

treasured up the unwise words that were spoken, and used them for his ruin! These men I leave with their God; but, if murder is to be punished, they will not escape. I need say no more, but repeat that in my opinion the drinking customs of society are more dangerous to ministers than to any other class of men. Here, then, is my case. The Church has an all-important work to do, and the drinking customs of society are among her chief hindrances. What, then, is our duty? I say to you, my brethren, what a famous General is reported to have said to his troops on the morning of a battle, "Comrades! there are our enemies; if you don't beat them, they will beat you."

Am I asked How this is to be done? I answer, By regarding these customs as enemies, and resolving never to submit to them again. In this matter let us all become sturdy Nonconformists, and it will be a glorious beginning to a still more glorious end. If, in addition to this, we could but agree that, for our own protection, and for the sake of others, we will henceforth banish strong drink from amongst the luxuries, and place it amongst the medicines, we should begin an era of social, commercial, and spiritual prosperity such as our land has never seen.