

REPORT A.

LANDS AND HOMESTEADS.

To the Chairman and Members of the Colored Men's State Convention :

GENTLEMEN—We, your Committee on Lands and Homesteads, beg leave to report as follows: After having given the matter careful consideration, we are of opinion that the material interests of the colored population of this State would be greatly advanced if they owned more real estate. Land is rapidly advancing in value, and those who fail to purchase now, when they can do so on such reasonable terms from both State and private parties, will make a great mistake. Such being the case, and in view of the fact that a great number of foreign immigrants are pouring into the State and possessing themselves of her best lands, we would recommend that every member of this Convention urge upon our people the necessity of acquiring lands in tracts suitable for colonization and farming.

We further recommend that this Convention give its most hearty approval to the works and aims of the Texas Homestead and Colonization Association, which is one of the outgrowths of our Waco Convention. This Association is gotten up for the purpose of aiding its members and others in securing homes at a reasonable cost.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. ARMSTRONG, Chairman.
J. S. TIBBETT,
H. DICKERSON,
P. F. DENNIS.

REPORT B.

TEMPERANCE.

Since we are all aware that intoxicating liquors are a great abomination to our race; that they ruin the souls of men, and present them to God in that dark and polluted state, to ever depart from his presence; that they deprive men of the blessings of this life and of that to come; that they affect the brain of the youth, thus checking the activity of his thinking faculties—

Resolved, That the members of this Convention lend their combined effort to the work of putting down this master evil, that our race may be developed into one of intellectual strength and power.

Resolved, That this Convention do all in its power to aid and encourage the Independent Order of Good Templars, of which, we learn from Rev. L. M. Sublett, there are seventeen different Orders laboring to unite this State with others struggling against the powers of intemperance.

Resolved, That we notice with pleasure the good work done by the ladies of Massachusetts and other States in putting forth their combined strength to master this great evil; also, in caring for the destitute orphans and wid-