

ment of an Agent and Lecturer to visit the subordinate Divisions under this jurisdiction, and the steps necessary to be taken in order to secure the enactment of a Law for the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, by the Legislature of this Province. These two questions will require from you much thought; give them your most serious consideration, and whatever course you may resolve upon to pursue be determined, and see that your work will be properly—and promptly—executed.

In reference to again applying to the Legislature for a Prohibitory Liquor Law we should not be discouraged by the failure of last year, nor by the repeal of the Law in the sister Province of New Brunswick. Look to MAINE, the pioneer in the cause of Prohibition. See how nobly her people have again come out in favour of the Law, notwithstanding the exultations of its opponents at what they considered to be the final suppression of all agitation on the subject, by the action of the voters in 1855. How nobly did her sons redeem themselves—on 8th September last—by triumphantly returning one of the candidates for the office of Governor—who is an avowed Prohibitionist—with a majority of between 15,000 and 16,000 votes! Is not this a great reaction in favour of the "cause of all mankind"? As it has been with the people of Maine, so shall it be with the men of New Brunswick. The brethren in the sister Province feel confident that they will again—ere long—have a Prohibitory enactment spread on the Statute Book. They are determined to agitate for the Law until it is enacted, and they will get it! Let us imitate the example of our brethren in Maine and New Brunswick, and we too shall not be disappointed, but will be enabled to exclaim—

"Broadly waves our banner o'er us,
Broader still be it unfurld,
Till all nations join the chorus,—
FREEDOM TO A RANSOM'D WORLD."

While we seek for the enactment of a Law for the entire suppression of the traffic, and cannot consistently, as Temperance men, apply for one of a less stringent nature, we at the same time should be prepared to accept whatever Law—be it ever so much modified from the one we wish—our legislators may be disposed to give us; by so doing we will—in my opinion—pave the way; for the whole measure.

I have much pleasure in announcing that the Publication Committee have at length—after devoting much time and attention to the subject—succeeded in making arrangements for the establishment of a Temperance periodical, in accordance with the resolution passed at the Quarterly Session held at Shubenacadie in May last. The Committee have entered into an agreement with Mr James Barnes, of this city, as Publisher. The Rev Dr Cramp—our present able and respected G. W. P.—has been engaged as the Editor, and from the well known abilities of our brother, as a writer and lecturer on Temperance, his name will be a sufficient guarantee as to the character of the paper, and the spirit that will be exhibited in the editorial department. The strict business habits, and general punctuality of the Publisher will also, I feel convinced, give satisfaction to the Grand Division.

By the arrangements entered into by the Committee, the G. D. is now relieved of the amount due on the printing material of the

late *Athenæum* newspaper, and for which it became responsible. I would refer the G. D. to the report of the Publishing Committee for further information respecting their arrangements for the publishing of *The Abstainer*, which is now the official organ of this body.

In order to extend the circulation of the paper I have mailed 250 copies of the circular of the Publication Committee, addressed to the Divisions, Deputies and Temperance men throughout the Province, in addition to which I have also forwarded by mail a number of Prospectuses—which were printed by the Publisher,—and wrote between seventy and eighty letters to some of the most prominent Temperance friends. From the answers I have received, there are now about 1500 copies ordered, but I have no doubt the circulation will soon exceed 2000. As the first number of *The Abstainer* was issued on 15th inst. brethren will now have an opportunity of judging of the style of articles that will appear in its columns, as also of the typographical workmanship; and as the Publisher depends upon the Grand Division to extend the circulation of the paper, it is hoped that the brethren will exert themselves to increase the list of subscribers.

Having corresponded with some of the prominent members of the Order of *Temperance Watchmen*, on the subject of establishing a periodical, I would inform the G. D. that the matter was brought to the notice of the *Brotherhood* at the Annual Convention, which was held at Upper Stewiacke in July last, and the following resolution adopted:—

"Resolved, That this Convention urge upon all the Clubs under their jurisdiction the duty of responding to the invitation of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, respecting their contemplated Temperance periodical."

