

By the above it will appear that as many have not been admitted into the Order during the past quarter as the previous one, neither has the expulsions, suspensions, and withdrawals been so great; therefore although we have not gained much, neither have we receded. We should endeavour to show at each succeeding quarter, a steady onward progress, and strive to prevent any leaving us for non-payment of dues, if any plan can be devised for the preventing it. At the last quarterly session the G. D. decided to send the G. W. P. as a representative to the N. D., and requested the Sub-ordinate Divisions to contribute the amount required for that purpose, which call has been responded to generously by several Divisions, who felt that the Order would be benefitted by it. The G. W. P. on his return paid a visit to the Divisions in the City, and gave a detailed account of his mission, which pleased and gratified every one who heard him, and has resulted in much good, and has increased the veneration of the brethren for our chief, who is deservedly popular with the Order throughout the Province.

Returns have been received for the quarter ending 31st March, since last report, from Prince of Wales, No. 30, Pugwash, 36, Wallace, 75, Iron Age, 82, North, 99, Wilmot, 103, Aurora, 70, Oriental, 16, Mainmast, 57.

The following Divisions have not sent in their returns for the quarter ending 30th June:—Avondale, 12, Walton, 23, Prince of Wales, 30, Union, 39, Grand Pre, 47, Morning Star, 59, Caledonia, 65, Lalla Rookh, 83, Herald, 84, Father Matthew, 85, Friendship, 106, Compeer, 107—about the same number that the previous quarter exhibited. This should not be the case; as ample time has elapsed for all the returns to have been sent in, and it has an appearance of carelessness on the part of those entrusted with the duty. Twenty-seven of those sent in have no seal attached to them, some certify that they have not yet obtained a seal, others take no notice of it; many of the returns are difficult to understand, and on comparing them with the previous quarter, have the appearance of being incorrect. Much depends upon the two principal officers in the Divisions, and if they neglect their duty in this respect, in not really and in fact examining into them without signing as a mere matter of form, we cannot wonder at the repeated inaccuracies where the returns will vary some twenty members in each quarter. It is my intention to keep this matter constantly before the Divisions, until a sense of duty will cause more correctness and greater punctuality in the performance of these important duties. Many of our Divisions are working well and constitutionally correct, others are not doing quite so well, and several have been taking large license in respect of their working, but upon being appealed to, have cheerfully resumed the safer and more correct course. My heart and soul is in the cause, and I fear sometimes that my anxiety for the well being of the Order, may appear to some as being rather overstrict in my official capacity, but it is conviction that causes me to act promptly in rectifying errors, for it must be quite evident to all, that it was the carelessness and indifference manifested by some of my predecessors in office, which caused a corresponding carelessness