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**A DISCOURSE**

XV.

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

*State Temperance Society of South Carolina,*

AT ITS

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY,**

IN THE REPRESENTATIVES' HALL, COLUMBIA, NOV. 29, 1838.

**BY A. W. LELAND, D. D.**

*Professor of Theology in the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C.*

WITH AN

*Appendix of the Minutes of the Meeting.*

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**Columbia, S. C.**

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY, BY I. C. MORGAN.

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## ADDRESS.

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*Gentlemen of the Society, and Fellow-Citizens:*

In surveying human society, whether civilized or barbarous, our attention is arrested by the prevalence of evils, so irrational and revolting, that the inquiry is forced upon us, how they *could* have been produced, how they *can* be tolerated. Most of the crimes, whose recorded frequency and enormity stain the annals of our race, can be readily traced to the selfishness and moral corruption which belong to our lapsed nature. But there are some practices equally prevalent and pernicious, so absurd, so barbarous and brutal, as to outrage common sense, and shock every feeling of humanity. Yet even *these* enormities could not have prevailed at all, and cannot now continue to scourge the earth unless sustained and sanctioned by public approbation. We must therefore find the real cause of popular evils, however vile and degrading, in the corruption and perversity of popular opinion.

This appears from the fact, that, in all parts of the world, there is the allowed and habitual commission of crimes, which are alike abhorrent to the dictates of reason and our natural feelings of justice and equity. How does it come to pass, in oriental climes, that helpless infancy and feeble age continue to be sacrificed by myriads every year, by the cruel, remorseless hands of parents and sons? Why are wretched widows, on the shores of the Carnatic, still driven by frantic violence into the flaming pile, to be consumed with the dead bodies of their husbands? Why, in enlightened Europe, and America, do so many of the noble and the brave shed their blood, and offer up their lives, on the altar of false honour? Why, in every age and nation, has the monstrous spectacle been presented, of multitudes of men going into the field and slaughtering each other by thousands, to adjust the controversies of neighboring nations? And why was it ever

possible, among the professed disciples of the Prince of Peace, that systems of faith should be defended by the sword, and that blood should flow like water, in the fierce conflicts of sectarian zeal? Surely neither of these systems of outrageous folly and madness could have been regarded, in their first inception, by any mortal man, with any feelings but those of utter and instinctive abhorrence. How then can we account for the existence of such atrocious customs, except by the endurance or favour of a corrupt public sentiment. Supported and encouraged by this, the most destructive and detestable practices maintain their ascendancy, unchecked by argument, unrestrained by law. Thus sanctioned, the Pagan son applies the torch to consume his widowed mother, the smiling infant is torn from the maternal bosom and left to be devoured—and the Hindoo abandons the sick to perish on the banks of the Ganges, or consigns his aged, helpless parent to a living grave. Nor less powerful is the influence of perverted popular opinion, in producing and vindicating crime, in the most enlightened and refined portions of our world. Public opinion pronounces its sanction, and polished statesmen deliberately slaughter each other in single combat, and Christian governments settle their disputes by the legalized murder of myriads of their subjects.

Such, every where, is the resistless force of popular sentiment. Neither bad men nor good men can overcome its mighty power. No laws are needed to enforce its decisions, and all laws are powerless which oppose them. From its tribunal are issued decrees which are rarely disobeyed; its enactments fix the general standard of morals, and from its sentence there is no appeal.

It is the special duty of the patriot, the philanthropist and the Christian, to defend the great interest of society against the dangerous influence of this uncontrolled and uncontrollable power. Direct opposition is fruitless: Reason and eloquence task their energies in vain: and even legislatures and courts of justice are almost powerless in such a conflict. There is but one remedy which human skill can employ, and that is the counteraction of a pernicious popular opinion, by creating an opposite one which is wise and salutary. However strong and impetuous the current of public sentiment may be, in favour of any prevalent evil, if we can arrest its course, and roll it back by an opposing tide, we not only destroy the hostile influence, but secure an efficient co-operation. For, the responses of this dread oracle are not more disastrous and fatal in the advocacy of *wrong*, than they are stern and inflexible in the vindication of *right*.

