

happy and industrious people. Above all, that we are where JEHOVAH is truly known—a land of Bibles and Churches, and Gospel light, and abounding religious privileges. Surely not for our righteousness are we thus blessed, above other people, but because our Lord is gracious and merciful, and has not been extreme to mark what we have done amiss. For indeed we must confess, that as a community we have much to humble us in the sight of God. Our public sins are many and grievous. “Because of swearing the land mourneth,”—Sabbaths are desecrated,—The monster evil of Intemperance, though scotched, is not killed: a standard is lifted up against it firmly held by thousands of noble hearts and strong hands. Temperance banners are unfurled to the breeze everywhere in the towns and villages, in the beautiful valleys and on the smiling hillsides of our happy land. The boys of our country are organized for the fight. Our young girls are helping in the good cause—God bless them all of whatever name! I never hear or read of their doings without thankfulness. Still my friends, too many stand aloof. Come and help us against the worst enemy we have; against that which fills the early graves, destroys the happiness of thousands of homes, breaks the hearts of wives, and fathers and mothers, fills our prisons, and brings hell upon God’s earth, and is the most effectual weapon in Satan’s hands for the destruction of body and soul.

Allow me to say that it is your duty, and your interest, to help by your voice, your prayers and your example, those who are contending against this gigantic evil. It will not do for us to say with Cain, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” all of us are that; all are bound to save him if we can by word or deed, or example.

Under that conviction forty-two years ago I was led to try what I thus might do for those around me, and so, by God’s help, I mean to act to my dying day. If you love your old pastor,—if you love your brother man,—if you love your country,—if you love the cause of Christ, which is sapped and hindered by Intemperance, let me beg of you to give your countenance, and name to some one or other of the numerous organizations within your reach.

Turning to the affairs of our own Congregation, I acknowledge with humble thankfulness that mercy of God, by which I have