

must appeal to the hearts of all who love her. And surely we shall not refuse to choose and to follow that course which the good of individuals, of families, of society and of the Church requires.

*It is especially incumbent on those who profess to be the followers of the Saviour to practice entire abstinence.* The Church is "a city set on an hill which cannot be hid." She is a conspicuous object. All her movements are carefully scrutinized by the world. Her example is influential, and must have a salutary effect or the contrary according to its nature. The course which she pursues, with regard to the temperance cause, is surely then of very great importance. It is certainly her duty to be foremost in the suppression of the vice of intemperance. Shall she not show herself to be animated by the spirit of her Great Master? Has Jesus made so great sacrifices to save us from ruin, and shall we, who profess to be his followers, to appreciate his love and to possess his spirit, refuse to make the trifling sacrifice of abstaining from intoxicating liquors to rescue our neighbors, our friends, our brethren.

*The office bearers in the Church have much in their power.* From the position which they occupy, their influence and example will be peculiarly felt. To them the private members of the Church naturally look for direction and also for example. They have, therefore, great responsibility because they have much in their power for advancing or hindering the cause of temperance. Should they countenance the use of liquors which produce inebriety, their conduct will be likely to have a very pernicious influence upon the private members of the Church. But on the other hand, should they sanction, by example and influence, the total abstinence principle, the happiest results are likely to follow. To the Elders of our Churches, therefore, we would earnestly and affectionately, though respectfully, say, consider seriously the course which you are pursuing. Are you lending your countenance to temperance or to intemperance? If you have reflected on the dreadful evils of intemperance, surely you will not only be willing, but most anxious, to lend your aid to every legitimate plan for the suppression of this vice. Surely you will not only practice abstinence yourselves, but strive earnestly to persuade those under your inspection to adopt the same course. Set over them in the Lord, watching over them as they that must give account, will you not