

of the Sons of Temperance, which demands as its first condition unity of action, could not be so modified as to meet all existing difficulties.

The Order, having for its object to enfold in the arms of one common brotherhood the whole human family,—(an object which commends it the more to every true christian and genuine philanthropist) must necessarily embrace communities and individuals very different in their tastes and feelings—and, at the same time, subject to a great variety of local influences. Consequently, the most perfect system which could be adopted ought only to be expected to recommend itself by an adaptation to all classes in respect to the leading principles of the institution. Did the members of the Order keep this in view, it is believed that we should hear less respecting dissatisfaction with those non-essential matters which turbulent or inconstant minds have foolishly magnified into causes of dissatisfaction—and which they have allowed to influence them so strongly, as at first, to produce coldness, and afterwards, to induce them to withdraw from the Order—either to join the ranks of the enemy, or to take part in some other organization which, although professing to aim at the furtherance of the Cause of Temperance, has in reality weakened the hands of its most earnest supporters.

Your Committee are not afraid to assert that defection from the ranks of our temperance army, has generally arisen from most insufficient causes; and, not unfrequently, from motives so unworthy, that the individuals would not even dare to acknowledge them to themselves; much less to those whose good opinion they would desire to retain. Such being the case, the proposal so to modify the Constitution and Bye-laws of our respective Divisions as to remove all pretended grounds of dissatisfaction, and bring back unfaithful and lukewarm brothers, need not be entertained.

Nor, although the sister Divisions in many parts of the *U. States* speak so confidently of the advantage of copying from those new and untried organizations which have of late sprung up too plentifully in their midst, dare we express our belief that, in so doing, they would strengthen the Order of the Sons of Temperance.

It appears to us rather—that while giving as much freedom to Subordinate Divisions as would be consistent with harmony of movement in the Order, our constant object should be to