

RALEIGH REGISTER,

AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

"OURS ARE THE PLANS OF FAIR DELIGHTFUL PEACE, UNWARP'D BY PARTY RAGE, TO LIVE LIKE BROTHERS."

VOL. XXXIV.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1833

NO. 9.

The North-Carolina State Temperance Society.

The second Annual Meeting of this Society was held in Raleigh on Thursday evening, the 13th of December, 1832.

The Meeting was organized by calling Gen. B. J. Montgomery, of Hertford, to the Chair, and appointing Maj. T. L. West, of Raleigh, Secretary. The introductory Prayer was offered up by the Rev. Bennet T. Blake. Several local Societies were received as Auxiliaries, and represented by their Delegates.

According to previous appointment, Addresses were delivered by Dr. Wm. A. Shaw, and the Rev. James G. Hall.

On motion,
Resolved, That in view of the many evils resulting from the practice of treating with Ardent Spirits, it be recommended to our Auxiliaries, and to the friends of Temperance generally, that they forward annually to the Treasurer of this Society, such contributions as may be convenient.

On motion,
Resolved, That in order to defray the contingent expenses, incurred from time to time by this Society, it be recommended to our Auxiliaries, and to the friends of Temperance generally, that they forward annually to the Treasurer of this Society, such contributions as may be convenient.

On motion,
Resolved, That Ministers of the Gospel, generally, be requested to preach at least once annually to their respective congregations, on the subject of Temperance.

On motion, a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. McPheeters, the Rev. Mr. Hall, and Dr. Shaw, were appointed to revise and publish the Constitution of this Society.

The meeting then proceeded to the choice of Officers and Managers for the ensuing year, when the following persons were duly elected, viz:

OFFICERS.

Gen. B. J. Montgomery, *President.*
William Peck, *Secretary.*
John Primrose, *Treasurer.*

By the 5th article of the Constitution, the Presidents of the Auxiliary Societies are Vice-Presidents of this Society.

MANAGERS.

Rev. Dr. McPheeters, Rev. Dr. Caldwell, Henry D. Turner, Nelson Hughes, J. C. Stedman, Charles Dewey, William Seawell, Thomas L. West, W. A. Williams, William Hill, Rev. T. P. Hunt, James Owen, David Anderson, D. A. Davis, Williamson Whitehead, E. J. Hale, J. H. Pearce, Rev. H. A. Rowland, Rev. John Giles, Rev. Samuel Hurd, Dr. James Webb, William Huntington, W. J. Bingham, F. Nash, James Osborne, Rev. N. Harding, A. W. Venable, S. K. Sneed, T. B. Littlejohn, John Bullock, Merriwether Lewis, Richard Bullock, James Phillips, Giles Mebane, Rev. Wm. Hooper, Rev. E. Mitchell, D. Hooper, John Newton, Thomas Cowan, John Beard, Dr. Long, Dr. Horne, A. B. Bardwell, Jordan Wheeler, James Scott, E. A. Tharpe, Rev. J. Armstrong and Rev. James G. Hall.

The concluding Prayer was offered up by the Rev. J. McDonald. Adjourned.

ADDRESS

DELIVERED BEFORE THE STATE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY BY DR. WILLIAM A. SHAW.

MR. PRESIDENT:

