

wife and daughter had a very shrewd guess as to what had happened, and dragged the unfortunate farmer, all bespattered with mud, out of the ditch, where he was snoring, and made him somehow walk home.

Dobbin and Billy walked beside them, and Mrs. Donald, with more warmth than usual, reprimanded her offending husband, 'Why, Donald, I should be ashamed. The brute beasts have more sense than you!'

Again and again did these words recur to the farmer's mind. Yes, the brute beasts had shown more sense than he; and what would have become of him times without number had he not been under their guardianship? What made him so much lower than poor old Dobbin and faithful Billy? It was drink. Farmer

Donald could not blink the fact; and he learnt a lesson from his own horse and dog that he could never forget.

Market-day came round again, and Donald went to the neighbouring town, but he returned home sober. His wife wisely forbore to make any remark, but his daughter could not resist rallying him about the change.

'Ah, my lass,' he said, 'it was time for me to be a different man when even my own brute beasts showed more sense and intelligence than their master.'

From that day to this Donald has kept sober; and often as he pats his trusty horse and dog he thinks of that night, long ago, when they taught him a lesson he could never forget.

A. M. D.

The Essence of Gambling and Betting is Injury Done to Others.

IF gambling and betting are not actual peculations they most assuredly suggest and induce them. I have made inquiries and read reports from governors and chaplains of prisons, some of which I have personally visited—the last at Chatham, one of the largest in the kingdom—and these officers are unanimous in their declarations that an infinite number of prisoners, convicted for the first time of false entries, forgeries, and actual theft, have attributed their guilt to the results of gambling and betting. The Rev. C. Goldney, chaplain of her Majesty's prison, made this statement at the meeting of the Lichfield Diocesan Conference held in November last:—'We are able to fill one of those spacious corridors in Stafford

prison with young men of the clerk and accountant class, their ages mostly varying from sixteen to twenty-three, and they receiving salaries of from 40*l.* to 70*l.* per annum. In what I say I do but act as their spokesman, summing up the evidence with which they have supplied me, and so fulfilling a promise made to one of them but yesterday. It is betting and gambling of which they are the victims, rather than of drink and immorality, though these latter may be described as accessories both before and after the fact.' So true is it that 'he who maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent,' and that 'he that getteth riches, and not by right, shall leave them in the midst of his days, and at his end shall be a fool.'

DEAN OF ROCHESTER.

