

ties for drinking, the Czar has at length been aroused to the magnitude of the evil and an imperial ukase has put an end to by far the great proportion of the drinking houses, and the great decrease of drunkenness will doubtless soon lead to the extinction of "the traffic" in the Muscovite dominions and thus reconcile one to the exercise of that arbitrary power which has not always been so wisely used, or with such beneficial effect.

The United States emerging from a fearful war, and a Presidential election, are also turning their attention to their old foe, and the gallant hosts are marshalling themselves for a renewed attack upon liquor drinking and selling. May we not hope that the armies of Temperance will be as successful in the contest with the drinking customs of society as were the armies of the Union over the gigantic curse of slavery; and it must be a matter of sincere rejoicing to every friend of Temperance that the destinies of that people, humanly speaking are about to be committed to the hands of one who is as irreproachable in morals as he is brave in action, and the prayers of every Christian should go up to the throne of grace that in the matter of Temperance our Brother, General Grant, President elect, may be sustained in "fighting it out on this line" through his term of office.

Massachusetts which has so often been made the battle-field of Prohibition, groaning under the evils inseparable from the licensing system, has again aroused to action and has triumphantly returned a legislature pledged to restore to her statute books the Maine Law, pure and simple and no doubt learning wisdom by experience, will avoid the dangers of the past, and surround it with such defences as shall successfully defy the attempts of all who regard their own gratification more than the good of the commonwealth. Other States are preparing to follow in the same path, and if "coming events cast their shadows before them," the legalized sale of intoxicating liquors is doomed over a large portion of the Great Republic.

Turning more directly to the Order of the Sons of Temperance, it is a cause of congratulation, that at the recent sessions of the Grand Divisions both in Great Britain and her Provinces, very satisfactory and cheering intelligence of the state of the Order was given.

In the States, Divisions were reported as springing up in all quarters, and in many parts of the South, where it was feared our Order was dead, Grand Divisions have been recuscitated and seem to be animated by an earnest desire to recover by energetic action, all the ground lost during the war.

In the Grand Division of Ontario, I learn "there was a large attendance of representatives and much important business transacted," and for this information I am indebted to the columns of the Press, neither the Grand Scribe nor myself having received a copy of the proceedings.

In our own jurisdiction most of the Divisions have complied with the requirements of the by-law passed at our last Session, and have reported to the Grand Scribe direct, who in turn forwarded the reports to my address, but I regret to say they had not come to hand at the time of my leaving home, and I am therefore dependent upon the "scant recollections" of our worthy Grand Scribe for the information that East Farnham Division reports itself in a flourishing condition, the contributing cause being the admission of ladies to full membership. Adamsville Division is also doing well, and attributes their present success to the introduction of entertainments occasionally. Howard, and St. Andrew's Divisions, report efforts in aid of Red River Sufferers, and one new Charter has been granted since our last meeting. For the Statistical returns I refer you to our Grand Scribe's report, and on my return home I will prepare for publication with this report of our proceedings a synopsis of the missing documents.

One thing is certain, that as an Order we are not occupying the position we ought, nor can we hope to without using the means which all past experience proves to be necessary to success, and I am convinced that it would be as unreasonable for the Farmer to expect to reap where he had not sown as for an Association, to look for progress whilst neglecting the great in-

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