

breaches of the peace are hardly known. The tone of society seems completely changed.—Drinking habits are going out of fashion."

I know so little of the state of Temperance affairs in the counties of Guysborough and Pictou, and that little is not very cheering, that I can only express my hope that the brethren who remain faithful will not merely continue at their posts, but succeed in re-animating dormant energies and restoring the vigour of the Order. The same remark applies to the county of Cumberland.

In Colchester and Hants counties there is a variety of experience. Some of the Divisions are holding their ground bravely; others are sinking into slumber. In one instance the establishment of a groggery where no such nuisance had existed for years seems likely to produce a good effect. Brother George Creed, Junr., speaking of Reehab Division, says, "There seems now to be a brighter prospect. The arch-enemy of our cause has established a station in our midst. Rum has not been sold here for some years previously, and its presence seems to be imbuing the Temperance folk with new spirit. There is quite a buckling on of armour among our brethren." Drunkenness is on the increase in Windsor, but it is pleasant to record that Hantsport is still free from the rum-curse.

Most of the Divisions in King's county maintain their position. Those which have been under my own superintendence, though not large, are doing good in their respective neighbourhoods. Brother Hunt observes,—“The progress of our excellent Order is but slow. Our principles, however, take a firm hold upon the public mind, and hence, while there is a want of encouragement there is no cause for discouragement. The Sons, I am happy to say, are giving their thoughts more decidedly to the old Temperance Societies, and that is doing a good work.” The brethren of Canard Division have invoked the aid of the law, and the result has been that a notorious rum-seller has been driven from the field.

Annapolis and Digby counties are so favourably situated for the operations of the lawless that a large amount of rum is poured in among them, and the buyers are not few. Some of the Divisions are sickly, and some ready to die; others shew symptoms of vigorous health. Brother Whitman, referring to Clements Arch Division, says, “Although small in numbers, I think our Division is mainly the cause of there not being any spirituous liquor sold at this place (Clementsport); and I can safely say there is less drunkenness here than in any other place I have visited in the Province.” Brother Nicholls states respecting Royal Division that it is in a healthy, active, and prosperous condition; but little if any liquor is sold in the village (Hillsburgh), and a drunken man is a rare sight amongst us.”

In Yarmouth and Shelburne counties the cause, as far as I can gather, is not in a satisfactory state. From Queens county I have not received much intelligence, except that intemperance prevails greatly in the town of Liverpool, where, though no licenses are granted, liquor in plenty is to be had. Some have drunk themselves to death; others are on the road; and our brethren there “despair of much change” till we get the Maine Law. But “despair” is a word not besitting a Temperance vocabulary, and it cannot but be hoped that the county which boasts a “Hero of Kars” Division will ere long report

the repulse of assaults and the beginnings of victories.

Lunenburg is a great drinking county, and the brethren there have much to contend with; nevertheless, there is a good degree of healthy action in some parts of the county.—In the town of Lunenburg, where there are two Divisions, both working well, an attempt has been made to prevent the illegal sale of rum, but without much success, for want of due encouragement from the authorities. In Chester the Order is happily “gaining ground.”

In furnishing these particulars I have endeavoured to give, in a few words, a fair account of the present state of our Order. I may add, that in several of the Divisions females are admitted as visitors, and that this measure is reported as productive of good effects.

If it be now inquired, by what policy our future operations should be distinguished, there is, in my opinion, but one answer to give. *Unflinching perseverance* must be the order of the day. True, we have lost ground in some respects, and a new quickening impulse is everywhere needed. But why should we not obtain it? What is there to hinder our onward march? Where are the difficulties that will not yield to a determined spirit? If the people of this Province need more enlightenment, it is for us to impart it. If any of the brethren have fallen into apathy, they must be roused. If any falter, they must be reprov'd and disciplined. If any have strayed away, the hand must be stretched out to bring them back. If there be opposition, it must be encountered with firmness and discretion. In a word, we are called on to resolve, one and all, that we will do our duty, individually and collectively,—by personal efforts to diffuse the principles of the Order,—by punctual attendance at the meetings of Divisions, and by so conducting ourselves at all times that our whole lives may be in harmony with our professed adherence to the Temperance cause. Nothing more is needed. If every Son of Temperance in this Province will devote his powers to the conscientious and habitual discharge of his duty, the strength of the Order will soon be doubled, and an overpowering beneficial influence will be exerted on the whole population.

