

*perance Advocate* so full of interesting and convincing arguments, has the meagre circulation of a few hundreds. Is this a proper response to the labours of the devoted and learned brother who conducts it? Is this a proper expression of our interest in the prosperity of our Order, and in the cause of Temperance?

Do we expect the public mind will be illuminated by such a circulation as this? We should not rest contented till the *Temperance Advocate* is in the hands of every man, woman and child, who can read, in the Province. If we are to rely upon the instrumentality of the press as a means of conversion of the entire Province to temperance and prohibition, we must circulate the *Temperance Advocate* by thousands.

It is with sincere regret that I inform the Grand Division that the committee appointed last year to procure a Lecturer, for Eastern Canada, have failed to accomplish that object. If times had not been so hard I believe it would have been attained, and I think that an object of such importance should not be lost sight of.

In presenting my official report, I cannot overlook the fact that several new Divisions have been opened during my administration, which argues well in favour of the cause.

A few hours hence I shall be called upon to lay down the emblem of my authority, and retire from the chair. I embrace this opportunity to express to the Grand Division my deep sense of obligation for their courtesy and confidence. I came among you a stranger and you were pleased to confer upon me the highest office in your gift. It has been my endeavour to show you that your confidence was not misplaced, but I retire from my office under the painful conviction that my efforts, though equal to my ability, have not been commensurate with the obligations of the chair.

Permit me again to revert with sincere satisfaction to the fact that, during my administration, the members and interests of the Order have not diminished, but increased. Much of this prosperity is due to the efficiency of your Grand Scribe, with whom my intimacy has been of the most pleasing character, and to whom I am indebted in being able with any degree of ability to meet the duties of my office. To the other officers of the Division I return my most sincere thanks for the manner in which they have discharged their respective duties, and the respect and courtesy with which they have treated the chair, as well as for personal favors.

Leaving the interests of the Order in the hands of the thoughtful and benevolent men around me who are looking and labouring with unwavering faith for the day of social redemption, I respectfully submit this, my last report, in Love, Purity, and Fidelity.

ALEX. SMEATON,  
Grand Worthy Patriarch.