

you are in the habit of drinking or not. I have shewn that Temperance Societies have been honoured and supported by God, to the production of much good,—that this has proven them to be his counsel and work, which man cannot overthrow, if help and direction are sought from Him. I have noticed that the purpose for which these Societies are formed, is to give prominence to the example, and publicity to the opinions of those who feel it to be their duty, and see the necessity, in the present state of things, to abstain from the use of intoxicating drink, in the hope of more deeply impressing upon others the importance of the subject, and inducing them to unite in a combined attack against the means by which intemperance is produced. And I have shewn to you from Scripture, not only the lawfulness, but the duty of abstaining from intoxicating drink, from the inspired declaration that it is good neither to drink wine, nor to do any thing, whereby a brother stumbleth, is offended, or made weak. And lest you may think, that though it is proper to give up the use of intoxicating drink, it is not necessary to subscribe the pledge, I would simply urge that it is your duty to use the most likely means, provided they are lawful, to promote every good object which you have in view; and you cannot deny that the good which has already been accomplished by the Temperance reformation, has been chiefly done by the pledged and associated names, examples, and exertions of those by whom Temperance Societies have been formed; and this being the case, it must plainly be your duty to subscribe your names, to join our ranks, and to rally together with us under the banner around which we fight, not with weapons of a carnal nature, but with the moral influence of our associated example, and with the sword—the Spirit, which is the word of God. It is now the opinion of many good men, in every country, that the institutions and effects of Temperance Societies, are forerunners of glorious times which are now not far away,—those times when the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as