

The mother heard the savage threats against her child, and escaping from Callaghan, followed Mrs. Farrel to the stairs. Scarce had she made the first step, when, from above, the shouts of the drunken fury are heard. Another instant, and the little innocent was dashed over the bannisters. He fell dead at his mother's feet.

THE TWO PROMINENT PLEAS OF THE RETAILER.

First: "*Others will sell if I do not.*" As to this, I can only say in the words of holy writ. "It must needs be that offences come; but wo unto that man by whom the offence cometh." "Thou shall not follow a multitude to do evil." "Every man shall die for his own sin." Custom regulates fashion and language: it makes the common law of a people, but it alters not the law of God. The questions are, Is not your conduct wrong, and do you not, or ought you not, to know it?

Second: "*But I have no other business to follow.*" In this country of enterprise and prosperity, the ways of livelihood are so numerous, that this objection can scarcely be made in a candid frame of mind. But the question is not one of expediency. Is the business pursued by you right, or not, in the sight of God? Can you pray for a blessing on it? Does it promote his glory? Your country's welfare? The good of your neighbour? The pirate, the black-leg, the counterfeiter, the slave-dealer, are, no doubt, like yourself, better qualified for their present respective pursuits, than for lawful and useful avocations; but does this fact justify them in their prosecution? How soon would a little serious thought, and a due regard to the interests of the life that shall never end, put to flight such soul-destroying sophistry! "Labour not for the meat that perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life." The disciples "left all and followed Christ." This we may not be called to do in existing circumstances, but a like spirit is required in his people, at all times, and the person who continues in his calling against the dictates of his own conscience, and for the reason last assigned, should see to it, whether the plea will avail at the bar of the Omnipotent Judge. The question, I repeat it, is, *Are you prosecuting a business approved in the sight of God?* I urge you, yet not I, God commands you, to examine into the matter: "THUS SAITH THE LORD OF HOSTS, CONSIDER YOUR WAYS!" B.

A COMFORTABLE HOME AND A GOOD-TEMPERED WIFE.

[From the London Weekly Visitor.]

Letter addressed to Mr Chapman, one of the Secretaries of the Birmingham Auxiliary Temperance Society.

SIR,—I am employed at a chemical work, in Lovelane, Aston-road, belonging to Messrs. Armitage. My fellow-workmen, although they had constant employment and good wages, were in a wretched condition, and their families in misery. I have often argued with them to attend a place of worship; but their excuse always was, that they could not go for want of clothes. About Christmas, 1831, one of my children brought home a temperance tract, addressed "To the Industri-

ous Poor," which had been given him at the Ashted-school; this I read to the men in the factory, and as it contained a calculation of the expense of two glasses of gin per day, at three half-pence per glass, and the quantity of clothes which might be obtained instead of the gin, they agreed to try the experiment of doing without the liquor, which had brought on so much misery. At this time I usually paid a large sum every week at the public-house they frequented, sometimes 20s. and sometimes 40s. per week, so that each man drank there from 3s. to 6s. per week; then we were in the habit of drinking spirits in the morning, and ale in the evening.

Soon after this we joined the Temperance Society; and instead of sending for the usual quantity of gin in the morning, and ale in the evening, we were supplied with tea, coffee, or milk. The men have abandoned the public-house, and now spend their evenings at home. Those who know anything of our employment must be well convinced that few men are exposed to greater heats than we are, or subject to such a disagreeable smell; so much so that, if any employment could justify or require hard drinking, it would be ours. But we have all given up the habit, and we are all convinced, from the experience of many months, that strong drink is wholly useless, and that good substantial food is the best thing to support men under hard labour and fatigue. The men work all night in regular turns; but instead of drinking spirits, or ale, we drink tea, coffee, or milk. When we left off our drinking habits, we then began to think of getting clothes for ourselves and families.

We formed a club in the factory, and paid 2s. per week for twenty weeks; so every third week we had 40s. to lay out, and we cast lots which should take it first to buy clothes. At the end of twenty weeks most of us had got some clothes; but at the end of forty weeks, ourselves, our wives, and families, all are well clothed and well fed. In addition to this, each man has now "a comfortable home and a good-tempered wife;" she now smiles to see her husband come home—as he comes home sober. I am stronger and healthier than ever I was in my life. My fellow-workmen have all got money, or money's worth, to the amount of several pounds.

EDWARD BRITAIN,

Leicester-Street, Aston, near Birmingham, Oct. 11, 1832.

PETER WALSH

On the 7th of March, 1833, died at New Ross, in Ireland, Mr. Peter Walsh, in the 88th year of his age, a celebrated character in the annals of temperance, and, from the commencement of the Temperance Institutions in this kingdom, an honorable member of the New Ross Temperance Society. Up to the age of thirty-six he was a most degraded slave of drunkenness, a bankrupt in health, circumstances, and reputation; having, by indulgence in this hateful vice, squandered a considerable patrimony, and reduced his family to extreme penury and destitution. It is scarcely credible, but a positive fact, that he has consumed, in drams, one gallon of French brandy before ten o'clock in the forenoon.