

next morning, when sleep had completely worn away his fit of drunkenness. At an early hour he came to the gallery—shortly after I had arrived there myself. I was anxious to note the effect that the picture which I had arranged as I intended, would have upon him. As he entered the room in which the case was standing, I pretended to be going out, but as he passed me saying "Good morning, Fred," in his hearty, good-humored way, I stepped, unperceived by him, behind a screen, and eyed him through a small slit that had been accidentally made in the cloth. The picture soon caught his eye, and he stood before it for a few moments as though he had been mesmerized to the floor. His astonishment gave way, I could distinctly notice, to a transient gleam of mirth and a slight emotion of anger; but these hasty and varied emotions soon settled down into a deep and mortifying feeling of shame.

"How could it have been done?" said he, half-aloud, but the truth flashed upon his mind in a moment, and he proceeded to take out the picture. His face was burning red, for his shame was hot. It was a moment of intense anxiety with me. I prayed with an agony of earnestness that he might yield. The paper fell out when the picture was removed. He set down the one and picked up the other. His hand trembled as he seemed to fear to unfold it. After a few moments, however, he read it, and read it again.

He was agitated in the extreme. He stood a minute as though undecided, but he suddenly lifted up his hands, while a large tear burst from each eye, and he exclaimed.

"God be true to me! I will!"

He walked to the desk and signed the pledge with the same pen with which it had been written.

I took him by the hand, told him that I honored him, and that I knew he would act the manly part. We went immediately home. He presented the paper to aunt Elsie, who kissed him with ineffable tenderness and wept upon his shoulder. She felt with joyfully overwhelming consciousness, that Charlie had been suddenly seized from ruin, and her most earnest prayer abundantly answered.

You may perhaps be glad to hear that Charlie kept his pledge as sacredly as my aunt keeps the sheet on which it was inscribed. The picture, too, is kept, and the story is often told, though by no one except himself.

### An Affectionate Address to Religious Professors,

ON BEHALF OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE FROM INTOXICATING LIQUORS.

By the Rev. JOSHUA PRINCELY, Wesleyan Minister.

The evils resulting from the use of intoxicating liquors as beverages, have long been acknowledged and lamented. Up to a very recent period, however, no effectual effort has been made for their extinction. In the year 1833, a movement was originated for that purpose, the results of which have excited the gratitude of thousands, and the surprise of not a few. When we consider the ignorance which prevailed fifteen years ago, respecting the properties of these drinks—the strong prejudice which universally prevailed in their favor—and the amount of capital embarked in their manufacture and merchandise, and contemplate the

wide-spread prevalence of our principles, we may well exclaim—"What hath God wrought?"

There is one fact, however, dear brethren, forcing itself on public attention, which we deeply deplore. It is this: that the great majority of religious professors stand aloof from this movement. We have felt it laid upon our conscience, therefore, to address you. We do not sit in judgment upon you. We wish, however, to open to you our hearts, and hope you will receive in the spirit of love, what in that spirit, we assure you, we utter. If we should speak more strongly than your judgment approves, pardon us: attribute it solely to the force of our convictions.

We are not insensible to the fact that there has been much said and done by some of the friends of this cause, which, in your judgment, has not been judicious—to say the least. In this we fully concur. While we frankly admit the fact, however, we feel it right to ask: Ought this to excite our surprise? Does the pen of history record any great movement, where there has been the absence of all indiscretion and wrong-doing on the part of all its chief actors? Would it be reasonable to expect this? And are there not, moreover, peculiarly palliative circumstances in this movement? Was the man who was doomed by a father's intemperance to be the victim of ignorance, cradled and nursed and trained in the school of vice, whose only unflinching companion, for many successive years, was wretchedness—was such a man, after having proved the practicability of total abstinence, and experienced the personal and domestic comforts, the physical and moral benefits, of which it has made him the rich possessor—to be expected to speak in any other language than such as must be characterized by some degree of extravagance?

If, however, the evils of intemperance, and the benefits resulting from its extinction, have been greatly over-rated, yet there is such a vast and palpable amount of the former still existing, and of the latter already effected, as to claim, not our sympathy merely in behalf of the cause, but our avowed and devoted patronage of it.

It is our firm conviction, that your sympathy and patronage ought not any longer to be withheld; that it cannot any longer be withheld innocently. The mischiefs and miseries caused by intoxicating liquors, meet us everywhere; it is undeniable that they are the certain and inevitable results of using these liquors as a beverage; and that the only way of exterminating them is to banish these liquors from our tables. Science has now demonstrated that we may do so with safety; that they are not only unnecessary, but essentially injurious to the system of healthy persons. In an able article in a recent No. of the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, entitled "An Inquiry into the Effects of Alcoholic Drinks on the Human System in Health and Disease," the writer sums up the results of his reasonings in these words:—"On the whole, the abstinent system is preferable, on physical grounds alone, to the most moderate habitual use of fermented liquors." No fewer than 1600 medical men, many of whom are of high, and some of the highest, reputation, have attached their names to the following declaration:—

"We the undersigned are of opinion—

1. That a very large proportion of human misery, including poverty, disease, and crime, is induced by the use of alcoholic or fermented liquors as beverages.
2. That the most perfect health is compatible with total abstinence from all such intoxicating beverages, whether in