

bined with instruction of a varied kind, shall *exemplify* how much more truly happy it is thus to spend their hours of relaxation from the daily pressure of business, than by indulging in the society of the intemperate, the idle, the vicious, or the profane. In this, as in all other cases, the Scriptures will be found most true, that "wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are paths of peace." *There* will be found no wearisome lessons—no vauntings of superiority—no assumption of higher excellencies, to offend or to chill the youthful stranger; but the conversation which enlightens, not wearies—the mutual flow of mind seeking the same high objects—or the quiet and silent communion, in the well written book, with the good, the great, and the noble, who have, in past ages, or in modern times, adorned the history of man.

Among those truly Christian young men will be found no depreciation of kindred Societies, or of any useful instrumentality established in this evil world; for every member of the Association will be vividly impressed with the recollection that example is far more influential than precept, and that evil speaking must leave an evil impression.

The absolute necessity, in order to accomplish anything good, of the members preserving consistency of character when engaged in the urgencies of business, or in any of their social or family employments, will make them watchful over every portion of their conduct, and thus be eminently useful to others, while they advance their own spiritual welfare. He who can control a naturally irritable temper, suppress the desire of gain when at the sacrifice of truth, or with calm determination of mind pass unheeded the laugh or scoff of the externally gay but inwardly unhappy sceptic, will be best prepared for his sphere of usefulness in this Association; and thus another instrumentality will be added to the Sunday-school, the Temperance and other Societies, by which the youthful mind is preserved from vice, and from which our various Churches are supplied, and prepared for an association in another state of being, unlimited in its excellence, endless in its duration, and unbounded in its bliss.

I believe it to be ordered by a wise and beneficent Providence, that Christians in general imagine their own times to be most fraught with peril to the Church of Christ. I