It is a far easier task to convince mankind of the degrading influence of vice, than to engage their efforts cordially on the side of virtue. But next to being vicious ourselves, there is no more culpable act of the individual or community, than giving a license to gross vices. Sir, every one, however humble, has an influence which he is exerting silently or openly, and which, although he may be unconscious of it, will tell fearfully at that great day, when all the events of this world, now deemed by many so frivolous, will burst forth in their true character of portentous magnitude. It is easy for a virtuous community to repress the first encroachment of vice; but when unhappily immoral habits have for a long time received a degree of countenance which diminishes their turpitude in the eye of apathy and vitiated public opinion, they may obtain so strong a hold on the affections of the majority, as to permit them to be easily ingrafted into the social constitution. The melancholy spectacle is then presented of a whole community cherishing the viper which she had indiscreetly admitted into her bosom, whose stings she had seen inflicted upon her children, and the mark of whose venomous fangs were plainly visible here and there, over her whole body. When she is implored to pluck the ungrateful serpent from her bosom, she only clasps it the closer, and stands forth herself as the defender of the greatest enemy of her happiness. She denounces as agitators, those who only live to strain every nerve to promote her peace, and calls them corrupt who devote their lives to save her from corruption. Should attempts be made by any to stem the foul flood-tide of vices which threatens to deluge the land, the turbid waves of calumny and ridicule break in empty fury over their devoted heads. Such, sir, is a miniature sketch of the difficulties and obstacles, with which the advocates of Temperance have had to contend. From the very first moment when they began to expose the evils, and take suitable measures to eradicate the vice of Intemperance, they have every where had to encounter not only the opposition of ignorance, but the sneers and misrepresentations of many, who from apathy, interest or caprice, have obstinately shut their eyes to the light. Incredible as it may seem, some men are, or pretend to be, so totally ignorant of the nature and objects of these Societies, that a member of a Society for suppressing drunkenness, is estimated in their minds as ranking but one degree above a staggering besotted drunkard. Those who join these Societies, are misrepresented to be persons who have wept in secret over past excesses, and find it necessary to confirm their self-denial, by joining a Temperance Society! Sir, I protest in the outset, in behalf of nineteen twentieths of the members of Temperance Societies, as well as for myself, that these were not the impelling motives to our joining the association to which we belong. To rescue the character of the association from such foul and false imputations, as well as to vindicate its true character, shall be the object of this Address.

He must have been a superficial observer, indeed, who has not remarked the rapid progress of civilization within the last quarter of a century. The march of mind has been attested in so many and various ways, that its evidences could hardly have escaped even his notice. The rapid advancement in the Arts and Sciences, the comparatively wide diffusion of knowledge among the masses of the people, the struggles consequent thereon, as we perceive in foreign countries, for liberty and equal rights, and the improvement in the face of external nature, especially within the last fifteen years, must have forcibly struck every observer. They demonstrate plainly, that such an amount of intellectual power has been concentrated and kept in vigorous exercise for the amelioration of the condition of man, as was never before brought to bear on the civilized world. While one class of men therefore, have bent their efforts towards improving the external resources of a country by canals, by rail-roads, by new applications of steam

machinery, and the like, is it surprising, that the researches of others have been earnestly directed to the moral condition of man. Or, is the moral condition of man destined to arise only to a certain point of elevation, where henceforth and forever, it must remain stationary? We feel, alas! that it is liable to corruption, but is it not susceptible of improvement? Does not the standard of virtue, in the progress of worldly events, rise too in the scale of things? And can nothing be done to elevate it? Are rail-roads and canals alone essential to a nation's welfare? Every man of ordinary intelligence knows that all these advantages without a virtuous population, would only serve to accelerate the downfall of a nation. Then is there not a species of internal improvement, emphatically more important, than the improvement of facilities for transportation? I allude to the improvement of the minds and hearts of the people. The results of this improvement would be every where seen, by the general prevalence of good order, good government, industry, economy, sobriety, health, competence and happiness. Now suppose that any patriotic individual, while revolving in his mind the glorious condition of such a nation, should desire to see it practically exemplified in his own. He would however, at the threshold of his enterprise, see that he had a host of difficulties and obstacles to contend with, in consequence of the prevalence of vices in the community. Until these are removed, he would see at once, that his projected improvement was wholly impracticable. Let us suppose however, that he is as ardent, as he is fearless and persevering. He would naturally seek for his first attack that vice, which, besides being most formidable, gave greater support, fiercer strength, and more obstinate malignity to all the others. This being vanquished, he would naturally conclude that the champion being dead, the others can soon be put to flight. Now suppose, furthermore, that the above mentioned individual convinces others of the perfect feasibility of his project, and they knowing the utter futility of precept without corresponding example, and convinced of the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits, resolve to abstain entirely from them, and persuade others to come to the same virtuous resolution. And thus Sir, you have fully unfolded the germ of Temperance Societies—

The very head and front of their offending Hath this extent—no more!

