

In this confidence your Committee would place the subject before you, by asking the attention,

First, to the *Preamble*; second, to the *Resolution*:

The Preamble *admits* the effects of the *excessive* use of intoxicating liquors to be sad and ruinous. Here your Committee would join issue, and say: "Because ruinous,—therefore sad; breaking down the spirits of individuals, and families, and communities; making many a sun to go down at noon; eclipsing many a bright intellect; blighting and blasting many a tree of no every-day promise."

It is the "excessive use" whose effects are said to be "sad and ruinous." But what is *the common proportion*, beyond which these ill effects are found? What is the *measure of use*, further than which dangers lie? Where is Use? Where is Abuse? What are their limits? How reduce to practice, regulations so vague, and undefinable? These are questions to which your Committee feel themselves unable to give any *satisfactory* answers,—depending, as they do, on circumstances, which would make what is the Rule at one time, or one place, or with one man, *the violation* of the rule at another time, or in another place, or with other men. It is the same difficulty as meets us in defining *moderation*, and, so, allowable in the use; and what is *immoderate*, and, so, forbidden by considerations of the highest interests.

This difficulty, not to say, *impossibility*, would incline your Committee to *proscribe* it as a line of demarcation, too narrow to be safe, for any practical purposes. They fear that the *measure* of to-day, would be the *excess* of to-morrow: that the permitted use of intoxicating drinks as beverage, would of necessity become abuse with many, if not with most men; whilst the few who seem to observe the rule without violation, owe it to circumstances, rather than to the evenness of the rule itself.

Your Committee would draw the attention of the Synod to the past history of the efforts to *meet and overcome* the moral and physical evil of Intemperance, to prove that their *conclusion* is the *result* of experience.

At first, the Organized Effort allowed of moderation in the use of intoxicating liquors; and it was the *failure* of permission to accomplish the design which compelled them to come to *restraint*. It was soon discovered, that the *appetite* for strong drink was kept alive by the *permissive use*; and that, whenever opportunity offered, the inebriate accepted it for *self-gratification*; and now, your Committee is prepared to prove, from the most unexceptionable evidence of medical men and practical moralists, that allowance in the use, to the inebriate, is *invitation* to the abuse of the appetite; and that *physical* reasons exist, to render Total Abstinence the *only ground of hope* for the complete mastery of the habit, and removal of the taste, *when once formed*.

Your Committee would remind the Synod that, in their appointments, this Branch of the Church has followed whither the mother Church has

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The last Report "Your Committee more forced he needed to grapple in our land."

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English fellow Committee is full drinks on those who they—and experience all the kind feeling of your fellow creature

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Of their advantage homes, cheerful with tell you too of high of drink is downright excuses are apt to God has given us,

Your Committee that which the most results; and that to adopt self-preservation to arise in all his man eating liquors as a relation in which man