

its terrible effects wherever you go. It has dragged the preacher from the pulpit, and the member from the pew. Its history, like the roll of the prophet, is written within and without, with mourning, lamentation, and woe. If you gain the confidence of your people, you will find that every Circuit has its histories, that will make you tremble and weep. As Methodist preachers, you are bound not to ignore this crying sin. Mr. Wesley in this, as in most other things, set us an excellent example. He was the foremost Temperance reformer of his day. Though not an abstainer, living as he did a hundred years before the introduction of total abstinence, he lived up to the light he had, and was far in advance of his contemporaries. He denounced the evil of drunkenness wherever he went, and did all in his power to rescue its victims from its destructive thralldom. He warned the members, and ministers, of his Societies, against the danger of using spirituous liquors, and he besought them for their own sakes, and the sake of others, never to use them except for medicinal purposes. Thus by his teaching, and example, he did all in his power to destroy this terrible evil. I pray you to go and do likewise. For my own part I have found it to be an immense advantage to be an Abstainer. It has benefited my health, it has increased my happiness, and it has greatly widened my sphere of usefulness. It has shielded me from temptation, and danger, and it has enabled me to rescue many of those who were wounded and fallen. It has blessed me, and made me a blessing, and believing that you want to live to the best possible purpose, I heartily, and confidently, recommend it to you.

Begin your work as soon as you enter the Circuit. If you stay your full time you will find that your three years are soon gone. The demands upon you will be so many, that if you are not prompt, and decided, you will find the term filled up with profitless good intentions.