

and which may be truly said to be the source of all your misfortunes. If, upon a retrospect of your lives, you find you were ever the victims of intemperance, not we, but God, commands you to avoid the sinful occasion altogether; as, from the face of the serpent, you must fly from what has over and over brought death to your poor souls. You must not content yourselves by lopping off every noxious excrescence; but, in the Gospel advice, the axe must be laid to the root; you must tear it out from its deepest fibres: or, otherwise, like the cockle, it will sprout forth and thicken more and more, until it will choke within you the growth of every budding virtue. From the past take that lesson from experience which millions never learned until too late. Dally not with the serpent, for his fell hallucinations will blind and betray you; it is his very nature to bite, and he will bite to the core. If you are weak, dread above all things the use of intoxicating liquors; because, or such people, the first taste is the perpetration of the crime itself: excess must follow, as a necessary consequence. "Live soberly, therefore, and justly and Godly, in this world, looking for the blessed hope and coming of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ," (Paul to Titus, ii., 17), who will come soon and will not delay. (Heb. x., 37.)

As we fear we have already trespassed too long on your indulgence, we will now conclude by recommending to your particular notice the great work of the Propagation of the Faith, which has been already established among you, and which has been so long and so favourably known to every well informed Catholic. It would be out of place, at the present moment, to attempt a description of the blessings innumerable which that Association, by its prayers and by its munificent contributions, is bringing down upon God's Church in every country. Since the funds of the Propaganda at Rome were confiscated to a considerable extent, during the first French Revolution, it was principally through this Association that the Gospel was preached to the Savage and the Pagan in the remotest regions of the earth. Whether on the Rocky Mountains or on the banks of the Columbia River; whether at the foot of the Himalayas or in the most remote Island of the Pacific, it is the Catholic Priest as the emissary of this Association, who is making new conquests for Jesus and is pushing further and further the frontier of his sweet empire, which is being every day extended and will continue to extend until it will gird the globe. To help him, therefore, in that soul-saving mission; to communicate to others those blessings, which you prize above every earthly treasure,