THE FIRST OFFENCE.

sembled to celebrate his birthday. A very animated discussion had been carried en for some time as to whether the first deviation from integrity should be treated with severity or lessiency. Various were the opinious and numerous the arguments brought forth to support them. The majority appeared to lean to the side of "crush all offences in the bad," when a warm, hearted gautleman exclaimed:

"Depend upon it, more young people are lost to society from a first offence being treated with injudicious severity than from the contrary extreme. Not that I would pass over even the slightest deviation from integrity either in word or deed—that would certainly be mistaken kindness. But, on the other hand, neither would I punish with exercity an offence committed, perhaps, under the influence of tamptation—bemptation, too, that we curselves may have thoughtlessly placed in the way, in such a manner as to render it irresistible. For instance, a lady requires a servant; the girl has hitherto borne a good character, but it is her first place; her honesty has never yet been put to the test. Her mistress, without thinking of the temptations to which she is exposing a fellow-creature, is in the habit of leaving small sums of more, generally in coppers, lying about in her sitting from the sum of the provided and the next morning some is missing. No one has been in the room but the girl; her guilt is evident. Well, what does her mistress do! Why, she turns the girl out of the house at an hour's notice; cannot, in considere, give her a character; tells all her friends how dreadfully distressed he is; declares there is nothing but ingratitude to meet with among servants; laments over the depravity of human nature; and never dreams of biaming herself for her wicked, house day to the provide typical and the next morning of the providence of a manner of the providence of regions and the providence of the providence of the provid

yes, it is wiveked-houghteaness in tank constantly exposing to temptation a young ignorant girl; one, most likely, whose mind, if not enveloped in total darkness, has only an impriect swinght knowledge whereby to distinguish. The continued he great whereby to distinguish the move great whereby to distinguish the move great whereby to distinguish the window of the whole constituted her only means of obtaining her honest livelihood—her character; and that without one effort to reclaim her; without affording a single opportunity of retrieving the past, and regaining by future good conduct the confidence of her employer.

"There is, I fear, too much trath in what yon say," remarked our observation; "and it reminds me of actroum stance that occurred in the earlier part of my life, shich, as it may serve to illustrate the subject you have been discussing, I will relate."

There was a general movement of attention; for it was a well-knewn fact that a omanufacturer in the town, was surrounded with as many old and shifthil servants and ririend Stevenson.

"In the outset of my business career, said he, "I took into my employment a young man to fill the situation of underleast and the window of the surround of the surrou

ing that there was a consacration deciror.

"From whom, said I, 'did you receive this money?

"He replied, 'From Mr. —,' naming my confidential clerk.

"It is strange,' said I, leoking steadily as him. 'But this money is incorrect, and it is the first time I have found it so. 'He changed countenance, and his eye fell before mine; but he answered with tolerable composure, 'that it was as he had received it.'

"It is vain,' I replied, 'to attempt to impose upon me, or to endeavor to cast suspicion upon one whose character for the strictest honesty and undeviating integrity is so well established. Now, I am perfectly convinced that you have taken this money and at this moment it is in your possession and I think the evidence against you would be thought sufficient to justify me in dismissing you immediately from my service. But you are a very young man; your conduct thas, I believe, been hitherto perfectly correct, and I am willing to afford you an opportunity of redeeming the past. All knowledge of this matter rest between our selves. Candidly confess, therefore, the error of which you have been guilty; restore what you have so dishonestly taken; endeavour by your future good conduct to deserve my confidence and respect, and this circumstrance shall never transpirs to finjure you.

"The poor fallow was deeply affected, in a voice sinnest instructurate with conton he acknowledged this gailt; and said that, having frequently seen me receive the money with our counting it, on being trutted with our counting it, on bein

eest and comport to the sufferin Toothache, Lumbago and any kind of a pain or ache. "It will most surely quicken the Blood and Heal, as its acting power is wonderful." "Brown's Household Panacea," being acknowledged as the great Pain Reliever, and of double the strength of any other Elixir or Liniment in the world, should be in every family handy for use when wanted, "as it really is the best remedy in the world for Cramps in the Stomach, and Pains and Aches of all kinds," and is for sale by all Druggists at 25 cents a bottle.

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