

The advocates of the present system would be safer in pursuing this course, than in officially *resolving* all dissenters from their institution into UNDUTIFUL persons. We are in self defence compelled to say to our accusers—"Which of you conviceth me of sin" in this matter? and to do away the unmerited obloquy by washing away the defilement of unjust insinuations.* Such charges, equally ungenerous and unjust, shall neither fright nor tempt me into countenancing or propagating that, which the eye of faith must look upon as a bastard-morality, unauthorized of God; as a system tending rather to the *scandalizing* of the Saviour and to contempt of the Holy Spirit, than to any *real good*, such as is acceptable to the Lord Almighty! Far be it from any true child of the kingdom to say, that the gospel, "the power of God unto Salvation," is *not equal* to that for which it was sent; or that if Christ be "slack in his coming, as some men count slackness," his gospel needs the Herculean shoulders of Temperance Societies, to shove on its tardy progression—to impart a *human* impetus to the work, the way, and the wisdom of God!—Alas, for such faithless expedients! Alas, that any, who call themselves christians, should fall into such grievous error! That professors should seem to regard the Gospel of their God and Saviour as the Brahmins and heathen devotees of India do the massive car of their inanimate idol, their lazy Juggernaut! That, like that lumbering log, Christianity requires its followers to make to themselves as it were handspikes wherewith to lever it onward!—Can the work of the Lord of hosts be quickened by the aid of unauthorised human inventions,—the movements of the great Jehovah accelerated by man's device? The supposition would seem to involve blasphemy. "He will work, *who* shall let him?" Do you think *Satan* shall? Do you think that the drunkard, "led captive of Satan, shall hinder that work? God will work, and none shall hinder him.

* "Can there be reasons framed or bolstered up, why any accountable creature among us should stand aloof? I am perfectly satisfied there can none be found but such as are based upon something, the ANTIPODES of love of country, our species, or our God." (!!!)—(Extracts from Mr. Wilkinson's printed Address to the Prescott Temperance Society.)

But two pages back this "Wesleyan Minister" had exhorted his hearers to "arm themselves with the panoply of *charity*!"—It is nothing new to "say, and do not."—"Charity thinking no evil."—How needful it is to be "temperate in ALL things." There is such a thing as intemperance in *language*, as well as in meats and drinks.