Again, let me ask, (not in a spirit of angry recrimination, but solely in accordance with my original purpose of the vindication of ourselves from misrepresentation,) who would be most likely to give early countenance and co-operation to the cause of Temperance? Or who would soonest rush forward to clip the wings of the angel, which were just ready to spread themselves over our land to carry healing for the nation? Would it be the temperate or intemperate?—Now let us for a moment contemplate what has already been effected, so that we may be convinced that this is no Utopian project. Six or seven years ago there was not a Temperance Society in the world; now what is the state of things? There are 21 State Temperance Societies already formed. There are more than 4,000 Temperance Societies in the United States. There are more than 500,000 persons pledged to total abstinence from ardent spirits. There are more than 600 vessels sailing out of our ports without ardent spirits for use among the crews. More than 1,500 distilleries have been stopped. Two hundred public houses have discontinued selling any kind of intoxicating liquors. More than 4,000 merchants have given up the traffic in ardent spirits. More than 4,500 drunkards have become reformed. [There were in the United States 375,000 regular drinkers in 1823. There were 15,000 persons excommunicated annually from the 12,000 churches in the United States for intemperance and its kindred vices. There were in our cities and large towns about one grog shop to every 12 families. There are about 500 murders committed yearly in the United States that proceed directly from intemperance.] Here are facts proving the benefits resulting from these associations, which must delight every man who has one spark of either charity or patriotism. I would remark here, that the greatest opposition to these societies has proceeded in a direct ratio thus: 1. Opponents of Bible, Tract and Missionary Societies. 2. Professed Infidels. 3. Habitual Drunkards. 4. Spirit Dealers. 5. What are called Temperate Drinkers.

A few words more in vindication of these associations, and I shall leave them with a discerning public, to stand or fall by their own merits. They have been said to foster dissimulation and hypocrisy by causing secret drinking. Admit this to be the fact in a few cases, but will any liberal man consider this as an argument against the great majority of the association? Does not the heinous guilt of a Judas seem to be transmitted down through every ramifications of even the most righteous association? And does the hypocrisy of one, or a few, detract from the sincerity of the collective majority? I doubt not that there are a few so base as to falsify their pledge, but as to the vast majority who began to act right from right principles, I have not a shadow of doubt, that they neither "touch, taste nor handle the unclean thing;"

"For him, that has drunk of the chrysaline tide, To the feculent flood would return!"

To the charge, that we have erected ourselves into censors of the morals of the public, we reply that it is unfounded in fact, having, as a body, confined ourselves to exposing the evils and dangers of intemperance, in conformity to the legitimate privileges of free discussion, guaranteed to every American by the Constitution.

But we have been represented as interfering with the commercial privileges of the community. This is a grave charge and demands a serious refutation. Let us examine the state of this question, in order to arrive at correct conclusions. But laying aside all the host of evils connected with intemperance, I shall endeavor to show that the traffic in Ardent Spirits is not only injurious to the pecuniary interests of individuals, but also to the community, and to the dealer himself, not only as a member of that community, but as a general trader; I speak chiefly of merchant retailers. It is a well known fact, Sir, that commerce is chiefly dependant on manual labour, and of these Agriculture is at the head. The prosperity of both these are inseparably connected, inasmuch that an interchange of supply and demand is established between them. The prosperity of the merchant then must depend on the steadiness of demand on the part of his customer; on his ability to raise produce to pay him; and in a word on the degree of labour, economy, wealth and liberality of the Agricultural population. Now I would ask, whether does sobriety or intemperance most encourage these desirable virtues of political and domestic economy? Who does not see daily, reeling, drunken, pennyless, creditless pauperism? Yet, rely on it, Sir, when you inquire into the past history of each of these unfortunate men, the great majority of them were once the regular customers of the general trader, and his chief articles of purchase were the necessities of life. But in an evil hour, he first became a temperate drinker, and then, step by step, a drunkard. Here is a regular customer lost to the merchant, and a man that might have been an honour to the community, and a father to his children,

lost—irretrievably lost! The general trader must look to regular customers for his wealth. He is not a gambler, but a merchant. When a professed gambler has stripped a fool, he can do him no further mischief—he can rob him of no further emolument. When a drunkard has exhausted his patrimony, the spirit dealer credits him at his own risk, and the loss is ninety-nine times in a hundred the dealer's. When a merchant trades, however, with an industrious farmer or mechanic, by exchange of products, by labour and wages, each mutually supplies the other with articles either necessary in the nature of things, or rendered so by custom and the influence of prevailing mode or fashion. The prosperity of each increases *pari passu*, the credit of each is a source of lively interest to the other, because they mutually strengthen, and can by turns, assist and oblige each other. This is no fine-spun speculation; it is practised every day between sober merchants and sober farmers. It is a maxim as false as it is base, that "fools build houses and wise men live in them;" because in a well-conducted, well-regulated community, where all prosper, men of talents and capital would realize more money, and thus be enabled to build better houses, and besides their regular and steady employment, whatever this be, would enable them to supply their houses with more substantial and even elegant comforts. I grant that men sometimes are suddenly elevated to fortunes by taking undue advantage of the ignorance of others, and even, by accident, a blockhead may draw the highest prize from the rotation of a corrupt circular gambling box; but these accidents, fortunately for the consciences and prosperity of both individuals and communities, are most rare and every way precarious. Steady industry, however, and the accumulation of money by slow processes, insure wealth to the greater proportion of men, and entire competence and freedom from absolute dependence, on by far the majority of our race. Thus, labour from being a curse, is converted into a blessing, dispensing enough of happiness to each individual, and peace, order and virtue through the entire circle of society.

