

entreat you be so no longer. And the God of all the families of the earth will bless you and yours.

Closely connected with this subject I would urge upon you renewed care in the training of your families in the knowledge and practice of true religion. The Scripture gives it as one mark of the "last days that men shall be disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection." And truly this mark is upon our present times. Insubordination, impatience of control, want of respect for age and rank, abound. The young forget that part of their Catechism (with many others) which bids them "submit themselves to all governors, spiritual pastors and masters, and to order themselves lowly and reverently to all their betters." I fear that in many cases this and other juvenile failures may be traced to the want of due care and right example at home. O remember that you are greatly answerable for the souls of your children. You are told in God's word to "train them up in the way they should go—in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." "In the morning sow thy seed," and the promise is sure, that good will come of it. Especially, if as you surely ought, you add fervent prayer for God's blessing upon all your care. How many are the instances of gracious answers to such prayers, especially from a mother's heart and lips, for some wayward child, perhaps wandering and dying in a far-off land. Meanwhile, take care while they are under your roof to accustom them to the observance of the Lord's day, to be with you in His house, and to attend regularly at the Sunday School, in connexion with the church of their fathers. "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded" is the precept of your Bible. Suffer a word of exhortation specially for yourselves. I delight to see you around me in the church and our other meetings. I desire to have you prepared to take the places of your fathers in all that is good and praiseworthy. I would guard you, if I could, from the snares and temptations which surround you. Especially from the great evil of our city, the love of strong drink, and all the downward paths that lead to it. You know that for nearly forty years I have supported Temperance Associations, I hope not without some success. I intend to do so to the end of my life. Convinced of their necessity and benefit, I want you all to unite your efforts with mine, in the good cause. Choose your own, out of the many forms of organization, but belong to some portion of the great Army now engaged in fighting