

unremitting solicitude. Our triumph will be incomplete till it is gained, and when it is gained our most strenuous efforts will be required to preserve it.

I regret much that the Committee to whom the preparation of a draft of a bill was confided, have not yet brought their labours to a conclusion, so that the proposed measure cannot be submitted to you for examination or approval. There is no reason, however to doubt that, when perfected, it will be clear, comprehensive, and cogent, and that by God's blessing, it will be the means of accomplishing a great deliverance.

The proposed Temperance Convention, shortly to be held in Halifax, will present, I trust, such a demonstration of the force and extent of public opinion as will induce the Legislature of the Province to consider the subject in right earnest and to comply with the expressed wishes of the people by suppressing the traffic in intoxicating drinks in the manner sought for. It is unnecessary to solicit the co-operation of the Sons of Temperance in this movement; they will, doubtless, take a prominent share, both of its responsibilities and its labours.

Labour, I may remind you, Officers and Brethren, is our vocation. We must labour to enlighten the public mind, and to command its sympathies. We must labour to arouse slumberers and to quicken the pace of the loitering. We must labour with and for each other, lest any one's zeal die out or be misdirected. And when the long desired prohibitory law is passed we shall have to labour still, to prevent non-compliance and evasion, to detect hidden snares; and to bring offenders to the light of day. The wise man says: "In all labour there is profit;" in this labour, the profit is of the highest value—the temporal and moral improvement of society.

Having now adverted to the principal topics requiring notice in this report, I have only to observe, in conclusion, that in order to realise our desires, we must cultivate *confidence* in each other, and we must resolve to maintain *unbroken union*. Slight differences of opinion on modes of policy or matters of detail will unavoidably occur, but they ought not to occasion distrust or to lead to abatement of energy. The work we are engaged in is glorious, and our success is interwoven with the best interests of the community. If the enemy cannot hinder us from working, he will aim to neutralise the effects of our labours by sowing jealousies or fomenting division. Let us disappoint him. Let us crush dissension in the bud. And let us press onwards, under the influence of "the fixed determination" (to adopt the language of one of my correspondents) "to work until King Alcohol is subdued, and consigned to chains of darkness, there to continue to the end of time."

Respectfully submitted, in Love, Purity, and Fidelity,

J. M. CRAMP,

*Grand Worthy Patriarch.*

Upper Stewiacke, Jan. 25th, 1854.

The Grand Scribe read his report.