

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

We cannot quite agree with the old Roman emperor who said: "Leave the future to Providence, the present to duty, and the past to oblivion." The present is, indeed, for duty; the future is with the Almighty; but the past shall not be consigned to oblivion. Here forgetfulness would be a sin. We cherish the memory of the past, and to day, as we glance backward over the months and years that have forever gone, and recall the days of affliction and days of rejoicing, the days of perplexity and days of deliverance, days of sowing and days of reaping, days of darkness and days of gladness, we exclaim with Esther, "These are days to be remembered."

From the varied experiences of the past we learn the better how to perform the duties of the present; so, while we look ever forward with glad anticipation, we look backward with gratitude profound. In our organization we have reached another anniversary day, and are met to review our work and plan for something grander and better.

During the year we have all had some bitter disappointments and humiliating failures; cherished plans have been thwarted, our grandest ideas have been but lightly esteemed, and we have found it necessary to abide by the judgment of others. Then, there have been times when we have felt disheartened and paralyzed by the apathy of those from whom we have a right to expect sympathy and aid, and the enormity of the evils against which we have to contend. But while there have been difficulties and perplexities, the work has been full of compensation, for we have been granted prosperity in all our departments. Headquarters, the glorious *dream* of the past, has, during the year, become a reality.

A few earnest souls have hoped, and planned, and toiled for this for many years. Sometimes the desire of their hearts seemed almost to be realized, then mountains of difficulty anon loomed up before them, and what had seemed so near was still a great way off. For those who conceived the idea of this "Temperance Temple" we should cherish the most grateful remembrance. Some of them have gone home to heaven, and from amid its glories we like to think they may perhaps find delight in watching the progress we make. For those who have now the heavy responsibility upon them, we bespeak your heartiest sympathy, a sympathy that must needs be expressed in something more tangible than words. There are, perhaps, a few who excuse themselves by saying, "We have enough to do in our own Union;" or, "It won't do us any good; let those who expect to use it pay for it," etc., etc. We should hardly expect to find such people in sympathy with missionary work, or, indeed, any work of a philanthropic character. How much good, in the sense of personal use, will the great Temperance Temple, at Chicago, be to the women at