

the family are going the same road ; and, to tell you the truth, Jeremiah, my brother, I am convinced that your business of making whiskey has brought about this wretched state of things. Now, Jeremiah, I want you to look at the matter fairly, and I cannot but think you will soon see the propriety of giving up this employment." Whereupon, Jeremiah bristles up, and, with a look of injured innocence, delivers himself of the following oration :—"Look you here, Bartholomew, I have always noted you for a busy, meddling body. Not content with straightening up your own family, you have always had a word of reproof for your neighbors. Now, I opionate that, notwithstanding all your fuss and starch, if you are careful to enquire at home, and more especially from yourself, you will find a good deal to mend ; and if you set about it, you will be kept so well employed, as to have little time left for bestowing unwelcome and impertinent remarks upon me or my business. I don't interfere with you. It is little grist *you* bring to my mill ; and therefore, I advise you to attend to your own concerns, and to leave me to do the same by mine."

"But, brother Jerry, don't you see that I am very severely taxed for the support of Reuben's children ? Day after day I am called upon to do something for them. I lose my time ; I give of my substance ; and, after all, I have the distress of knowing that I cannot meet the case. Thomas is so far gone himself in vice, as to be able to do little. George is almost always idle, and his wife is nearly as great a drunkard as himself ; so between Robert and I, we have too great a burden to carry."

"Look here, Bart, you have always been a croaker, and I suppose you

intend to continue one. I pay a tax to government for the privilege of making and selling whiskey, and I pay my portion of the cost of supporting Reuben's wife and children. I did not force Reuben to drink ; Tom is quite able to judge for himself, and so is George ; and if they choose to sell me their corn, or to exchange it for whiskey, I'll never do them the incivility of refusing their custom. And now, let me caution you not to come and worry me again, or I shall exercise less patience."

Bartholomew retires ; Jeremiah continues his trade ; in a short time the lands of Thomas and George follow that of Reuben, and become Jerry's property, and new occupants take their places. Two vagabonds are added to the community, in the persons of Tom and George ; and a number of poor, ill-clad and ill-fed children are finally lodged with Reuben's wife and family in the poor-house. The government get \$50 a year for a license ; they pay \$200 a year for the support of the paupers, and \$200 more for the administration of justice ; the country loses the former surplus products of this family, and, consequently, exports so much less to foreign countries ; the education of the young is neglected ; the physical energies of the community are depressed ; public morality suffers a fearful eclipse ; religion weeps the apostacy of many once faithful souls ; and Mr. Jeremiah Love-pelf, rich, fat, and drunken, enters into Parliament, to make laws affecting morals and Madeira, Pale Ale, and Pale Ailing Women, and solemnly to record his vote against all fanatical attempts upon the liberty of the subject!!!

We shall pursue this train of thought in our next number.