

to the rule of Church discipline laid down in Matt. xviii. chap. If any, notwithstanding, persist in the sale of intoxicating liquors, or become drunken, or frequent bar-rooms, &c., let them be excluded. If any have such an appetite for ardent spirits that the smallest indulgence would lead to their being overcome, your Committee recommend a pledge to total abstinence as a condition to membership, or the continuance of membership. In the case of those who use wines, &c., at their own tables, or occasionally in social life, your Committee think that the Church should faithfully and effectually labor with them to convince them of the evil tendencies of their action and their violation of the law of love, which, in this case, especially, claims from them, as in the case of amusements, &c., the sacrifice even of what they esteem a matter of personal liberty, out of regard to the convictions of their brethren, that their liberty may not become an occasion of stumbling, or offence. If they are not thus led to desist from this practice, it will be, your Committee think, the duty of each Church to consider carefully and prayerfully in such case, whether the general interests of the cause do not, under the circumstances, require the withdrawal of the fellowship of the Church.

Believing that there are many who have not sufficient strength of principle to abstain from ardent spirits when they are within reach, and that, therefore, there will ever be reaped a terrible harvest of deaths as long as they are openly sold, your Committee consider a prohibitory liquor law as the only complete relief from this scourge, the true final aim of all temperance effort.

T. H. PORTER.
C. GOODSPEED.
T. H. RAND.
B. N. HUGHES.

Afternoon Session, June 25th, 1874.

Prayer by Bro. T. P. Davies.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Resolved, That Rev. J. D. Pope preach the next Associational sermon, and that Rev. J. W. Manning be his alternate. Also, that Rev. W. P. Everett write the Circular Letter, and that the subject be "*Amusements*."

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools received:

Your Committee respectfully report, that from the meagre statistics given by our Churches, and the general lack of progress manifest, feel that they require to be stimulated in this good work. Too much prominence cannot be given to this great auxiliary to the preaching of the Gospel, as we have facts constantly occurring of the large accession to our Churches from the ranks of the Sabbath School. It is a mystery that the Churches generally are not more alive to its importance.

Your Committee affectionately urge the members, individually, to aid it in every way possible, by engaging as teachers; and when not competent for that work, to assemble and form adult Bible Classes.

We also recommend that a good Sabbath School paper be subscribed for, such as the *Young Reaper*, and sustaining it as well as possible, and a good Library, keeping in mind the works of the Baptist Publication Society.

Your Committee refer with pleasure to the success of the Convention, which was recommended by this body last year, and we are satisfied that quite an impetus was given to Sabbath School work. It is to be regretted, however, that the Churches were not more generally represented—though the attendance was fair, and all who were present were much encouraged and benefited.

B. N. HUGHES, *Chairman*.