

into prolonged captivity through the effects of strong drink, so surely will our fair land be chastised for the intemperate habits of its people, if not speedily reformed of the evil. And in order to effect a reform there is no half way measure. If we rid ourselves of the drunkard's drunkenness, we must rid ourselves of the drunkard's drink. Of this there can be no question. Cause and effect have ever and must always go hand-in-hand. As a natural consequence intemperance is always filling up its ranks from the army of moderate drinkers. No man becomes a sot at once or from choice. The drunkard's downward course is naturally *progressive*, and the majority of confirmed inebriates can trace the origin of their wayward career to the drinking associations of their early home. Many a murderer in reply to the inquiry as to what induced the *act*, has poured out his soul in the following strain: "It was wine at my father's table. Before I left the shelter of the parental roof, I had learned to love the drink that has been my ruin. O! that I could only portray the horrors springing from the first glass, given by a mother's hand! Would to God I had died before I knew the love or passion strong drink can bring to its poor deluded victims; for then I would have had kind friends to weep and think kindly of me, as in silence they gazed into my tomb! But now I *must* fill a murderer's grave! I am lost, lost, eternally lost! O, parents, if you value the souls of your children, dash from your firesides the cursed drink! And O, young man! by all that you hold dear shun the cup—the fatal cup!"

Christian parents, we ask you in all sincerity to think seriously of the matter; and if you have been in the habit of using wine at your table, we entreat you to give up the custom, and let it be banished from your homes at once and for ever. In using intoxicating liquors, in moderation, you may fancy you feel tolerably safe yourselves, but are you prepared to say that your children are safe; or that your example will not ruin them? Whatever opinion may be cherished regarding the abolition of the liquor traffic, there is no room for dispute here. If your children are trained in the principles of *total abstinence* from infancy, they are not likely to turn out drunkards in after life. On the other hand, if you teach them to love strong drink, it is a dangerous experiment, and their troubles, in future years, may bring your grey hairs down with sorrow to the grave. No matter who may think to the contrary, experience goes to prove that entire safety from the ravages of strong drinks lies in wholly abstaining from their use. Hence, will you not teach your children this principle? Will the discharge of this duty awaken in your bosom misgivings now, or regrets hereafter? Let conscience answer. But should you continue the moderate use of wine in your family, and your children become drunkards thereby, what sad coloring must it give to life's last moments; the thought of leaving behind a family of depraved children to nurture other children equally depraved;—thus transmitting the misery you entailed upon them to a remote posterity! Only think of these things; they are stern realities, and must be encountered here or hereafter. We entreat you, therefore, to act wisely in your present decision. To-day if you will hear the voice of reason harden not your heart. Seek infinite wisdom to direct in the right way, and your household will not only be blest but become a blessing.