

THE ONLY SON.

WHERE lived, in the Town of O——, N. Y. a pious, noble-hearted man, by the name of T——. He had several daughters, and an only son whose career was an eventful one, which we purpose to trace as a landmark for indulgent parents, and a warning to the young.

The father, enjoying a competence of worldly goods, determined to give his son a *liberal* education. He was accordingly placed under the care and tuition of the then popular teachers of the Village Academy. Here he at first distinguished himself, and gained the appellation of "*best scholar*." But being unused to restraint, and having been humored at home, in every capricious whim of fancy, it was with an ill grace he could brook the rigid discipline of the school. At length he formed the determination of breaking away from school discipline entirely. He began to play the truant, by staying from school when his parents supposed he was going regularly, and still excelling in his classes. At length came the tug of war. At his school he was required to declaim and write compositions regularly. This became a dreaded task; and to him, and an indulgent, but fond mother, a useless and uncalled for exercise.

And without the knowledge or advice of his father, he was allowed to absent himself from his school upon these occasions and seek amusement in his own way; and whilst idle in the village streets he found companions fit for anything immoral and disgusting. He here acquired the habit of drinking, and gambling; and in fact became the associate of black-legs and thieves. He was arrested and thrown into prison, for breaking into a store and stealing a quantity of goods; and

was only saved from the *Penitentiary* by the interference of his father, who paid a large sum to secure his liberty. Having been let loose from prison he joined himself again to his former associates; and in a drunken row so injured one of his fellows that he shortly after died.

W—— was again arrested and thrown into prison. This time neither the money nor influence of his friends would avail to set him free. After a long and tedious trial, he was condemned to five years hard labor in A——n State prison.

After having served part of his time out, he was brought home in the winter of 1851-2 in the last stages of consumption. He survived but a few days after reaching the scenes of his early childhood. Thus the young man, who in the early part of life promised to become an honorable and respected member of society, was by an unwise over-indulgence made a ruined, disgraced, and dangerous man, and found a felon's grave at the early age of twenty-five years.

May his fate be a warning, not only to those who wish to cast off parental and school restraint, but to those who are inclined to humor a child, to their own sorrow, and the child's inevitable ruin.—*Literary Standard*.

SPEAK IT BOLDLY.

Be thou like the first Apostles;
 Be thou like heroic Paul;
 If a free thought seeks expression,
 Speak it boldly! Speak it all!
 Face thine enemies, accusers;
 Scorn the prison, rack or rod!
 And if thou hast truth to utter,
 Speak! and leave the rest to God.

An agricultural paper recommends a quart of brandy to cure the staggers. We have thought that brandy was the cause of staggers.