

platform. Dr Sabin's resolution was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be published. "Resolved, That, under the deep impression made by the addresses of Peter Sinclair, of Edinburgh, relating to the importance of a new juvenile temperance movement, it be recommended by this meeting to all the friends of temperance throughout the State, to gather together the youth of both sexes as soon as possible in temperance associations, and on the 4th of July next, to aid them in such public demonstrations as shall be cheering and animating to them, and useful to all around them."

This is a matter which must not be overlooked. Who will take the lead in a new agitation?

Once more. Our New Brunswick friends have suggested, through the *Telegraph*, the desirableness of forming a British North American Temperance Alliance, for securing uniform and united action throughout these colonies. The same purpose might have been answered if a National Division for British North America had been instituted; but that project is quashed. The subject may be brought before the Grand Division at its next meeting. Meanwhile, it is open for discussion. Subjoined is an extract from the *Telegraph* of April 16th:—

"An Alliance of all classes of politicians in the British North American Colonies joining and laboring for the early securing of such a Law as will try the question thus fairly in all these Colonies, is a great desideratum of the times among Temperance men. The great benefits which must inevitable accrue are palpable to every thoughtful man.

"A Convention might, with great facility, be held in some central Colonial City during the ensuing Fall, or the commencement of 1858, composed of delegated Representatives from every great Temperance Organization within the circumference of British North America, to deliberate upon the exigencies of the Times, and to prepare and publish some common and comprehensive Platform of Principles, calculated to receive the affectionate support of all orders and conditions of politicians favorable to Prohibition.

"We do sincerely hope to find our Colonial contemporaries discussing this proposal.—The Manchester Alliance of England is now accomplishing untold good in England, why cannot the British North American Alliance originate untold good in these Colonies?"

Referring our readers to the account of the Quarterly Session of the Grand Division, which will be found in another column, we have great pleasure in placing on record the Report of the Committee "On the State of the Order":—

The Committee appointed to consider the state of the Order have much satisfaction in reporting, in accordance with the purport of the several documents submitted to their inspection, a decided improvement in the general condition of the Subordinate Divisions,

and in the same earnest spirit which animates their members. A great movement like that of the important and beneficent cause in which our best wishes and desires are now engaged, cannot make much progress without experiencing some of those oscillations backwards and forwards, which appear to have characterized all former projects for the moral and intellectual improvement of mankind. A state of retrogression is therefore endurable and consistent with ultimate advantage,—inasmuch as a succeeding impulse may occasion a revival of a more earnest spirit, and result in a permanent progression. For this reason your committee would indulge the hope that amidst many shortcomings and signs of inactivity on the part of its friends, and much of opposition from its enemies, the cause of Temperance is still gaining strength and energy in the Province at large. New Divisions have been formed; old ones have been revived; a large accession of members has been announced; and from such returns as have, up to the present date, been submitted, the most cheering and encouraging prospects may be anticipated.

The address of the M. W. Patriarch to the Grand and Subordinate Divisions of the Order of the Sons of Temperance of North America, is characterized by earnestness and clearness of argument, and conveys an irresistible appeal to the heart of every one who may desire to see the destroyer of millions laid prostrate in the dust. Your committee believe that the greatest possible benefit would result from a wide and extensive circulation of this able, nervous and energetic document; and accordingly beg leave to suggest, that at the convenience and discretion of the Editor, it might profitably be inserted in the columns of the *Abstainer*.

The fair encouragement which this valuable periodical has already obtained among the advocates of temperance, is a promising feature in the present aspect of the Order in this Province. Your committee are of opinion that every effort compatible with our means and ability should be exerted with a view to its further usefulness and extension. The advocacy of the Press we hold to be absolutely essential to the promotion and prosperity of the great and important cause we have in hand. It appears to be a necessary element towards the future triumphs of the principles we advocate, that the liquor traffic should be stigmatized as a great moral evil by the sanction of legal enactments. And it appears further, that in order to obtain this desirable consummation, a work of much labour and effort forces itself on the attention of the friends and advocates of the temperance movement. This work, by the admission of all who have attentively studied the subject, consists in the important task of preparing and educating the public mind for the kindly reception of prohibitory laws, and for their permanent and effective operation amongst us.—Without such preliminary preparation,—without the voice and conscientious support of a decided majority of our Provincial population,—without their cordial assent and co-operation, your committee believe that a prohibitory law would not only be nugatory and ineffective, but even ruinous and pernicious to the morals of the country. To this extent it is clear that moral suasion ought to be exerted: because no argument that does not rest on moral force can reach the conscience of a legislator.

The task before the Grand and Subordi-

nate Divisions of this Province is clear and well defined. They must agitate—agitate—agitate: they must lecture, argue, exhort, admonish: they must endeavor to influence their friends, to encourage the wavering, to confirm the reclaimed, to reform the lost, to seek the straying, and to use every allowable means within their reach to promote the cause and the interests of our noble Order.

Your Committee would remark in conclusion that the friends and advocates of the cause must not be discouraged at the extent and difficulty of the work before them. It required three hundred and twenty-five years to prepare the way for the legal protection of Christianity; yet the great blessing was at length obtained. Sixty years of continued effort and agitation were consumed in preparing the British mind for the abolition of slavery in our Empire; yet the honored men who first gave an impetus to the movement lived to see and enjoy its accomplishment. So in like manner may we look forward at no distant period to the consummation of all our hopes and wishes through much care and trial in the final triumphs of our cause, justified and protected by every sanction which the laws of the land can give it.

All which is respectfully submitted in L. P. and F.

JAMES ROBERTSON,
ABRAHAM VANHUSIRK,
WILLARD G. PARKER.

Middleton, April 23rd, 1857.

The Publication Committee presented a Report, of which the following is a copy:

HALIFAX, April 18, 1857.

The Committee of Publication respectfully submit the following Report:—

Your committee have pleasure in stating that the pecuniary responsibility of the Grand Division, with reference to the property sold by your committee to Mr Barnes, has ceased—the last payment having been made this day. That the subscribers to the *Abstainer* should have so far paid their amounts as to enable the publisher, from those receipts, to liquidate the claim of the Grand Division, is at once gratifying and encouraging. The monthly issue has increased to 1,842 numbers.

Your Committee, having in view the promotion of temperance, and believing the friends in this Province are able and willing to sustain a periodical for its advocacy, recommend that the *Abstainer* be published twice a month after October next, each paper to contain half the quantity of matter now given in the monthly numbers. The Publisher, being willing to have the price remain as it now is, it may be expected that the list will be greatly extended, as the intelligence given will be fresher, and consequently more interesting. Your committee trust that, should the Grand Division approve of this suggestion, they will provide means to pay for the additional labour that must necessarily devolve on the Editor.

Your committee venture to anticipate the commencement of a weekly journal, after another year, with a fair prospect of success. It must be obvious to all that the triumph of our principles will be much hastened by the aid of a weekly organ of moderate size, and adapted for family reading.

W. M. BROWN,
CHARLES ROBSON,
A. J. RITCHIE,
JOHN A. BELL,
PATRICK MONAGHAN.