Such, fellow-citizens, in all human society, but especially under such a government as ours, is the invincible energy of popular

opinion, in regulating public morals and in forming a general standard of character. It can sustain, or it can overthrow, any civil institution. By its decision laws and magistrates are invested with resistless authority, or rendered useless and contemptible. It is therefore manifest, that the efficient causes of prevailing evils are the false notions and mischievous delusions of the multitude.

These remarks are appropriate to the business of this evening's convocation. The fatal progress and wide-spread dominion of that tremendous scourge Intemperance, which has spread desolation through the land, are the baleful results of a depraved public sentiment. Unsupported by this, it would have been utterly impossible that a practice so degrading, so irrational, and so destructive, could have gained so alarming an ascendancy. While reason, and conscience, and philanthropy, unite in pronouncing this vice inexpressibly pernicious and odious; the fact of its prevalence proclaims, that it is sanctioned and encouraged by public sentiment.

Let us imagine a period, when this practice had no existence, and therefore could have enjoyed no popular favour. Suppose the proposal had been made, to bring into general use a class of liquids which would produce all the effects which ardent spirits have really produced—deranging all the powers of reason and producing temporary madness—exascerbating the passions of men into frantic violence—leading multitudes to idleness, improvidence and beggary—causing murders and suicides without number—filling hospitals, prisons, poor-houses and bedlams with its wretched victims—reducing myriads of families to utter ruin—driving widows and orphans into unsheltered, hopeless penury—destroying health, comfort and reputation—introducing a direful army of diseases and pain, remorse and infamy—and consigning its hundreds of thousands, in the prime of their years, to a dishonoured grave. I say, had such a practice been proposed for general adoption, with the distinct understanding that it would produce just the effects which it has actually produced; with what horror and detestation would such a proposal have been regarded: what energy of purpose would have inspired all classes of men to crush such a system of concentrated malice and cruelty.

If, in addition to the above proposal, the offer had been made by thousands of men, to devote themselves to the work of manufacturing, conveying and distributing the poisonous preparation, and grow rich by its general diffusion; with what a burst of indignation would such a proposition have been received, and to what infamy would its authors have been consigned.

And if, in fine, the demand had been made, that such a work of destruction should be fostered by government, and those engaged in it should be commissioned and authorised by law, to enrich themselves by spreading crime, and want, and disease, and death, all around them—what a remonstrance, loud as the sound of many waters, would have come up from the whole nation, against such a monstrous requisition.

And yet just such a system *has been* established under the eye of the American people, and has attained its present fatal predominance and wide extension by public favour. Just such a multitude of men have been and are still employed, and distributing the deadly liquids; and just such legislative enactments have been made, to authorize and protect the direful work of degrading and destroying our fellow men.

It is thus manifest, from the facts of the case, that this desolating plague has acquired its present frightful extent, by gradually securing the favour and support of public opinion; and that it is enabled to continue its ravages, to multiply its victims, and spread its deadly contagion; because the people wish to have it so. If it were otherwise, if the popular will decided that the work of destruction should cease, and that no man should be permitted to poison his neighbours—that will would be obeyed—the streams of pollution would be dried up, and the fountains of misery and madness be closed forever. As the power of exterminating this moral pestilence is in the people, and as it is not exercised; and therefore the broad avenue of ruin is kept wide open; it must be admitted that those in the community, who favour the system, are not only more numerous than its opposers, but more zealous and active.

It is natural here to inquire how it could be possible, that such a dreadful evil could have secured the popular favour it evidently enjoys—by what attractions or blandishments it could have won so many hearts—and by what gradual accumulations of patronage, it could have gained such a sweeping tide of influence, as to bid defiance to all the ordinary efforts of opposition. All this can be explained by considering the consummate skill, with which the great enemy of man has managed this grand engine, in supporting the empire of guilt and misery; and the peculiar adaptation of this mode of forbidden indulgence to the strong propensities of our fallen nature. It is over the animal spirits and the mental faculties, that the intoxicating poison exerts its mysterious sway. Its charm dispels the gloom of sorrow, removes the burdens of poverty, suspends the anguish of remorse, and fills the most vile and degraded with pride and exultation. The same intoxicating cup inspires feelings of causeless mirth and imaginary

joy, excites the passions to reign and revel, and imparts a fictitious courage to defy both God and man. Thus multitudes eagerly seize the Circean bowl; the guilty to stifle conscience, the revengeful to nerve the arm for crime—the infamous to forget their degradation—the wretched to assuage their grief by a “pleasing phrenzy”—and the multitudes of the unwise and thoughtless to taste the brief delirium of unreal joy. The pleasures of intellect and virtue, of mental improvement and rational intercourse, are not relished by the great majority of men. But where a taste for these is wanting, there is a restless craving for excitement and indulgence, which delights in the insane merriment, the revelry and riot of intoxication. And when the habit is once formed, it binds its victims to its altar as with fetters of triple brass.