There is another point of view in which this question may be fairly submitted to the spirit dealer. The consideration is taken from the small amount of capital employed in the spirit trade in this State. It is well known to those who are at all conversant with the question of the abolition of the slave-trade in Great Britain, that great part of the mercantile capital was invested in slave ships. In Liverpool especially, the most wealthy merchants had long been engaged in it, and some of them owned ten or fifteen slave ships. The traffic was handed down from father to son, through a long series of years. Hence, very naturally, great difficulty resulted on the part of the mercantile community, and they contended, that the government was pledged to the protection of their commerce, and urged the rejection of the bill. They held up before the public the great sacrifices they would be compelled to make, should the abolition be effected. The bill passed nevertheless, and who will condemn it? Sir, the traffic in ardent spirits is a far greater evil when all is taken into account. This traffic in the Northern cities is large, where there are wholesale dealers; but we see that by voluntary abandonment, a great diminution has already taken place even there. Now what is the fact as to the spirit trade in North-Carolina? Every body knows, that the capital of grocers is very small—especially retail grocers, and the amount invested by merchants, in the spirit trade, is still smaller. Sir, I cannot see the great degree of oppression in advising merchants then to divert this small amount of capital into some more profitable and harmless channel. Again, I have heard some merchants, even Christian merchants, speak of having injured their general trade, by giving up the traffic in ardent spirits. This is, I think, a great error. They argue, that men would trade more if they had spirits also to sell. I have conversed with intelligent and prosperous merchants, who have given up the traffic in spirits. To my inquiries, as to whether they had sustained loss by this discontinuance, they replied promptly, No; that they had better customers and a better and safer trade; that they prospered by giving it up; that besides being rid of many disagreeable customers, they made safer debts, and that they had not the least desire, conscience out of the question, to resume the traffic in ardent spirits. And yet I lament to say, some Christian merchants speak of sacrifices, when they are called on and entreated to relinquish the traffic in ardent spirits! Oh! shame! I could, if it were necessary, point them to sacrifices that would cover their faces with confusion; I could remind them of the names of men who had given up all for their principles; who had been dragged to dungeons, and who had given up, not only their whole estates to confiscation, but also their lives to the devouring flames, kindled by the brutal and fiendish passions of their deluded fellow-men. Sacrifices! The interests, temporal and eternal, of millions placed in one scale, and the thirst of drunkards and the cupidity of spirit dealers in the other!!! Which ought to preponderate, Sir, and which must preponderate? Sacrifices! Stand amazed ye heavens, and be astonished Oh! earth! In countries blest with the light of the sun of righteousness, a demon stalks abroad to which all other worshipped demons are pigmy like. Behold a worse than Juggernaut is here! Juggernaut has slain his thousands, but Alcohol his tens of thousands; Juggernaut is worshipped once a year at stated festivals; but Alcohol is worshipped in season and out of season, day and night, summer and winter, "seed time and harvest, daily and hourly in a professedly Christian country!" A formal sacrifice is perhaps offered to Juggernaut, and the cruel spectacle once contemplated, returns no more for a series of months; but the demon of Alcohol must have his daily, yes, his hourly sacrifice; he calls not only for one, but for thousands of victims, not only for blood, but for crime, not only for the tears and groans of a single victim, but of all their relatives to the remotest branch of consanguinity. Who can sit down coolly to calculate the groans and tears of thirty thousand victims annually, with the distress which it occasions to thirty thousand families, and perhaps five times thirty thousand connections? It is painful for me merely to allude to it. Against this monster of idolatry, which calls for destruction of soul as well as body, which disturbs society wherever it exists, and turns its harmony and bliss into gall and misery, is the war declared. And wherever the principles of Temperance, and the duties of Abstinence have been faithfully expounded and examined, they have been openly and cordially espoused by men that would do honor to any age, nation or community. The only weapons used have been the simple sling and stone of truth and reason, and the ultimate triumph of the cause is certain—Mr. President, mankind do not yield suddenly to new impressions. But though our institution is novel, yet what it has already accomplished, affords matter alike for congratulation, encouragement and wonder. No association has perhaps ever received such a multitude of members in so limited time, and it would not be saying too much, to estimate the number of adult signers to the Temperance pledge of entire abstinence, in this country, at half a million—in England, Scotland, Ireland, Sweden and other European nations, at the same number. In less than five years, upwards of one million, and there is a new accession of names at almost every meeting of these societies—new societies are daily forming and confirming each other in every

