

children ? How many children have been subjected to intolerable mortification, through the drunkenness of their parents ? How many have been deprived of the means of education, of subsistence, and of comfort, which they might have enjoyed, had their parents maintained habits of sobriety ? How many wives have been broken-hearted through the intemperance of their husbands ? What discord, what contention, what misery has this vice occasioned in families ? Does not the good of the domestic circle then require that we should scrupulously avoid the causes which would lead to such unhappy results ?

*The good of Society* requires the adoption of this course. Society is composed of individuals. Its prosperity must, therefore, always correspond with that of the individuals of whom it is constituted. As the many or the few act their part well or ill, so will it be more or less prosperous. In any society, then, a number of individuals given to intemperance must be a serious drawback upon the prosperity of the whole body. That this vice has inflicted the most grievous calamities upon society is sufficiently apparent. We have only to look around us and to behold its ravages. We have only to open our eyes that we may contemplate its terrible devastations. What poverty, what disease, what crime, what bloodshed has it occasioned ! Has it not turned society into a valley of Bochim, a place of weeping ? Does not the good of society, then, require the practice of total abstinence ?

*The good of the Church* requires the adoption of this course. The Church has suffered much from intemperance. Ah ! how many who once gave promising indications of piety have been cut down by this vice ! Nor have the ravages been limited to the members of the Church. They have been too painfully evident among the office bearers. Not a few of these have fallen before the enemy.—The evil has intruded itself into the sacred desk. It has polluted those who have filled the hallowed office of the ministry. It has tarnished the purity of those who bear the vessels of the Lord. Shall we then continue to indulge in that which has proved so injurious to the interests of the Church, and which continues to weigh so heavily as a dead weight upon her energies ? Shall we not adopt that course by which the evils of intemperance may be prevented from assailing her ? Surely the peace and prosperity of Zion are motives which