

## DECLARATION.

*We, who are designated "British Templars," in regular session convened, and intending, under God's blessing and guidance, to consider and determine upon all such matters as shall appear necessary for the welfare of our Society, desire, in the first place, for the avoiding of all misunderstanding, to make a solemn declaration of the principles upon which we propose to proceed. Feeling that it is both natural and reasonable that those who have common rights to protect, common interests to defend, and common objects to obtain, should act together and know each other; we have resolved to form an Association for the protection of ourselves and our fellow beings from the many evils of Intemperance—for the securing of mutual assistance when needed—and for the elevation of our intellectual and moral characters; and being aware that through want of that organization which secures concentrated effort, the benevolent objects of Patriots and Christians are often frustrated, and the best and noblest exertions for the public weal defeated; we declare our firm and unanimous resolution, in dependence on Divine aid, to preserve those principles ourselves, to facilitate and promote their acquirement and dissemination, and to transmit them unimpaired to posterity; and we do hereby pledge ourselves, with a view to secure more effectually the needed organization, to be governed by the following Constitution and Laws.*