Respecting the state of the Order in the Province, I would apply the military term "as you were" to some of the Deputies and Divisions under this jurisdiction, but am pleased to state that some of them have "come to the front" and assumed their proper position. Although a few of the Divisions have ceased operations—some of which had not been in working order for twelve months and upwards—it is my opinion that a reaction is about to take place in some parts of the Province, as some of the Divisions that did not hold their meetings regularly for some time, have again resumed their work, and, I have been informed, with fair prospects of increasing the number of their members, and advancing the principles of our organization in the several districts where they are located.

As there are a large number of returns for the past quarter still due, I am unable to give you as full a statistical synopsis of the Order as I had wished; neither can I, satisfactorily, compare the returns of the Divisions for each quarter during the past year, in order to shew the G. D. the increase and decrease—numerically and financially—of the Divisions in each County, but would refer you particularly to the County of Halifax where the Divisions are rapidly increasing in numbers, and by their returns shew a marked advance over the corresponding term of last year, notwithstanding the great influx of strangers into the County during the past twelve months, and an increase in the number of places—both licensed and unlicensed—where intoxicating liquors can be procured.

I regret to learn that intemperance is greatly on the increase in the Counties of Hauts

and Colchester; this is owing no doubt to the Railway operations, along the line of which almost every shanty that has been erected is permitted to vend intoxicating drinks—even without license—whereby a large proportion of the labouring men are prevented from attending to their work regularly, in consequence of their being in an almost continual state of drunkenness. Many of these shanties being near the places where some of the Divisions are located, some of our weaker brethren were tempted, and, I am sorry to hear, have again relapsed into their former habits of intemperance. This state of things, I have reason to believe, is not unknown to the magistrates living in the vicinity of the works, but why they do not perform the duty incumbent upon them, as administrators of the Law, is best known to themselves.

The names of 79 Divisions are now on the Records of this Grand Division; of this number one—Mechanics, No. 34—has surrendered its Charter; six have ceased working with but little prospect of their being resuscitated, viz., Cumberland 35, Rock 63, Aurora 70, Maine Law 144, Salem 116, Inkermann 123. The above named Divisions have not been in working order for twelve months or upwards. Inkermann Division was never in a prosperous condition since its institution, and its organization, I fear, had rather a damaging effect on the Order in its chartered locality, as it tended to weaken the Division already existing—Morning Star, No. 69—which has been for some time working under great difficulties. This is the second time for Rock Division, No. 63, to cease working; it never has been in a very flourishing condition since it resumed operations, about two years ago.

Of the remaining 72 Divisions, 48 only have sent in their returns for the quarter ending September 30th, of which the following is a synopsis:—

Initiated, 27 Divisions	164	}	170
" by dispensation	5		
Admitted by Card	1	}	3
Rejected			
Withdrawn by Card	9	}	25
" from the Order	16		
Reinstated			28
Suspended			42
Violated Pledge			51
Signed over			27
Violated Pledge second time			13
Expelled for violation of Pledge	53	}	109
" " non-payment of dues	56		
Deaths			5
Temperance Meetings held			47
Tracts distributed			6
Representatives to Grand Division			437
Total number of members on F. S.'s Book, 48 Divisions			2228
Receipts for quarter, 45 Divisions	£307 18		1½
Paid for benefits by 16 Divisions	90 5		0½
Expenses exclusive of benefits, 34 Divisions	192 3		8½
Cash on hand, including investments, 43 Divisions	1567 1		4½
Per capita tax, 48 Divisions	27 17		0
" " rec'd from 42 Divs.	23 6		0

Since the last meeting of the Grand Division returns have been received from the following named Divisions for quarter ending 31st March, 1856:—Union 6, Exeter 113, Phoenix 115, Flowing Fountain 118.

Returns for quarter ending 30th June have been received from Union 6, Avondale 131, New Caledonia 14, Cape Breton 27, Wilberforce 25, Pugwash 86, Royal 37, Archange-