

while we have been impelled onward by the ceaseless march of time, a just and impartial record of our acts has been kept by the recording angel on high, is calculated to produce reflections in our minds, at once fearful and pleasant: fearful in view of the final report we shall be called to make, and the account we shall have to give at the close of our earthly career; and pleasant, from the fact that whatever may have been done by us for the relief of suffering humanity, the comfort of the wretched and friendless and for the elevation of the fallen and depraved, will be recognized and rewarded in the day of final reckoning, by him who has said that the giver of even "a cup of cold water shall in nowise lose his reward." May it be ours to share largely in the promised recompense, and may our cup of happiness be made doubly sweet by many acts of benevolence toward our fallen fellow men.

In view of the past, however, it becomes a question of serious and weighty import, whether more might not have been done; whether in all our doings we have been governed by true and pure motives, and whether, considering the overwhelming importance of the work, we have earnestly sought the aid of divine power and influence by which alone we could be fully qualified for the successful prosecution of the labor in which we have been engaged. These questions are to be answered before the bar of conscience in the sight of the searcher of hearts. God grant that they may be so faithfully answered by us as to dispel all indifference and lethargy, and nerve us to more energetic endeavours in future.

It is very gratifying on the present occasion to be able to state that, so far as information has been obtained, the order throughout this jurisdiction presents a favourable aspect. And although the past quarter has not been the best season of the year for advancement, especially in many country localities, yet we are making substantial progress; three new Divisions have been instituted and two old ones revived, and moreover there seems to be a commendable steadfastness and zeal pervading the Order generally which augurs favourably for the future. May our future grow brighter and brighter.

Since we last met in quarterly session, the National Division of North America has held its annual meeting in Cleveland Ohio. And it is pleasing to learn that notwithstanding the continuation of these unhappy difficulties which had existed for some time past, the representation was larger than at any previous session except one, and that more than one fifth of the number