virtuous principle of Temperance. But I should err in my chief duty, if I did not say, with gratitude mingled with reverence, that we ought to ascribe to God the praise of a people saved from intemperance, who were ready to perish—He beheld, and has pronounced it good—He has owned and blessed the cause in a manner astonishing to us, and to him be all the glory.

Deferred Articles.

Blockade of Holland.—A New York paper remarks that it is seldom we are indebted to the Official Bulletins for the latest news from Europe.—A case in point, however, is to be found in the notice lately published by the Department of State, respecting the Blockade of Holland. Mr. Vail, our Charge d'Affaires in London, has been informed by Lord Palmerston that the Blockade of Holland would only apply to the Dutch vessels, unless peculiar circumstances should call for its extension to the ships of other nations.

By the Convention between England and France, if the King of Holland does not engage by the 12th of November to withdraw his Troops now in Belgium, both England and France will immediately embargo the Dutch vessels in their respective ports, and a combined fleet will lay off Holland to carry on the blockade. If by the 15th the Dutch troops should still remain in Belgium, then a French force will enter it, to compel the Dutch to evacuate the citadel of Antwerp and the dependant places—and as soon as this is effected the French Troops will re-enter the French territories.

Jno. Randolph, of Roanoke, has addressed a letter, through the columns of the Richmond Enquirer, to the Editor of the New York Evening Post, in which he ascribes his mistake in speaking of Mr. Lowndes' opposition to the Tariff of 1824, (before which period that lamented statesman had ceased to exist) to "the hallucination of an imagination, become morbid by bodily affliction, and by powerful remedies to which his physician was compelled to resort in order to sustain nature, under the most excruciating torments." He also, in the same letter, limits his charge of "ignorance and incapacity" against Mr. Clay, to the science of political economy." He makes no atonement, however, for his vile slanders on the memory of Mr. Lowndes.

Shipwreck.—The ship James Cropper, Cary, of Petersburg, Va. from Bristol, England, for Philadelphia, struck on Five Fathom Bank some nights ago, was got off, and afterwards sunk in ten fathom water. After she drifted from the Bank, she was run for Cape Henlopen, but this wind dying away, she sunk and both vessel and cargo, consisting of rail-road iron, are reported to be totally lost. The captain and crew were saved, and on their way to Philadelphia. The James Cropper sailed on the 5th November, and had London papers to the 4th, which were lost with the ship, whose tops are just above water.—*Courier & Enquirer.*

We are authorized by Capt. Blaney, of the U. S. Corps of Engineers, to state, that the Shoals below this town have been deepened one foot and a half since the operations of the General Government were commenced there; and that vessels drawing eleven feet six inches have passed over, without obstruction.—*W. Ad.*

Col. Twigg, having received orders to that effect, took command of the United States Arsenal in the neighborhood of Augusta on the 21st ult.

We learn, says the Oxford Examiner, that Mr. Charles Daniel, who was so inhumanly butchered at the store of Messrs. Herndon & Daniel, expired on the 13th ult.

NOTICE.

APPLICATION will be made to the President, Directors and Company of the State Bank of North-Carolina, at the expiration of three months from this date, for the renewal of a Certificate of Stock in said Bank, for five shares, in the name of John Cox, of Edenton, No. 1965, and dated August 19, 1832; which is lost.

JNO. COX, Dec. 12, 1832. 63a

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TERMS.

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ADVERTISEMENTS. Not exceeding sixteen lines, will be inserted three times for a dollar, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent publication; those of greater length, in the same proportion. If the number of insertions be not marked on them, they will be continued until ordered out, and charged accordingly.