

strongly hope that the progress of our great moral reform may be unflinching, and that our operations, as an organization capable of achieving an incalculable amount of good, be continued with entire efficiency until the curse of strong drink be removed from our happy province. Your committee are not sanguine enough to suppose that our work can be fully accomplished within a very short period: but relying on the justness and truth of our principles, and upon the favor of the Most High, and being also confident that our Temperance ranks contain very many who are prepared to labor a life-time in this work, and whose watchword is, "*We conquer or die*," no doubt need be entertained but that success will ultimately reward our efforts, and success in so signal a manner as will amply remunerate for all the sacrifices, labors, discouragements, and even sufferings to which Total Abstinence friends have been, or may yet be, subjected.

As the prohibition of the liquor traffic by Legislative enactment, in our estimation, will be a highly important step for the end to which we are aiming, your committee feel the necessity of unremitting effort being still put forth on the part of all Temperance men for securing the passage of a Prohibitory Law.

To the principles so frequently propounded by this G. D. on this question, your committee are assured that our Order throughout the Province will maintain an unflinching attachment, and for their promulgation yet more widely and effectively will not fail to employ every available means. Not in the least disheartened in the work by the indifference and opposition recently exhibited in the Legislature in regard to the well-understood wishes of the Temperance community in Nova Scotia, the advocates of prohibition will proceed in their holy agitation until their voice shall be heard with respect and attention in the halls of Legislation.

While regretting that the result of the reasonable prayer of our petitions to the Legislature at its late session was not such as we had hoped, yet confiding in that overruling Providence which unerringly and beneficently controls the affairs of State as well as the actions of individuals, we cheerfully commit ourselves anew to the work required for securing our object in the legal prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Your committee, entertaining decided convictions as to the expediency and propriety of the measure sought from the Legislature nevertheless are led to hope that even at an early period we may be found in a better position for the working of a Prohibitory Law than we probably would have been had the prayer of our petition been granted—for your committee cannot hide from themselves the fact that while the temperance people of Nova Scotia are unanimously in favor of prohibition, yet that in regard to the bill recently before the Legislature a difference of opinion has existed:—

1. As to the propriety of submitting the question to the people
2. As to the application of the permissive principle of the measure to Electoral Districts.