

"Is it not unquestionably the prolific source of much of the social crime and moral degradation which our police courts daily disclose, and which crowd the cells of our prisons and penitentiaries?"

"Does it not increase and aggravate to a fearful extent Sabbath desecration, neglect of gospel ordinances, open profanity and gross immorality of every kind?"

"Does it not hinder the prosecution of every good work, retard the spread of the gospel, and cast a deadly blight upon the cultivation of home piety, by squandering the means, quenching the zeal, and crippling the energies of many a professed member of our christian congregations—by closing the bible, shutting the closet, and demolishing the family altar in many a wretched home, and by presenting a serious and oft-times a fatal stumbling-block, in the way of many an anxious enquirer?"

"If these things are so, brethren,—and they are too painfully patent truths to be denied—what is our obvious duty? Is it not to put forth a united, consistent, and scriptural effort to arrest and remove this mighty evil—to attempt to deliver, as well as to compassionate those who are already enthralled by this deceitful and destructive vice, to remove temptation from the pathway of the young and unwary, and conscientiously to clear our skirts of the blood of our brethren?"

"And, in order effectually to accomplish this, ought we not, if need be, as followers of Him who gave himself for us, cheerfully to make any sacrifice, either of interest or enjoyment? A high authority has said, "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth or is offended, or is made weak."

"Allow us, therefore, earnestly to press upon your consideration, the principles, and cordially to commend to you, the practice of *total abstinence* from all that can intoxicate; and also to suggest, that in every suitable way you discountenance the drinking usages of society, and, on the contrary, encourage the principles of the strictest sobriety."

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things, and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.' "

X.

Reviews of Books.

SERMONS BY THE LATE REV. ANDREW ELLIOT, *Minister of the United Presbyterian Church, Ford; with Memoir.* By REV. JOHN LAW, *Innerleithen; and Reminiscences* by REV. WILLIAM ANDERSON, *Old Calabar.* Crown 8vo., pp. 250, with Portrait. Edinburgh: Andrew Elliot, 1857.

This is a handsome volume, lately published, as a memorial of a minister whose talents and acquirements were of no ordinary kind, and whose moral