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THE TEMPERANCE SITUATION IN SCOTLAND

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I. ECCLESIASTICAL.

All the Churches in Scotland are making steady advancement in Temperance sentiment and effort. As an illustration of the progress made and the position achieved, I may give these facts regarding the Church with which I am most intimately acquainted, the United Free Church of Scotland.

1. *Abstaining Ministers.* The list of abstaining ministers now stands at 1,246. There are 1,768 ministers in our Church, and at first sight the proportion of abstainers might seem disappointing, but it has to be remembered that there are a considerable number of abstainers who for one reason or another will not allow their names to appear on the published list.

2. *Warning to Members.* For many years the General Assembly have warned their faithful people against taking any part in the liquor traffic. It was felt, however, that we should go further and not only warn men not to go into the trade, but also appeal to those already in it to come out. An amendment to this effect was proposed in the Assembly in 1902, but defeated by a small majority. In 1907, however, the Assembly adopted the broader appeal, and now the annual Deliverance runs in these terms:—"The General Assembly find that the liquor traffic is popularly supposed to be so lucrative, and the temptation to take part in it so great, that they feel constrained to warn their faithful people against taking part in it, lest by so doing they should be unwittingly drawn into a position of great physical, moral, and spiritual danger. Further, the Assembly appeal to those of their faithful people who are still engaged in the traffic