

your invitation for next Tuesday evening." Meanwhile, it was ascertained, that his views favored *moderate drinking*. He was told, that such were not the principles of the Southport Temperance Society; when he concluded not to lecture, but to give his notions on the previous Sabbath evening. He did so, informing the people that he did not deny himself the privilege of wetting his lip when he chose to do so, but warned them against intoxication, as a beastly act, and unworthy of the dignity of man. He allowed that there were cases in which the principles of total abstinence might be the most proper for a society to adopt; that when a person was aware of the fact, that he could not drink without indulging to excess, such might, if they chose, unite with such a Society, and be benefitted by it, and rather advised such to join it.

When the next Tuesday evening came, no one was prepared to address the meeting; and the writer, who was then President of the Society, was pressed into the work. He stated that Southport had been acknowledged as the most noted for temperance of any place on Lake Michigan; and then remarked, that it was by total abstinence principles that this high reputation had been attained. He then warned them against the introduction of the new theory of Mr. Alanson; yet to test the practical efficacy of the two theories, he would ask the committee to circulate in the large congregation a paper for the names of such as could not drink without excess. After a careful circulation of the paper, it was found that not one had signed it. He then suggested, that as Paul had advanced the benevolent idea, that "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother is offended or is made weak," so they might act upon the same principle, and sign the total abstinence pledge, if not for their own sakes, yet for the good of others; that it was hard for those whom we love, and for whom we would even make sacrifice, to act alone, but upon this benevolent principle they would sign in company with others. The pledge was now circulated, and about thirty