

for scarcely more than half that number. The G. W. P. and Grand Scribe are *ex officio* members of the Halifax Temperance League. The meetings during the past quarter have been regularly held and with success. The Stipendiary Magistrate has decided that licenses granted since the 7th of May last without the requisite petitions accompanying, are void, and members of the City Council are now mooted the question whether the Council should receive license money when they give only "bogus" papers in return. Honesty is demanded of Corporations as well as individuals. This lesson will not be lost on the City Fathers..

Some of the principal reasons why licenses should not be granted, and an appeal made to the people not to sign petitions for licenses have been printed, and five thousand copies are now being distributed in the city. A sample is on the table. Would it not be well for the Grand Division to order a few thousand copies for general distribution to the Divisions?

Other Provinces of the Dominion are petitioning the central Parliament this winter to enact a Prohibitory Liquor Law. The Grand Secretary of the Independent Order of Good Templars wrote me upon the subject, but no answer could be given till after this Session. There seems so little benefit to arise from petitioning and so much for us to do at home in rousing our societies up to the Provincial laws that it seems to me almost a waste of time and energy to leave the work at our own doors and ask and petition the Dominion Parliament for what they will not now grant.

The supply of Constitutions and Bye-Laws for the Grand Division is exhausted, and the supply for Subordinate Divisions nearly so.

The Committee on Constitution and Bye-Laws has approved of my suggestion of having the two put together in one snug pamphlet thereby enabling every person to become well acquainted with the rules of the Grand as well as the Subordinate Divisions. If approved by you it would be well to order an edition of some 2 or 3 thousand copies.

The Committee on printing has taken tenders for printing a quantity of Band of Hope stock. This is in accordance with the request of the Committee on Juvenile organizations.

Several deputies have written informing me that their Divisions have not held successful meetings since the new year commenced, owing to the severe weather and bad state of the roads. Returns have been slow in coming in—only 77 were received up to the 21st, when my accounts were closed, while in October last there were over 100 returns in at that date. So far as can be ascertained this is entirely owing to the severity of the weather by which this Grand Division is also somewhat hindered in its session. The following circular was mailed on the 22nd instant to each deputy who had not forwarded returns or some information :—

HALIFAX, N. S., 21st Jany., 1875.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—

The return and per. capita tax from your Division, have not yet been received. My Financial Statement to be laid before the Grand Division on the 26th inst., closes to-day. I am very sorry your Division will not appear in the list of those paying up dues.

N. B.—RULE 17, CONSTITUTION OF GRAND DIVISION says: Any Division neglecting to make Quarterly Returns and Payment of Dues, shall be disqualified from voting in the Grand Division, nor shall they be allowed to receive the Passwords until said Returns and Payments are made.

The Temperance Cause is advancing finely in this Province, and it rests now to a great extent with the professed Temperance Workers whether this will prove to be only a spasmodic effort or whether permanent good will result.