

In reference to the communication of the M. W. Scribe, the Committee recommend that the Grand Scribe be authorized and required to procure and keep on hand a sufficient number of rituals to supply Subordinate Divisions with them as required; and also a sufficient number of copies of the private circular from the M. W. Scribe in reference to ceremonies, to supply each Division with a copy.

Submitted in L., P. & F.,

SAMUEL CREELMAN,  
WM. D. O'BRIEN,  
FRANCIS LAYTON.

*Middle Stewiacke, Jan. 31, 1872.*

Adopted.

On motion of G. Treasurer, 500 copies of the Journal of Proceedings at this Session, were ordered to be printed.

P.G.W.P. Marshall presented the following Report from the Special Committee on License Law :

TO THE GRAND DIVISION OF NOVA SCOTIA,—

*Grand Worthy Patriarch and Brothers* :—Your Committee appointed to consider the amendments to the License Law, proposed by County Deputy Muir of Shelburne, beg leave to report,—

That they have examined the papers referred to, and in connection therewith have examined, cursorily, the present License Law, and are of opinion that any special action by this Grand Division, at the present time, would be premature.

Your Committee deem the matter of very great importance, and would recommend the appointment of a Committee, principally resident in Halifax, to watch over proceedings in the matter of the License Law, to suggest and press for such amendments as may be attainable or practicable.

The consolidating and harmonizing of the laws of the Province and the Dominion at the present time will, it is judged, afford an opportunity to improve several clauses by mere verbal alterations—such as : the right of appeal to the prosecutor as well as defendant; delivery of liquors in any place of business a sale under the law; seizure and destruction of liquors exposed for sale when discovered by persons appointed by authority under the Act of 1869; devolving the burden of proof of innocence upon the offenders, where the presence of liquors, or other usual drinking apparatus warrant good grounds of suspicion of sale.

Your Committee would recommend that in the event of this Grand Division appointing a committee as above recommended, that such committee act conjointly with any body or committee which may be appointed by any other temperance organization in charge of the matter of improving our present license law.

Respectfully submitted in L. P. & F.,

DAVID MARSHALL,  
R. S. McCURDY,  
HENRY A. TAYLOR,  
JAMES CREELMAN,  
ROBERT PUTNAM.

Adopted after discussion, and following named appointed a Committee in accordance with recommendation contained therein :  
R. H. Wetmore, Grand Treasurer, Grand Scribe, W. C. Silver,  
A. A. Bliss, P.G.W.P. Longley, P.G.W.P. Marshall.