

INTRODUCTION.

THE Order of "SONS OF TEMPERANCE" has been instituted for the purpose of uniting more closely the friends of Total Abstinence, and to afford mutual aid in the hour of affliction. It is an Institution of such a character, that while none are so elevated in life, as not to be honoured by a connection with it, so none are so humble, if honest and upright, as to be debarred its immunities and blessings; an Institution in which are needed no undue excitement, or extraordinary efforts, to keep alive those principles of the Total Abstinence Reform, so essential to the welfare of mankind; an Institution in which honors and labors are so admirably distributed as to create and maintain an interest which secures the greatest harmony, and insures habits of sobriety and industry. "It has brought into the field a great body of men whose influence might otherwise have been lost, and who are now advocating, in public and in private, at their social meetings, and in all places, the great principles of Temperance and love to mankind; has united in one noble phalanx a host of efficient and enterprising men, who are living witnesses to its benefits, and brought together men of different religious and political opinions, who by a systematic organization are unitedly labouring for the public good, as well as for their own mutual benefit."

Our beneficence is not that of beneficial societies in general—limited to our own particular members. A brother, though a stranger—when in distress, shares our munificence, and receives such succor as his wants may require, and our circumstances admit.