

The third and following clauses of the Report were adopted.

The report was adopted as a whole, as amended, as follows:

The Committee on State of the Order beg leave to report:

That having examined the documents placed in their hands they find since the annual session in October last, a large apparent decrease in numbers; the number reported at the close of the quarter just now ending being less than at the last report, by 455 members. This diminution may be largely accounted for, by the fact that the number of Returns from Divisions in the hands of the Grand Scribe is less by 9 than those received before the last report. Admitting this to be the case, it is still apparent that there must be much indifference, and consequent negligence, on the part of some of those whose duty it is to place in the hands of our worthy Grand Scribe the requisite statistical information, to enable him to exhibit on the Journals of this Grand Division the full numerical strength of the Order throughout this jurisdiction. This indifference is to be deplored, and your Committee would earnestly recommend that those Divisions and their Deputies, to whom these remarks apply, be more prompt in future in sending in their Returns, with all the information required.

We regret to learn that there is a difference existing between the G.W.P. and a city Division, and trust that it will be soon amicably arranged.

So far your Committee have been looking at the dark side of the picture. This, however unpleasant, is nevertheless sometimes necessary. On the other hand, we are happy to be able to state that it is our firm conviction that notwithstanding all the difficulties and obstacles in the way, the Order generally is in a healthy and vigorous condition; and that the decrease of numbers apparent on the statistical tables, does not indicate a corresponding decline in the Order. On the contrary where expulsions for non-payment of dues, indifference, &c., thin the ranks of the Order, it denotes more vitality in those Divisions so acting.

Your Committee are gratified to know that more attention is being given to the juvenile portion of our community,—that Bands of Hope are multiplying. They recommend every Division, where practicable, to take measures to gather in the young, and train them in the principles of sobriety and virtue.

The success of the Grand Division Agency needs no commendation from your Committee. It speaks for itself in the achievements of the past. They however congratulate this Grand Division that the third Lecturer is employed, with the strong desire and hope on the part of the Agency Committee, of securing at no distant day the fourth in the field.

The *Abstainer*, ably conducted as it is by our indefatigable worthy Grand Scribe, in its weekly visits to every part of this jurisdiction, is the very life blood of our loved institution, "quickenning through all its veins the tide of healthful life." May its circulation be increased a hundred fold. Then with the Royal Head now over us,—the mental and moral power exerted by our Agents and members generally, we may pursue our onward course, hopeful—nay certain—of ultimate success.