The loss sustained by the discontinuance of the *Athenæum* will be now to some extent repaired. I have the pleasure to inform the Grand Division that the publication of the *Abstainer* has been undertaken by Mr James Barnes of Halifax, and that the first number was issued on the 15th inst. The members of the Order, and of other Temperance Institutions, will exert themselves, I trust, to secure an extensive circulation of this periodical. A liberal use of the press is essentially connected with the success of our endeavours. In this instance the patronage can be exercised at so little cost that no one can be excused from participation in the effort. Give our paper a steady circulation of ten thousand, with corresponding energy on the part of the friends of Temperance, and the death-knell of the liquor traffic will soon be heard.

Whether we shall recommend to the subordinate Divisions an immediate renewal of the agitation for a Prohibitory Liquor Law, or whether it will be preferable to abstain from such agitation for a while, are questions which will probably be discussed at the present session. Considering, too, that a diminution of our members is going on continual-

ly, in consequence of the non-payment of dues, it may be proper to inquire into the expediency of so modifying our pecuniary arrangements as that difficulties or objection on that ground may find no excuse. It will further be desirable to devise measures adapted to give interest and power to public meetings in every part of the country, and thus to enlighten, excite, and animate. These and kindred topics will engage your attention.—They demand serious and thorough consideration.

I cannot imagine, officers and brethren, that it is necessary for me to adduce arguments or remind you of the motives to action. You are familiar with them all. Nor are you in any wise unresolved or unprepared. Your course is well defined and your purpose is unshaken. The cause with which you are identified advances with sure steps, although to the ardent its progress seems to be slow.—Checks and hindrances may be interposed, so as to occasion temporary or local embarrassment, but they will serve to sharpen ingenuity and stimulate zeal. Meanwhile, the persevering activity of our brethren in other parts of the world may be contemplated with instruction and encouragement. In Great Britain, the Temperance power begins to be acknowledged, and its voice is heard in the High Court of Parliament. In the States of the neighbouring Union, notwithstanding obstinate and organised resistance, aided by all the force of legal quibbling, the Prohibitory policy is daily gaining favour. In these Colonies of British North America, good men and true are everywhere combining for the rescue of their countrymen from the destroyer. Canada musters her hosts to the battle. New Brunswick, defeated by unworthy means, prepares for another onslaught. Nova Scotia will not be wanting. We will think of the past, and be thankful. We will gird ourselves anew for the conflict. We will not lay down our arms till Prohibition has become the law of the land.

Respectfully submitted, in Love, Purity, and Fidelity.

J. M. CRAMP,
Grand Worthy Patriarch.

Halifax, Oct. 22, 1856.

GRAND SCRIBE'S REPORT.

TO THE GRAND DIVISION S. OF T. OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Grand Worthy Patriarch, Officers and Brethren,—Another year has been numbered with its predecessors, and we are again permitted—for the ninth time—to meet in Annual Session of Grand Division. The result of our united deliberations will be anxiously looked for by those whom we represent; much will be expected from us; let us not cause disappointment. It is essentially necessary, brethren, that we—at the present session—devise and mature such measures as may tend to the revival and advancement of our Order, and the extension of our principles—*Total Abstinence and Prohibition*—throughout the Province. Let us then go to work with a “right good will,” and a determination that the plans of operation we may adopt for the ensuing year will be perseveringly and faithfully carried out. Let us shew the world that we are sincere in our professions—*faithful to our obligations—true to the principles of “the cause we have espoused.”*

Two subjects of importance will necessarily occupy much of your attention—the employ-