

HALIFAX.

A public Temperance meeting was held in the Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Tuesday evening 24th March. There were a goodly number present. A very good Essay was delivered by Rev D. Freeman. His arguments were forcible and convincing: he presented the cause of temperance and intemperance to the audience in different phases, shewing why sobriety should be preferred to drunkenness. Mr C. C. Vaux read a neatly prepared paper, entitled: "The influence of the drinking customs of society on individuals. He cited as examples the lives of Burns, R. B. Sheridan, Lord Byron and others, whose days were shortened by conforming to the fashionable drinking usages of their day. Mr John A. Bell, G. T., also addressed the meeting on the blessings of Total Abstinence, as we understood him, and made some humorous remarks. The chairman, Mr R. Motton, junr., made the closing speech; he alluded to remarks of the gentlemen who preceded him, and testified to the marked progress of temperance principles in Halifax, which was owing to the efforts made by the several Total Abstinence organizations in the city. On the whole it was an interesting meeting; but we would respectfully suggest the propriety of having but one written address read on such occasions, because audiences are apt to tire and become impatient, particularly as such papers are seldom so lively or telling as extempore speeches, be they ever so interesting or well prepared.

"A Literary and Musical Entertainment" under the auspices of Mic-Mac Division, came off at Temperance Hall, on Monday evening, 30th March; it was for the benefit of a member of that Division who has been deprived of his eye-sight. The Hall was well filled; good addresses were delivered by Richard McLearn Esq., and R. M. Barratt, G. Con.; a recital was also given by Mr Wilson, and the Band of the 63rd Regiment added to the interest of the meeting, by playing several good and popular airs during the evening. The members of Mic-Mac Division deserve credit for their efforts in so praise-worthy an object; we understand that handsome proceeds are the result of the meeting. Be always prompt and ready to assist and comfort the needy and afflicted, Brethren!

We rejoice to learn that a re-action in favour of temperance principles has taken place in many parts of the Province during the last few months—languishing Divisions having been put into working order—old temperance societies revived and new ones organized. Go on, brothers! the good time is coming.

Sixty persons were pledged to *Total Abstinence* at the regular monthly meet-

ing of the North Halifax Branch Temperance Society, on Wednesday evening, 8th April.

HON. NEAL DOW.

It having been ascertained by telegraph that the Honorable Neal Dow—the *NAPOLEON of the Temperance Army*, as he has been styled—would pass through Halifax on his way to Great Britain in the Steamer *Europa*, the D. G. W. P., at the earnest solicitation of many members of the Order, summoned the brethren to meet at the Temperance Hall on Wednesday evening, 8th inst. The meeting was well attended; Mr Shean, D. G. W. P., presided, and Mr P. Monaghan acted as Secretary. The chairman having stated the object of the meeting, it was unanimously decided that an address should be presented to Mr Dow on the occasion of his passing through the city *en route* to Europe; a large committee was appointed to receive him on his arrival, and a draft of an address submitted and adopted.

It being expected that the Steamer would arrive early on Thursday evening a large number of temperance friends attended at the Hall; the Chebucto Division continued in session until twelve o'clock, and about thirty or forty remained in the Division Room till 1 o'clock, A. M., when, as the Steamer had not arrived, they retired to their homes somewhat disappointed, thinking they had lost an opportunity of meeting "the great man;" a number, however, "sat up all night."

About half-past one o'clock on Friday afternoon, however, the *Europa* arrived, having been detained outside the harbor by a dense fog. Numbers flocked to the wharf to ascertain if Mr Dow had come, and, having received a satisfactory answer, a rush was made towards the Temperance Hall, to which place Mr Dow was conducted by Mr J. Shean, D. G. W. P., P. G. W. P. Wm. M. Brown, and J. S. Thompson, Mr Monaghan, G. S., and Robert Noble, Esq., the committee appointed to meet him on board the Steamer. On entering the Hall he received a hearty welcome from the large assemblage of persons present. The D. G. W. P. took the chair, made a few well-timed remarks, introduced Mr Dow to the audience, and presented him with the following

ADDRESS.

To the Honorable Neal Dow, &c., &c., &c.

SIR,—We, the Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch and Grand Scribe, in behalf of the Order of Sons of Temperance, and kindred Associations in Halifax, embrace the opportunity afforded by the short delay of the English Steamer, to bid you welcome, and assure you of our high respect and esteem.

Interested as we are in the progress of a moral reform which we consider essential to the well-being of society, we deem it a duty

and a privilege to honour those, who, by their zeal, their ability and their constancy, in promoting that great reform, have entitled themselves to a prominent place among the benefactors of mankind.

We believe that rumour has not misled us in ascribing to you the possession of those qualities of leadership which are required to give compactness, direction and stability to every important enterprise, and we cheerfully accord to you the same position in the public mind of our countrymen which you occupy in the estimation of your own. The geographical lines which separate us into communities living under different forms of political government, we hold to be but accidental or conventional arrangements, which disappear in contemplation of a sentiment of universal brotherhood.

We are aware that diversity of opinion exists, even among conscientious persons, respecting the expediency of Prohibitory enactments for the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, but the world has not failed to recognize, and to acknowledge in the legislation of the State of Maine, a signal example of magnanimous purpose, supported with determination of spirit, and elevated by purity of motive. Temporary obstructions have hitherto prevented the full realization of all that the Maine Law was intended to accomplish, but this fact, which might have been anticipated, cannot tarnish the glory of the endeavour, nor does it, in our judgement, invalidate the soundness of the principles upon which the law was based.

We trust, that in the great country which you are about visiting, and of which we form an humble appendage, your exertions may be eminently successful in stimulating the work already begun by the people there, and that in conjunction with the labors of Mr Gough, and others who have preceded you, such a moral revolution may be effected in the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland as shall result in lessening the woes and increasing the happiness of the whole human race.

In conclusion, allow us to wish you most sincerely, a speedy and pleasant passage across the mighty deep, and a safe return to your family and friends.

Signed. In behalf of the Order of Sons of Temperance, &c., &c., Halifax, Nova Scotia.

JOHN SHEAN, D. G. W. Patriarch.

PATRICK MONAGHAN, Grand Scribe.

April 9th, 1857.

Mr Dow made a lengthy verbal reply; he thanked those present for the kind reception given to him; alluded to the *Maine Law*; the reverses met with by the people of that State, and the success achieved by the prohibition party in September 1856; and stated that "of all the members of the Legislature of Maine who voted for the repeal of the *Maine Law*, ONLY SIX were re-elected at the succeeding election—showing, most conclusively, the determination of the people for prohibition." We also understood him to say that the citizens of Portland obtained another triumph in favor of prohibition, on the 7th inst. He presented many reasons,—with good, effective arguments,—why Prohibitory Laws should be enacted by governments for the welfare of the people; looked forward with much hope