

# THE ABSTAINER.

ORGAN OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE  
SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

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Fidelity,--Union--Perseverance.

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## MEETING OF THE NATIONAL DIVISION.

### THE RECEPTION AT HOWARD HALL.

The reception of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance of North America, by the Grand Division of Rhode Island, took place at the above named Hall. At a little past three the members of the Grand Division, accompanied by those of the National Division, entered the Hall, each one decorated with the regalia usually worn on such occasions. The assemblage having been called to order, the following address of welcome was delivered by Daniel Wilkinson, of Providence, the Most Worthy Patriarch of the Division of Rhode Island:—

*Most Worthy Patriarch, Officers and Members of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance:* In the name and behalf of the Grand Division of the State of Rhode Island, I bid you welcome.

You have left your homes in the far distant West, the sunny South, and the cooler regions of the North and East, and have come hither on a mission of mercy. Your coming was not heralded by the sound of martial music or the roar of artillery. No pomp or grandeur, save the nobleness of the cause, attended you on your journey.

You have come among us, not as strangers, but as brothers—as brothers we welcome you. One great object, the amelioration of humanity, actuates your hearts and ours. You have come from your various localities, knowing their wants, to meet in council, to consult and devise the best plan to extend the work in which we are engaged. May your meeting be one of harmony; let no strife or discord attend your counsels. If differences of opinion exist among you, let it be an honest difference, tempered with that charity “which suffereth long and is kind.”

The cause for which we labour is founded in truth and righteousness; the seal of eternal justice has been stamped upon it, and, if for a time, the clouds of error and oppression seem to overshadow it, let us not faint or falter, but let us look with confidence to that bow in the heavens, which is the harbinger of a bright and glorious day.

We welcome you as benefactors of the human race—you proffer the olive branch of peace; with open hands and willing hearts we receive it. Here, then, while each one is imbued with holy aspirations, let the sacrifice be placed upon the altar. On the altar let us dedicate ourselves anew to the temperance cause—let the resolution be formed, and let it be recorded in the book of God's remembrance, that, as long as life and health

are spared to us, we will work for the redemption of fallen man. Actuated by such motives, and firm in such resolves, what obstacles can stand in our way?

Looking back into the past to the organization of our order, and tracing up to the present the good that it has done, what may we not hope for in the future?

From this Session of the National Division let there go forth an influence that will be felt in all coming time. Let it be such an influence, that, if we were permitted to lift the veil and see into the future, we should see, and not very far in the distance, no more misery and want—no more suffering; the fires of the last still burnt out, to be no more lighted—the last drunkard reclaimed—homes made happy—and a whole world redeemed and disenthrall'd. O, happy day!

When that time comes, and not till then, shall we be prepared to hear with joy the voice of the angel of the Lord, as he stands with one foot on the sea and the other on the land, proclaiming that “time shall be no longer.”

Once more, then, I bid you a cordial and hearty welcome.

The Most Worthy Patriarch of the National Division, M. D. McHenry of Iowa, was then introduced to His Excellency Gov. Dyer, by Rev. Robert Allyn, one of the delegates from the order in this State to the present convention of the National Division.

Gov. Dyer replied in the following highly appropriate speech:

*Mr President:*—My official introduction to you explains my presence at this time and place. I have been requested to bid yourself and the National Division of the Sons of Temperance welcome to our State. This welcome I give with the greatest cordiality. It is true, sir, your advent among us has not been announced by the discharge of artillery or the exciting strains of martial music; but, sir, you come in the mighty strength of a great moral principle. God speed your progress in this work of philanthropy, and may your councils be so directed and governed, by the spirit of that all wise and omnipotent Being, in whose hands are the destinies of humanity, as that a new impulse, a new birth I had almost said, may be given to the cause of Temperance. Sir, the friends of morality, temperance and virtue extend to you a fraternal greeting. I had hoped to have had the pleasure to introduce His Honor the Mayor of this city, but he is, I am informed, unavoidably absent. In his name, therefore, I repeat this heartfelt welcome.

Mr. Allyn then read the following letter addressed to him by His Honor, the Mayor of the city.

MAYOR'S OFFICE,  
Providence, June 8, 1857. }

Rev. Robert Allyn, Howard Hall.

*My Dear Sir:* I regret my inability to be with you at your meeting to-day in Howard Hall; a previous engagement out of the city is my excuse. I should be happy to be present and welcome to the city the Sons of Temperance of the National Division, with all others connected with the Temperance movement. I trust that success may attend this mission to us, and that the true interests of Temperance will be promoted by interchange of sentiments between the members and their fellow citizens.

With sentiments of high regard I am sincerely yours,

JAMES Y. SMITH.

An address was then delivered by the Most Worthy Patriarch of the National Division. It was of an eminently practical character, and gave abundant evidence of close observation and of a heartfelt interest in the cause. Mr. McHenry was listened to with much pleasure by his hearers, not only from respect due to his position in the order, but from the conviction of his entire freedom from the fanaticism pervading the extremes of this question.

He was followed by Gen. S. F. Cary of Ohio, a past Most Worthy Patriarch of the National Division, in a speech of decided power, sustaining his well earned reputation of being one of the most eloquent speakers in this cause to be found in our country. At the close of his address, the proceedings were terminated by adjournment.

The National Division is to be in session through the week, and delegates were in attendance yesterday from the following States; Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky and Georgia. Delegates were also present from the four British Provinces of Newfoundland Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada West.

## FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF NORTH AMERICA.

MONDAY, June 8.

The National Division convened at ten o'clock in Friendship Hall, corner of Westminster and Exchange streets. The Most Worthy Patriarch, M. D. McHenry, of Iowa, in the Chair.

The following members were present: James McKean, Enoch Jacobs, of Eastern New York; Jobu C. Sims, Robert M. Foust,