

places for the offering of sacrifices. His commands are, "If the said place be too far for thee, so that thou art not able to carry it, which the Lord thy God shall choose to set his name there, then thou shalt turn it into money, and thou shalt bestow the money for whatsoever thy soul desireth, for oxen or sheep, or for wine or for strong drink, or for whatsoever thy soul asketh of thee: and thou shalt eat there before the Lord thy God: and thou shalt rejoice, thou and thine household."

The question here is, what is eating before the Lord but asking God's blessing upon what we eat and drink? Another question is: Seeing it is right to ask God's blessing upon the temperate use of strong drink and rejoice in the sight of God, no matter to what extent it is abused; who, we ask, in the face of this right of choice in God's permissive law, dare prohibit it? The evils of slavery in the Southern States, brutal and abhorrent as they were, were insignificant compared to the slave-driving machinery of the license law. In its origin it was,