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"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning." — PSALM CXXXVII. 5.

THE KIRK ON TEMPERANCE.

We gladly copy the following Report and Deliverance of the last General Assembly in Edinburgh, presented by our good friends Rev. John Campbell, A. M., and Rev. Dr. Charteris, S. T. P., and cordially adopted by the venerable General Assembly.

INTEMPERANCE AND EXCURSION STEAMERS.

The Rev. John Campbell, Buccleuch Church, Edinburgh, presented the report on intemperance:—The committee believe that they have materially advanced the interests of temperance by assistance in the formation of temperance associations recommended by the Assembly. A considerable number of temperance associations and Bands of Hope have been formed, but they still feel that there is room for more energetic action on the part of the Church. The committee have not felt called upon to take steps in regard to legislation, but call attention to the desirability of more effective control over the sale of liquor on excursion steamers. Attention is also called to the desirability of reconstructing on a wider basis the Church of Scotland Women's Temperance Association; and the committee urge, in conclusion, that the temperance movement should be associated as closely as possible with the work of the Church.

Professor Charteris moved a deliverance to the effect that the General Assembly expresses its satisfaction at the progress of temperance in the country, and is desirous that every effort should be put forth by the Church to diminish the evils which admittedly still exist; and

instructs the committee to render all possible assistance to Presbyteries and individual ministers in the formation of Parochial Temperance Associations and Bands of Hope. The Assembly is particularly desirous that pains should be taken to bring up the rising generation in habits of sobriety, and strongly urges on the ministers and members of the Church the importance of bestowing special attention on this branch of temperance work. The Assembly instructs the committee to watch legislation on the subject with a view to aiding every effort that may be made, in a wise and well-considered manner, to diminish the temptations of the people. The Assembly recommends the ministers of the Church to call the attention of their people, on suitable occasions, to the evils of intemperance, and specially to preach on the subject on 19th December next.

It was, he said, satisfactory to know that the cause of temperance was undoubtedly winning and progressing all along the line. He had heard it stated that there was no diminution in the drink expenditure in Scotland, but he believed the drinking habits of Scotland had very much decreased in intensity. Seeing there was progress in the direction of temperance and total abstinence, he urged that the Church should be leading the van. (Hear, hear.) It was altogether irrelevant to inquire whether alcohol in wine or whiskey ever did good, or whether it always did harm. That curious physiological inquiry was not a vital one; it was the drinking habit they had to assail. (Applause.) To aid them in this it was desirable that they should have shelters provided in country places to which a man and his family out for a holiday could resort, with-