

The National Division hold their annual session at Providence, R. I., United States, in June next. As the place of meeting is so near, and as important matters are to come under their consideration, it was deemed advisable to appoint three delegates from this Grand Division to the National Division. It has been customary for Subordinate Divisions to contribute towards defraying the expenses of delegations to the National Division. It is hoped that Subordinate Divisions will come forward with their usual promptitude in contributing toward this object. Some Divisions made their appropriations on the first appeal; but most have been tardy in responding to the call of the Grand Division. The delegates will go, and the Grand Division must meet the responsibility by the aid of the Subordinate Divisions.

Since penning the above a circular addressed to the Grand and Subordinate Divisions, and officers and members of the Order, by the Most Worthy Patriarch, has come to hand, and will be read to you by the Grand Scribe. It will be observed that the Most Worthy Patriarch urges that no sound, practical, judicious member of the National Division should stay at home, inasmuch as at the coming session, the whole frame work of the Order will pass under review, and such changes and measures be recommended as may on the maturest deliberation be deemed needful to inspire it with new life. The largest possible delegation, therefore, is imperatively demanded. Will the Subordinate Divisions meet the emergency? I beg to call special attention to the address of the Most Worthy Patriarch. It contains an earnest, full-hearted appeal, which must serve to rouse the slumbering energies of every Son of Temperance. It comes opportunely, and renders further remark of mine, as to the best means of reviving the Order, unnecessary. I advise that it be committed to the Committee on the State of the Order, and considered in connection with this report and that of the Grand Scribe.

I cannot bring this report to a close without noticing with the liveliest feelings of satisfaction the enthusiastic reception given by the brethren of the Order in the city of Halifax, to that world-renowned Temperance Reformer, and author of the Maine Law—the Hon. Neal Dow, while temporally among them on his way to England. My only regret is that I was not in the city at that time to have taken part in the proceedings; but it gratifies me to know that the duties of the chair were ably performed by my worthy deputy, brother John Shean.