

grading in character, and more cruel and destructive in its operations, than the slave trade itself, will cease to exist.

Thirty years ago the clergy of the Established Church, and the ministers of the gospel generally, regarded the Temperance movement as unsound in theory and dangerous in practice. The spread of total abstinence was, in their opinion, the spread of error, the effects of which would be the removal of those barriers in which vice and infidelity have hitherto been held in check; and these groundless alarms found utterance in one of the meetings of the Evangelical Alliance many years ago on the question raised by one of its most influential members, 'What connection is there between teetotalism and infidelity?' But now how changed are the views and feelings of many of the brightest of our common Christianity, both in the Church and out of it. Instead of a foe to vital godliness, total abstinence is found to be a friend, instead of retarding the social, moral, and religious progress of the people, the Temperance movement is removing the hindrances and stumbling blocks that stood in the way of those improvements, and instead of increasing the difficulties of the rector of a parish or the pastor of a congregation, the Temperance enterprise is found to be a most valuable auxiliary in parochial work and pastoral visitation.

We are prepared with any number of facts, illustrative of the various positions we have taken in this article, but we have purposely refrained from giving them for the sake of brevity. Upon the whole, the progress of thirty years is so decided and extensive, that we may reasonably hope for great things in the future, and the most natural conclusion to which we can come is to thank God and take courage.—Weekly Record.

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