In the vast assemblage therefore, which follow in the train, and contend around the standard of this Moloch of destruction, we behold multitudes who are fascinated and led captive by habitual indulgence. And when you add to these, the vast number of those whose interests would be affected, whose gains would be diminished, by the interruption of the work of ruin and death, you no longer wonder at the fact that the empire of Intemperance is actually sustained by public favour and patronage. This is not only true in reference to numbers, but more signally so, as to zeal and efficiency. Most of the friends of sobriety and abstinence, are lukewarm and undecided. Many pronounce the use and sale of ardent spirits great evils, but are willing to make neither sacrifice nor effort for their removal, while others shrink from the ranks of Temperance, to preserve their popularity. So that the number of those, who come out boldly to the great work of reformation, is comparatively small. But in the opposite ranks, all is ardour and decision. Who ever saw a distiller, or an importer, or a retailer, who was not wide awake and ready for conflict in the cause? Who ever saw a drunkard, a tipler, or one of those respectable persons who daily take a little, who did not evince a lively zeal in defence of the precious right of drinking? Manifestly then, both in numerical force and in untiring, inextinguishable zeal, the cause of the destroyer possesses a decided advantage. And is there not reason to fear, *even now*, and *among ourselves*, that the danger is increasing? Has not this tide of popular influence, after a partial reflux, recently risen to a height which threatens to sweep over the land, with the besom of destruction? It has swept over us already: and who can behold, without tears of anguish, the wrecks of hope and happiness, the scattered fragments of what was fair and noble—the poverty, disgrace, disease, madness and death, which mark its desolating progress. We speak not of distant times or places, we dwell not upon pictures of the imagination. It is what our own eyes have

seen, our own ears have heard, our own hearts have keenly felt. It personally concerns each of you, my hearers. How many hearts in this assembly, have been wrung with agony, by the ravages of this deadly foe. How few of us here present, can survey the circle of our dearest relatives, without the pangs of recollecting some ruined friend, or some endeared relative, consigned by this evil, to a premature grave. What parent here, does not tremble for his sons—what reflecting young man does not tremble for himself—and what maiden does not shudder at the thought that she *may* become a drunkard's wife.

Amid these apprehensions, we behold the vast consolidated army of the friends and advocates of the destroyer, united with one heart for the defence and perpetuation of this work of death. And now what is to be done? Will the friends of Temperance slumber at such a crisis? While the opposing hosts are full of zeal and ardour, shall we sit still and fold our hands in indolence, or apathy, or despair? If you are ready to admit, that there is a pressing necessity for effort, a loud call for decisive measures, to arrest these increasing evils; the enquiry is urged, what remedy can be applied? By what barriers is this moral pestilence to be arrested? How can this rushing tide of popular interest and delusion be resisted? We answer, that nothing is to be hoped from any aggressive action, or persuasive influence, upon the friends and advocates of the use of strong drink, or the multitudes who shout in their train. You need not appeal to the dealers, nor their victims, nor their apologists. You can make no impression—your arguments and expostulations are given to the winds. The attempt is utterly hopeless. You might as well reason with a tempest. Though you should collect in one vast assemblage, the heart-broken widows and fatherless children, ruined by intoxication—though you should call together a mourning group of mothers, whose bosoms bleed from the envenomed shaft of this destroyer—nay, if you could summon from ten thousand graves, the ghastly victims of intemperance, and then, “with an eloquence which might disturb the slumbers of the dead, protest, in sentences of lightning and thunder,” against the enormous criminality, cruelty and madness of their course; all would be vain—they would pursue their way with unabated ardour. The dealer would continue his gainful traffic; the distiller would keep the poisoned fountain full; the importer would send to distant climes to meet the entire demand; the wretched inebriate would plunge deeper than ever; the moderate drinker would hasten onward towards the goal of habitual intoxication; and the maddened revellers in a thousand dram-shops, would raise the shout of defiance and the loud laugh of derision, against all your efforts and expostulations. We re-

