

and enforce everywhere the principles of that blessed Gospel which is able to make us wise unto salvation. I earnestly appeal to each one of you, and especially to young men, to learn the grandeur of self-control, for that is the real meaning of the word "temperance." Companions, social usages, liquor sellers, may have their share of blame if you depart from the paths of sobriety. But, after all, you are mainly responsible for keeping in subjection your baser appetites. No laws of any kind will remove from earth the stern need of personal discipline. Even if we close the saloons, we shall have to see to it that fashionable customs have less "whiskey and soda" in them, and that not only men but women are delivered from the awful perils of social debauchery. The poor drunkard is the last result of a course of gradual degradation. He is not made all at once. He does not dream of ever going to excess when he begins his dalliance with the intoxicating bowl. Little by little the appetite grows, the will is enfeebled, the conscience is depraved, the finer ambitions overthrown, until alas! alas! he is led captive by the devil at his will.

O how shall this be cured, this deep-seated weakness in presence of which human laws have proved their insufficiency? Outward restraints may be of some service. The wise physician may find something to do. The patient friend may bring his stores of counsel and sympathy. But if we want to triumph over all that is evil, we must seek the aid of the Strong One, who alone is able to subjugate our lower passions so that they shall