

of persons of unsteady gait, in some of our most frequented streets, from eight to ten o'clock at night is alarming. The influence of prayer meetings and temperance meetings is neutralized, and a great deal more than neutralized, by the intense activity of the taverns and saloons." Brethren, these quotations might be indefinitely enlarged. The fortress in which we now meet, and the citadel bristling with ordinance, under whose shade we now sit, is not more formidable than the stronghold, which we are banded together along with our "confrères" of other organizations, to besiege and overthrow. The army of the slave-holding South is not more subtle and ubiquitous and tenacious of its life, and cause, and principles, than is the great slave-holding army of distillers and brewers and dealers in, and moderate drinkers of intoxicating liquors is in keeping up a constant warfare against all that is good, lovely and great among mankind.

Slavery and War are evils—crying evils—great curses of humanity, but these are trifles to the fearful curse of intemperance. Those are increased and made into a darker, blacker and heavier curse by this. Brethren, we do not meet to-day to congratulate ourselves on the consummation of our hopes; we do not meet to ground our arms and receive on our brow the victor's chaplet. The enemy is still in the field. If he has any where lost ground he watches to retake it. He disputes every inch, and by smiles and snares, as well as by frowns he seeks to pick our men off the field. He has many of the great, the learned, the wealthy, and the influential, (yet not all of these,) in his ranks. But we have the truth on our side and the God of truth is our shield and buckler. Brethren, excuse me, I am forgetting that this is, or ought to be, a report and not a speech. My heart is warm, my pen is ready and swift, though not quite swift enough in this smelting heat, and my theme is one very dear to that heart and very familiar to that pen.

Great as is the evil we assail, we are not now only breaking ground. Our own Order has numbered within its pale, during its brief term of existence, 1,250,000, men and women. And we are not alone. Good Templars of the Independent and British American Order, and other organizations are our coadjutors in this great enterprise. Our brethren in Canada West are progressing nobly, and our hope is ere long to see vast accessions to the ranks of genuine total abstainers, we shall not, whoever may, "despise the day of small things."

I must refer you to the report of our Grand Scribe for a particular account of the statistics of our Subordinate Divisions. I have only eleven reports from my Deputies, ten of these for quarter ending March 31st.: and one for half year ending June 30th. The Divisions reported are; "Mechanics," "St. Henry's Union," "Shefford," "Lancaster," "Eastern Star," "Gough," "Cameron," "Bedford," "Richmond," and "Howard," for quarter January to April, West Shefford June to July.

Of queries, Nos. 1 and 6, answered generally favourably; one answers No. 5, by saying "better if there were allowed no plays by the Division." Of No. 7, only one, "Howard," reports an organization for youth. Of No. 8, the answers generally are "with good effect," one Division has none, one, "had, but with injury," and one cautious in receiving; three take copies of the Temperance "Advocate," for increasing the efficiency of Divisions these are suggested; "Official visits of Grand Officers," "Temperance lectures," "Appeals to Christian men, and men of influence in society," and one counsels the repeal of the New Constitutions."

Among the remarks are the following: one Division feels the effect of other organizations detrimental, yet it keeps its ground. Non-payment of dues is a serious drawback in some Divisions, one Deputy fears the consequences of the proposal to institute initiation fees and dues in Grand Division. One recommends that our Divisions be as much as possible increased with members from the influential classes of society. One advises a return to the former state of the "Rule on visiting, Art II." The Richmond Deputy reports, "our