

to speak rashly. It were wrong to use words of flattery, cause this might throw us off our guard and expose us to defeat from an enemy that we had ceased to fear. On the other hand we should be equally careful not to speak in such a way as to produce despondency.

Your committee, therefore, with the Reports of the G. W. and G. S. before them, and guided by the information which they glean from other sources, would say that the present is neither a time of light nor yet of darkness. Even in places where a dark cloud hangs they can perceive some light. And where the prospect is brighter there is enough of darkness to remind us that dangers are to be feared.

Your committee have been pained by observing the man reported as having violated the pledge during the last quarter, and they look upon this as a solemn warning of the danger which all are exposed who are subjected to temptation, and is to them a striking illustration of the spirit which animates the enemies of temperance. Many who have fallen, they have reason to believe, are those weak brethren who always need a friendly and supporting hand as well as a kind and faithful counselor. Perhaps they might have been saved had the strong brethren of the division exercised a greater degree of watchfulness over them.

The number of new recruits for the past quarter is not large but it will compare favorably with the corresponding quarter of 1858 or some previous years. As a general rule, the accessions during the summer term are fewer than in the winter quarter. The reason for this is to be found in the fact that many of the members of divisions are from home in the summer, while others are not able then to attend so regularly as in the less busy season of the year.

There is one hopeful fact which your committee feel warranted to state, viz.: that temperance men of the real stamp have begun to act with new vigor, from a deep conviction that nothing else would save the cause from ruin. In many cases a feeling has existed that they did not need to work as hard as they were doing. They concluded that they had done enough, and might with propriety, sit down and wait for others to carry on the work which they had begun. Especially they felt that they had a right to wait for the action of the Legislature to give them a power for working with greater effect. They fondly supposed that a Legislature containing a majority of professed friends of temperance