

PARSONAGE, Brockville, March 17th, 1840.

To ——— Esq.

*Dear Sir,*

I feel much pleasure in complying with the request of members of the Church and certain others made through you—that I would permit the publication of a Sermon on Christian Temperance, preached last Sunday evening in our Parish Church.

If the subject be dispassionately examined, I am humbly of opinion that no candid christian mind can regard either the delivery or publication of such a Lecture, as being a COMMITTAL to *Intemperance*, but as it is in truth, *the very reverse*. A close adherence to the Word and Spirit of the Divine Volume, can not involve ungodly consequences. The miracle at the marriage feast did not so commit our blessed Lord. "Jesus did *not* commit himself unto men" in *any* way whatever, "for he knew what was in man."

Supposing some should say that after all I only take shelter behind a *miracle*, what then? What better shelter do we need, or can we find than the adorable Saviour himself. Let those who differ in opinion from us speak against us if they will, but with God's help they shall have no ground to affirm that we "*lightly esteemed* the rock of our Salvation."

"Rock of ages cleft for me,

"Let me hide myself in thee."

To express myself in the words of a modern writer—"I prefer to rely upon the simple word of truth, of which Scripture is the depository, and since Christ has told me to preach the *whole* counsel of God, to do so fearlessly and without doubting; being aware on the one hand that his thoughts are not our thoughts nor our ways his ways, and on the other that he is JUSTIFIED in his sayings, and overcomes when HE IS JUDGED."

Your affectionate Brother, and Minister in Christ,

E. DENROCHE.