

THE PERMISSIVE BILL.

A NEW SONG.

[See Music in the Appendix.]

“ P RAY, what is this Permissive Bill,
 That some folks rave about?
 I can't, with all my pains and skill,
 Its meaning quite make out.”
 O! it's a little simple Bill,
 That seeks to pass *incog.*,
 To *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
 From having a glass of grog.

Yes! it's a little simple Bill, &c.

If I'm a Quaker sly and dry,
 Or Presbyterian sour;
 And look on all, with jaundiced eye,
 Who love a joyous hour:

O ! here I've my Permissive Bill,
 You naughty boys to flog,
 And *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
 From having a glass of grog.

O ! yes, I have my little Bill, &c.

If I have wealth or means enough
 To import a pipe of wine ;
 While You a glass of humbler stuff
 Must purchase when you dine :
 O ! then I use my little Bill,
 While wetting well my prog,
 To *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
 From buying a glass of grog.

O ! yes, I use my little Bill, &c.

If I'm a fogie quite used up,
 And laid upon the shelf ;
 Who grudge that You still dine and sup,
 As I was wont myself :
 Then I bring out my pretty Bill,
 To impose a little clog,
 And *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
 From having a glass of grog.

Yes, I bring out my pretty Bill, &c.

If You can drink a sober drop,
While I the bottle drain ;
And as I don't know when to stop,
I'm ordered to "abstain :"
O ! then I've my Permissive Bill,
Since I'm a drunken dog,
To *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
Enjoying a glass of grog.

O ! yes, I've my Permissive Bill, &c.

" However well a man behaves,
Life's pleasures must he lose,
Because a lot of fools or knaves
Dislike them, or abuse ?"
O ! yes, and soon a bigger Bill,
Will go the total hog,
And *permit* ME—to *prevent* YOU—
Having Mirth as well as Grog.

CHORUS—*O ! yes, a big Permissive Bill,
Will go the total hog,
And permit ME—to prevent YOU—
Having Liberty, Mirth, or Grog.*