

existence whenever they wish. On them, therefore, rests the awful responsibility of keeping open those three thousand drunkard-making factories called bar-rooms. "To sell rum for a livelihood seems bad enough," said Horace Greeley, in words that burn to-day; "but for a whole community to share the responsibility and guilt of such a traffic for a beggarly license fee seems a worse bargain than that of Eve or Judas."

I would press home this point on the consciences of all who have the fear of God before them. Is it right to permit, foster, and encourage a traffic that is acknowledged to have not one redeeming quality, but exists as a blighting, damning curse on everything that is pure, holy, and virtuous in society? Is it right to license a man to sell liquor and then exclude him from church membership for doing that which you licensed him to do? Is it right to pass resolutions in conferences, synods, and assemblies denouncing the liquor traffic as a sin against God and a crime against humanity, and then turn round and vote for the continuance of that traffic? Is it right to preach justice, goodness, charity, and then vote to license a traffic that breaks hearts, desolates homes, and fills our land with poverty, misery, and crime? To these questions there can be but one answer. To countenance a wrong is to do wrong. He who shelters a criminal is *particeps criminis*. Ignorance can no longer be urged as an excuse. The electric light of modern discussion has not only exposed the hideousness of the liquor monster, but it has also made clear to the individual voter his heavy responsibility. God have mercy on the minister, the student, or the church officer or member who, on the first of January, by his ballot or his silence countenances this accursed business! Let the Christian tremble at the thought of "framing mischief by a law," Ps. xciv. 20. The tree that brings forth the evil fruit is not to be trimmed, protected, and beautified, but cut down and cast into the fire, Matt. vii. 19. Better is a little with right than great revenues without right, Prov. xvi. 8. "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood," Hab. ii. 12.

WHAT THE CHURCHES SAY.

"There can be no license of the liquor traffic without sin" is, in substance, the solemn official declaration of all the churches.

The Methodist Church says: "We are unalterably opposed to