

**TOTAL ABSTINENCE PROMISE.**

Different persons have different reasons for taking the PLEDGE. The PLEDGE of itself need not create any new obligation under pain of sin, as it may be taken as an expression of a resolution to keep from liquor, and as a token of union in prayer and example with hundreds of thousands of self-sacrificing souls who have taken a similar resolve. The PLEDGE need not in every case be taken from a priest. Sometimes very fruitful pledges are taken privately by the individuals themselves. Among the many reasons inducing thoughtful men to take the pledge we transcribe those given on the Total Abstinence Promise Card used by the Paulist Fathers in their apostolate against intemperance:—

**A's REASON.**

I feel that by making this promise I can encourage others, who may need it, to do the same.

**B's REASON.**

I have noticed that those who make and keep such promises are better Christians, have better health, longer life, and pleasanter homes than habitual drinkers.

**C's REASON,**

I cannot afford to be constantly drinking. I have a family to support, and they need all I can earn.

**D's REASON.**

I must do some penance for my sins; such self-denial is pleasing to God and meritorious for me.

**E's REASON.**

I am afraid of giving scandal to my children or to others; should any one by my example become a drunkard, what could I answer in the day of Judgment?

**F's REASON.**

Drunkenness is a great cause of sin, cruelty, and crime; I intend to avoid even the occasion of it.

**G's REASON.**

Once I was a victim of the drink habit. I am resolved never again to submit to its slavery.