peat the stubborn fact, and it is time the friends of the Temperance cause *knew* and *felt* it, that very little can be accomplished, while popular opinion is either neutral or in opposition. As long as the traffic in ardent spirits is a reputable business—as long as men may grow rich by making drunkards and ruining families all around them, and yet be respected by the community; as long as it is a prevailing sentiment that spirituous liquor is a good thing, and that its moderate use constitutes one of the pleasures of life, which all have a right to enjoy—so long the prospect of reformation is dark and cheerless.

But this view of the subject, instead of causing discouragement, should animate the friends of temperance, to united and vigorous exertions. There is a fair field for the enterprize, and a wide avenue open to invite our entrance. We should cherish a settled conviction that we have one great thing to do, and that is to collect and concentrate such a moral influence; to create and embody such a powerful current of public opinion; to secure such an united and vigorous co-operation of the friends of Temperance throughout the State, as to meet on equal ground the embattled legions of the foe, and maintain the conflict with ardour and energy, equal to their own. The appalling facts of the case, may be thus illustrated. Suppose that in every part of the State, in the centres of all its cities, villages and neighborhoods, there were fountains full of poisoned waters, whose exhalations diffused pestilence and death. Suppose that a large body of men were employed to preserve these fountains from being exhausted. Now suppose the question should be, shall these sources of misery and disease, of madness and death, be allowed to remain? or shall they be filled up and exterminated? Suppose the people, as a body, should answer, let them remain as they are—that the legislators say, we cannot interfere, as part of the public revenue arises from sanctioning these things by law—and the great army of the owners and managers of the fountains should raise a clamour against such a violation of their rights—and another multitude of moderate men, should prudently propose, that the danger should be lessened, by lowering the waters of death, *about three inches*, in each fountain. In such a supposed case, what ought to be done? Should the friends of humanity sit still and witness such scenes of whole-sale destruction? Should they quietly permit one class of men to flourish by the wretchedness and ruin of their neighbours? No—there should instantly be formed such a combination, of the wisdom and virtue, the intelligence and philanthropy of the State, as would act with resistless energy upon public sentiment, and thus extirpate the whole system at once, and forever.

But, fellow citizens, this imaginary scene of ruin and devastation, which is so revolting and horrible, that, you pronounce it impossible ever to be realized—is a very faint delineation of the actual ravages which intoxicating drinks are even now making in your population. In every particular of horror and abomination, the picture is far surpassed by the reality. Could I spread out before this audience, the heart-sickening scenes of guilt and anguish, which are constantly occurring, the detail would be like the Prophet's roll, full of mourning, lamentation and woe. But no language *could* adequately describe these horrors. O, could you hear the mingled shouts of rage and blasphemy, which issue from a thousand dens of pollution—or the abuse and execrations which drive the broken-hearted wives and shrinking children, of a thousand drunkards, from their wretched abodes, amid the winter's storms—could you hear the bitter groans of remorse from a thousand despairing death-beds, or the loud wailing of a great company of widows and mothers, as they wring their hands, and tear their hair over the graves of the loved victims of inebriation—you would need no feeble words that I can use, to rouse you to overpowering emotion, to irresistible action, in this cause.

But the question returns, what can be done?—How can the slumbering energies of the friends of human happiness be awakened?—How can a controlling influence be created, or a host gathered mighty enough to assail and conquer this giant foe? This, my hearers, is the very object of our convocation. The State Temperance Society of South Carolina, whose first anniversary is celebrated this evening, is designed to accomplish this great work. It is to collect and concentrate the experience and wisdom of the friends of the cause, all over the State—to produce union and co-operation in all the societies now formed, and to effectuate the formation of others in as many places as possible; so that from the Atlantic to the mountains, there may be established centres of influence, to act efficiently upon the intelligence and patriotism of the whole population. We are not engaged in the quixotic enterprise of persuading drunkards to reform, or dealers to shut up their shops, or the giddy multitude to forbear the tempting glass—neither do we petition for any legislative prohibitions, nor should we expect any important benefits from them if granted. But our design is to bring the enormities of this vice, and its terrific effects, into public view—to uncover the recesses of this Aceldama, and hold up a light to disclose the secrecy of this slaughter-house of the bodies and souls of men. We mean to circulate information, and proclaim the thrilling facts upon this subject, from the house-tops. We mean, if possible, to engage the Pulpit to raise its thousand voices, as of “angels trumpet-

