

A great business—a great traffic—is on trial for its life before a jury of American citizens. The temperance men of this country have indicted the liquor traffic as a social criminal. The counts of the indictment are as positive and plain as the counts of an indictment against any criminal, and the people are the jury who are to determine the truth or falsity of this indictment. Therefore, I always feel that what I may say will do no good unless it shall lead the people to act—perhaps first to think, and then to act.

When I leave the platform to-night I shall be no better temperance man than I am now. If I accomplish any good it will be because I appeal to your reason and your judgment; thus leading you to act up to the full measure of your convictions. If I could, by any trick of sophistry, or any power of personal magnetism, lead every man and woman in this house to shout for temperance, I would not do it, unless your judgment, reason, and intelligence told you to shout. I would give little for a temperance man who was made a temperance man by temporary excitement. We are not in this conflict for a day, we are not in it for a week, we are not in it for a year, but we have enlisted in this campaign to win.

The purpose of the temperance men of this country has been for years well defined, and they have not changed it, and will not change it until victory shall come. They demand the complete outlawry of drunkard-making, and they will accept no compromise that allows it to exist in any form.

There is no doubt about the object of the temperance movement. The temperance men intend to destroy the drunkard-making system of America, root and branch. There is no such thing as compromise upon the issue. In the end, the liquor traffic of this country will abolish temperance, or temperance will abolish the liquor traffic. The issue is squarely made and squarely joined before the people, so I say, I would not lead any man into the temperance ranks unless he comes because he believes it is right, and comes to stay. I would have you take the facts to your home, to your office, to your store or place of business, and when you are alone, and away from all exciting influences, sit down calmly and honestly, and, after having examined the liquor side of the question, and the temperance side of the question, make up your verdict in accordance with your honest judgment. If I should succeed in convincing you that I am right, if your judgment, reason, intelligence tells you that I am right, and then you refuse to work up to the full measure of your