

which God has employed for the propagation of his own cause in the world is by association. It is not enough that we profess our faith in Christ individually; we must connect ourselves with the Church of Christ, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the Gospel.

It may be said, however, that we are not commanded in the holy Scriptures to form Temperance Societies. Neither are we commanded to form Bible and Missionary and Tract Societies.—These institutions, however, are evidently in accordance with the spirit of Christianity; and we apprehend that the same may be said of Temperance Societies.

That many violate their pledge is also adduced as an objection to these institutions. We freely admit the fact. We deeply lament that many who have connected themselves with these Societies have returned to the paths of intemperance. But while we admit the fact, we deny that it forms a valid objection to the temperance movement. Do not many who connect themselves with the Christian Church also act contrary to their profession? Shall we say that it is wrong on this account to unite in Church fellowship with the professed followers of our Saviour?

We repeat, then, that the plan which we would recommend is total abstinence from all that intoxicates. Many and weighty are the considerations which call for the adoption of this course. *The good of individuals* demands it. No person who persists in the customary use of intoxicating drinks is absolutely safe. He is, at least, in some degree of danger. He may, indeed, flatter himself that he is in perfect safety—he may laugh at the apprehensions of others respecting him. But many who once considered themselves as secure as he, have fallen before intemperance. None can continue the habitual use of intoxicating liquors without running some degree of risk? Is it not, then, the part of wisdom to choose that course which he may pursue with perfect safety?

*The good of families* demands the adoption of this course. Who can calculate the miseries which intemperance has introduced into the domestic circle? Who can delineate the agonies and the sighs and the tears of which it has been the prolific source? How many have been the parents, whose gray hairs have been brought down in sorrow to the grave, through the drunkenness of their