tongued, to testify the deep damnation" of this mortal sin. We shall entreat courts and juries, magistrates and physicians, to become our supporters and advocates. We shall call loudly upon every christian church, and every benevolent association, to unite with us in contending against the mighty. We shall appeal to all wise and judicious parents; to the Trustees, Presidents and Professors in our colleges; and all guardians and teachers of our schools; to employ their vast resourse of moral influence in this noble work. And finally, it is our design, through the press, and by the labours of zealous and eloquent agents, visiting every portion of the State, to produce a general conviction, in all unprejudiced and virtuous minds, of the ruinous effects, and frightful prevalence of this moral pestilence, and the necessity of decisive measures to arrest its progress. If the friends of good order, morality and religion, can once be excited to investigate this subject, and to unite in counsel and action, the triumph of reformation is sure. We have only to diffuse information, to agitate the subject every where, to send the disastrous details on the wings of the wind; and there will arise a tide of public sentiment in favour of our cause, which will be resistless and overpowering. With such co-operation, the victory over the Hydra will soon be achieved. The barriers which now form his strong hold, will be demolished. The loathsome pest will soon hide itself in holes and corners. The gainful traffic will wither under the frown of the community: and the Demon Intemperance, with all its direful brood of plagues and crimes, be prostrated, and crushed forever. But let it be distinctly understand that this work must be *done* by the Temperance Societies, and not entrusted to other hands. In all other associations, the hostile cause will find advocates. In this matter you cannot trust the churches, for it is asserted that there are some Parsons, Elders, Vestrymen and Class-leaders, who love a cheerful glass. Nor would it be safe to submit this cause to the trial by Jury, for it is said the box often contains those, who have no exclusive preference for cold water. And if the question should be decided in the Halls of Legislation, there might possibly be some among the makers of our laws, who would hesitate in giving their voice for total abstinence. In a word, if our societies would have any thing done efficiently in arresting the progress of inebriety, they must do it themselves.

In conclusion, permit me, as the organ and advocate of the State Temperance Society, to invite you all, my respected auditors, to give your aid, and employ your influence, in this benevolent interprize. I call upon you who are parents, to labour with us in building up an effectual barrier against that rising flood, which may overwhelm your sons, as it has many other young

men, with utter ruin. I invite you, young men, to put on your armour, and take the field against that tyrant foe, by whose merciless agency you have seen so many of the brightest and noblest of Carolina's sons miserably destroyed. To the ladies of this assembly no appeal need be made. We cannot fail to receive their sympathy and good wishes, in despoiling of its murderous power, an enemy, which has made thousands of the best and loveliest women helpless widows, mourning mothers or wretched wives.

If any of this audience are disposed to question the correctness of the representations made in this discourse, as to the fearful extent and direful ravages of this vice, and to suspect us of overstatements—let such receive the testimony in the case, from a great cloud of witnesses, and they will find that the half has not been told them. Let the Ministers of the Gospel be inquired of, and many of them, will testify *that more than half the funerals, of young and middle aged men, which they have attended, have been caused by intemperance.* Physicians will tell, how frightful a portion of diseases and deaths must be traced to the same cause. Judges and Solicitors will declare that most of the deeds of violence and blood, which they are called upon to investigate, are prompted by the infuriate fiend, Intoxication.

