIN'S REQUEST.

'My lads,' said a captain, when about to take command of a ship, reading his orders to the crew on the quarter deck, 'there is one law which I am determined to make, and I shall insist on its being kept. It is a favour, indeed, I will ask of you, and which, as a British officer, I

expect will be granted by a crew of British seamen. What say you, my lads? are you willing to grant your new captain one favour?'—'Ay, ay,' cried all hands, 'let's know what it is, sir?' 'Well, my lads, it is this: that you must allow me to swear the first oath in this ship. No man on board must swear an oath before I do; I am determined to swear the first oath on board. What say you, my lads; will you grant me this favour?'—The men stared, and stood for a moment quite at a loss what to say. 'They were taken,' one said, 'all aback.' They were brought up,' said another, 'all standing.' The appeal seemed so reasonable, and the manner of the captain so kind and prepossessing, that a general burst from the ship's company answered, 'Ay, Ay, sir,' with their usual three cheers. Swearing was wholly abolished in the ship.

TEMPERANCE.

A WEDDING INCIDENT,

The story is told of a temperance man, who, being at a wedding, was asked to drink the bride's health in a glass of wine which was offered him. He refused to partake of the intoxicating liquid, and said when he drank her health it would be in that which resembled her most in purity, and he knew nothing better than water, pure water! He then drank her health in a glass of God's beverage—sparkling water! The ladies assembled on the occasion immediately stepped forward, and making a respectful courtesy, thanked him for the beautiful compliment he had just paid the fair bride—when it was resolved that all intoxicating drinks should be banished from the room.

WHAT HE WAS AND IS

A correspondent of the London Teetotal Times illustrates the issue of moderate drinking by the following case:—

On a Sabbath in 1848, on leaving the Sunday School, I met an emaciated creature, staggering at every footstep. Taking hold of him by the arm, I kindly remonstrated with him on his unhappy condition. I soon found I had encountered a man of considerable natural talent, and who had evidently once moved in better circumstances. He boastingly avowed himself an infidel, ridiculing all reference to the Bible and a future state of being. I earnestly but affectionately said, 'I have met with others who, like you, have ridiculed religion whilst they