

may spring up and bring forth fruit to the praise and glory of Him whose servants we profess to be, and without whose blessing all our best efforts will be in vain. At present we have something like one hundred and forty-five Divisions working well, harmoniously, and I believe constitutionally, and strictly in accordance with the rules and usages of the Order; and it must be a source of much gratification to you all to learn that the unparalleled prosperity of our order continues undiminished; and inasmuch as this is an evidence of its being acceptable in the eyes of the Great Patriarch above, let us, in our humble sphere as individuals, and in our associated capacity, implore the continuance of his paternal care, and offer up our heart-felt and grateful acknowledgement for his many past favors. seeking such aid as will enable us, each in his place to faithfully and diligently perform our every duty—embued with a realizing sense of the responsibility devolving upon us—and with minds capable of duly appreciating these duties, let us go forward in their discharge, undaunted by the taunts, sneers, or opposition of those who are “not of us.”

The Accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe will be laid before you in due course, showing the receipts and disbursements of these two officers for the past quarter. The accounts of the agency fund although satisfactory, will show you that our brothers, generally, are not yet alive to their duty, as regards this strong arm of our Order. There are, however, honorable exceptions; there are Brothers keenly alive to the interests of this agency, but as before remarked, the Brothers, generally, have not yet been taught to give as they ought. I say this after sober and mature deliberation.—Divisions, too, are not so actively earnest in this matter as they might be, for the promotion of so glorious a cause. Brothers, we have all been benefitted by a strict observance of our principles, some more so than others.

Let us, therefore, act conscientiously with reference to this affair. Let us aid in sending the gospel of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate to those who are ready to perish, and aid in bringing them in their right mind within reach of the glorious gospel of our ever blessed Redeemer.

The Grand Scribe will give you such a report of our doings in this jurisdiction as far as the small number of returns sent to his office will warrant. And here I must again, as on a former occasion, complain of the apparent neglect of many of our County and Divisional Deputies; there are some exceptions to this rather unseemly charge; there are brothers actively engaged in useful and laborious occupations, who notwithstanding their mul-