Let me not be suspected of intimating an opinion, that this State is remarkable for the prevalence of this evil. On the contrary, it is within my personal knowledge, that in other States, the desolations spread by strong drink are still *more* deplorable. But, it must be evident, to all impartial observers, that the statements made, in reference to our own community, are lamentably true. I cannot omit to mention here one additional argument, for instant and vigorous exertions in this cause, drawn from our peculiarities of climate and population. Upon this point, it is only necessary to mention the unquestionable fact, that the consequences of using ardent spirits, are more fatal here, than in some other regions of country. While the laborious inhabitants of cold regions can resist for years the poison of the cup; the inactive, the sedentary and the unemployed, in a clime like this, fall before the destroyer, like flowers before the mower's scythe. And as the labouring class in this State have a strong appetency for such excitement, and as its influence upon them is peculiarly ruinous; it must be evident that interest, humanity, and patriotism call loudly for public interference in removing a danger so formidable, and avoiding an injury so general and irretrievable. And this necessity is the more urgent, as experience has proved, that all efforts to prohibit spirits to the servile class, while their use is so general among other classes, will assuredly be abortive. Allow me to offer to the President, and other Officers and Delegates of

the State Temperance Society of South Carolina, my congratulations, on the auspicious commencement of our labours, and the cheering prospect which should animate our zeal. However great may be the opposition, however formidable the obstacles to be encountered, there is abundant encouragement to inspire hope, and produce untiring perseverance. It is a noble cause—the cause of patriotism, humanity, benevolence and piety. All good men, all holy beings, rejoice in its progress; and it has the sacred sanction of the Divine approbation. Enlisted for the whole war, let us resolve never to lay aside our armour, nor relax our exertions, till the foe is driven from the field. The same battle has been fought in other States, where the hostile forces were even more numerous, and the fortresses to be demolished more formidable; and yet, even there, the victory has been won, and the banner of Temperance waves in triumph. And so it *will be here*. The reign of popular delusion cannot last. The work of destruction, which is now going on, cannot long be endured.—The period will surely arrive, when your descendants will read with astonishment the records of the present age, as to the allowed prevalence of this degrading vice. They will hardly be persuaded that it could ever have been possible, in South Carolina, that such a business, as the traffic in spirituous liquors, could have existed at all—and it will be still more amazing that it *could* ever have been sanctioned by the authority of law.

But before such a triumph of good principles can be achieved, much arduous and self-denying labour is to be performed. And the task principally devolves upon you, gentlemen, and the Societies you represent. Located in various portions of the State, your influence can reach the whole extent of its population. And if the inquiry be urged, when the friends and advocates of this cause may remit their exertions, lay aside their armour and repose from their toils; we answer—never, till the power of the destroyer is effectually prostrated,—never, till drunkenness shall be regarded with as much horror as raving madness—never, till ardent spirits shall be classed with the most dangerous and deadly poisons—never, till their general use shall be regarded as more destructive than pestilence or famine—never, till the voice of public opinion shall pronounce it criminal and infamous, in any class of the community, to be employed in furnishing the materials of misery, disease, death and perdition, to their fellow-men.

# MINUTES

OF THE

## *First Annual Temperance Convention,*

November 28, 1838.

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At the first Annual Meeting of the *South Carolina State Temperance Society*, held at the Lecture Room of the Baptist Church, half past six o'clock, on Wednesday night, 28th November, 1838—in the absence of the President, A. WALLACE, Esq. one of the Vice Presidents, was invited to take the Chair, who called upon Rev. Dr. LELAND, to open the Meeting with prayer. Afterwards the Chair was resigned to the President, the Hon. JOB JOHNSTON.

The names of the following Delegates were then taken, being present:

### LAURENS DISTRICT.

Friendship Temperance Society.	Rev. S. B. LEWERS.
Bethany - " - -	"
Rocky Spring " - -	"

### NEWBERRY.

Mount Tabor Society, - - -	GEORGE EPPES.
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### DARLINGTON.

Elim Society, - -	{ Rev. Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. COWARD.
Darlington do. - - -	
Marlborough do.	GEORGE W. DARGAN.

## LEXINGTON.

Lexington District Society, } Rev. Dr. HAZELIUS,  
 } Rev. Mr. BEDENBAUGH,  
 } Colonel WEST CAUGHMAN.

## RICHLAND.

Young Mens' Temp. Society, } Rev. Dr. HOWE,  
 } Rev. Mr. REYNOLDS,  
 } A. WALLACE.

## WILLIAMSBURGH.

Williamsburgh Temperance Society—DAVID FRIERSON.

## KERSHAW.

Kershaw Temperance Society—Rev. Mr. BREAKER.

## CHARLESTON.

Young Men's Temperance Society—Col. MEMMINGER.

## ANDERSON.

Anderson C. H. Temp. Society, } Gen. WHITNER and  
 } Rev. Mr. CATER.

The following Reports and Communications from auxiliary Societies and others, requesting to become auxiliary, addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, were then read, viz:

Kershaw District Temperance Society.		
Lynn Meeting House	“	Anderson District.
Young Men's	“	Richland.
Elim	“	Darlington.
Lowndesville	“	Abbeville.
Nazareth	“	Spartanburg.
Young Men's	“	do.
Black Creek Temperance Society of	} Colleton.	
St. Bartholemew,		
Roberts Temperance Society,		Anderson.
Beach Island	“ (34 members)	Edgefield.
Lexington Dist.	“	Lexington.
Good Hope	“	Anderson.
Jefferson	“	Spartanburg.
Young Mens'	“	Charleston.

Which were referred to a Committee consisting of Rev. S. B. LEWERS, Mr. SNOWDEN, and J. BRYCE.

The Minutes of the last Meeting in July, were then read. Also the Minutes of the Executive Committee, which was received as their Report.

Mr. ROBERT BRYCE presented his account as Treasurer, which was received and accepted, showing a balance in the Treasurers hands of \$27 75.

On motion of Rev. Dr. LELAND, Resolved that a Committee of five be appointed to report at an adjourned meeting on the establishment of a *Temperance Periodical*, and the appointment of Agents.

The following were appointed said Committee, viz: Rev. Dr. LELAND, Rev. Mr. LEWERS, Rev. Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. JOHN BRYCE and Col. MEMMINGER.

On motion of Rev. Mr. LEWERS, Resolved that a Committee be appointed to make arrangements for a meeting to be had to-morrow evening, and for the exercises which shall engage that meeting, and also to nominate officers for the ensuing year. The following were appointed said Committee: Rev. Dr. HOWE, Rev. Mr. BREAKER, Rev. Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. DARGAN and Mr. R. BRYCE.

On motion, Resolved, That when this Society adjourn, that it adjourn to meet in the House of Representatives' Hall, at 6 o'clock to-morrow evening.

G. T. SNOWDEN, *Secretary*.

The Convention met agreeably to adjournment at the State House, on Thursday evening, 6 o'clock.

November 29, 1838.

The Hon. JOB JOHNSTON, President, in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read.

The Committee appointed to consider the propriety of establishing a *Temperance Periodical*, and the employment of Agents, presented their report, which was for the present laid on the table.

The Committee on sundry Reports and Communications from Auxiliary Societies, &c., made a report, which was accepted, and is as follows:

The Committee, to whom was referred sundry communications, received by our Corresponding Secretary, only think it important to report the following facts, viz:

At the organization of this Society in July last, the following Local Societies became members of this Association, viz :

- |   |                       |                      |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Laurens District Temperance Society,         | }                     | Laurens District.    |
| 2. Friendship Temperance Society,               |                       |                      |
| 3. Bethany Temperance Society,                  |                       |                      |
| 4. Rocky Spring Temperance Society,             |                       |                      |
| 5. Mount Tabor Temperance Society,              | }                     | Newberry District.   |
| 6. Gilder's Creek Temperance Society,           |                       |                      |
| 7. Hood Spring Temperance Society,              |                       |                      |
| 8. Elem Temperance Society,                     | }                     | Darlington District. |
| 9. Darlington Temperance Society,               |                       |                      |
| 10. Bennetville Temperance Society—             | Marlborough District. |                      |
| 11. Lexington District Temperance Society—      | Lexington District.   |                      |
| 12. Abbeville Town Temperance Society—          | Abbeville District.   |                      |
| 13. Young Men's Temperance Society of Columbia— | Richland District.    |                      |

At our first Annual Meeting, held on last evening, the following additional Societies were admitted as Auxiliaries of the State Society, viz :

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|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 14. Williamsburg Temperance Society—               | Williamsburg District. |                       |
| 15. Kershaw Temperance Society—                    | Kershaw District.      |                       |
| 16. Young Men's Temperance Society of Charleston—  | Charleston District.   |                       |
| 17. Anderson Court House Temperance Society,       | }                      | Anderson District.    |
| 18. Linn Meeting House Temperance Society,         |                        |                       |
| 19. Robert's Temperance Society,                   |                        |                       |
| 20. Good Hope Temperance Society,                  | }                      | Abbeville District.   |
| 21. Lowndesville Temperance Society—               |                        |                       |
| 22. Black Creek Temperance Society—                | Colleton District.     |                       |
| 23. Beach Island Temperance Society—               | Edgefield District.    |                       |
| 24. Young Men's Temperance Society of Spartanburg, | }                      | Spartanburg District. |
| 25. Nazareth Temperance Society,                   |                        |                       |
| 26. Jefferson Temperance Society,                  |                        |                       |

Thus showing the number of Societies Auxiliary to the State Temperance Society to be *now Twenty-six.*

Respectfully submitted.

S. B. LEWERS,  
*Chairman.*

The Committee of arrangements, and nomination of officers for the ensuing year, made the following Report :

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for the Anniversary of the State Temperance Society, and also to nominate suitable persons as officers for the same, beg leave to report :

That the public exercises of the Society, this evening, will be as follows :

1. Prayer by Rev. Dr. WITHERSPOON.
2. The Anniversary Discourse by Rev. Dr. LELAND.

The Committee have also agreed to nominate the following persons as Officers of the Society :

*President*—Hon. Chancellor JOHNSTON, of Newberry.

*Vice Presidents*—Rev. A. W. LELAND, D. D., Columbia; Rev.

E. L. HAZELIUS, D. D., Lexington; A. WALLACE, Esq., Columbia; Hon. J. B. O'NEAL, Newberry; Gen. J. N. WHITNER, Anderson.

*Corresponding Secretary*—GILBERT J. SNOWDEN, Columbia.

*Recording Secretary*—Rev. J. L. REYNOLDS, Columbia.

*Treasurer*—ROBERT BRYCE, Columbia.

*Executive Committee*—JOHN BRYCE, Esq., Rev. STEPHEN ELIOTT, Mr. J. W. CLARK, of Columbia; Col. WM. McWILLIE, Camden; Rev. S. LEWERS, Laurens; Mr. HENRY MULLER, Lexington; Col. C. G. MEMMINGER, Charleston.

All which is respectfully submitted.

This Report was adopted, and the above named persons unanimously elected Officers of the Society for one year.

The Report on the Establishment of a *Temperance Periodical*, was taken up, and considered, each Resolution separately, and the whole unanimously passed, and is as follows:

Whereas the general diffusion of information throughout the State, as to the principles and objects of our Society, and as to the facts and arguments in the case, is necessary to the promotion of the Temperance cause: and whereas the circulation of northern publications upon this subject is justly liable to objections: therefore

RESOLVED, *First*, That a Weekly Paper, entitled *The South Carolina Temperance Advocate*, devoted entirely to this cause, be established as soon as practicable.

RESOLVED, *Secondly*, That the Executive Committee of this Society be authorized and directed, to issue immediately proposals for a general subscription of the friends of Temperance throughout the State, to the above named publication; to engage the services of a competent Editor—to make a contract for printing, and to take all other measures necessary to carry the first resolution into effect.

RESOLVED, *Thirdly*, That the Executive Committee be authorized and directed, also, to employ an agent or agents of suitable qualifications, to travel in all parts of the State, giving lectures, forming societies, and using all proper means of advancing the cause; and to allow a reasonable compensation for such services.

RESOLVED, *Fourthly*, That the Delegates of Auxiliary Societies now present, and the officers of Temperance Societies not represented here, be earnestly requested to use their influence with-

out delay to secure a large subscription to the proposed Paper ; and to raise funds to enable this Society to accomplish the important objects of these Resolutions.

On motion of Rev. Professor ELLIOTT, Resolved, that the Executive Committee be authorised to request a copy of Rev. Dr. LELAND'S Address to this Society, for publication, for general distribution throughout the State.

At the special request of the President, the Hon. Judge O'NEALL made a very animated, impressive address, accompanied with facts and details of thrilling interest, in relation to the alarming prevalence and ruinous effects of Intemperance.

On motion of Rev. S. B. LEWERS, Resolved, that the Executive Committee, be requested to make the necessary arrangement, for the next Annual meeting of this Society.

Adjourned.

G. T. SNOWDEN, *Secretary.*