

have been established during the past quarter, and another is now in process of formation. While we have still to regret the continuance of defections from our ranks, some from the power of the great tempter against whom we are contending, and others from the apathy which makes the contribution of even our small monthly dues a burden, we can rejoice that more than an equal number of young recruits, in many cases as we hope more zealous and active, are pressing on to fill their places. One Division has ceased to exist, and three others, some of which will probably be revived, have ceased working; but these events occurred previous to the annual meeting of the Grand Division, and ought not therefore to be taken into account in the present quarter. A number of localities have been pointed out as suitable for the establishment of Divisions, and your committee hope, and indeed firmly believe, that ere the next quarter shall have elapsed, these sections of the land which remain to be possessed, shall have become ours, never to be surrendered.

A cause of encouragement is also afforded us by the improvement in the position of the *Abstainer*. That improvement indeed is trifling in itself, but we may regard it as the precursor of better things, as the end of a long period of declension, and the commencement of decided and permanent elevation. The present management of our paper is nearly all that could be desired, and we may reasonably expect that it will rally around it the affection and energy of every true-hearted abstainer.

The traveller through an unknown and trackless wilderness, arriving at an elevation whence he can look down on the path over which he has wandered, discovers many variations from the straightest course. The traveller on the journey of life, who looks back from some standing point in time, is conscious of equally frequent and more sad departures from the path of prudence and of virtue. These quarterly meetings of our Order are halting places in our Temperance course, which afford equally painful and quite as salutary prospects of our errors and our short comings. To some of these we have already alluded, and others may be easily discovered. All of them may be traced to one grand cause—apathy on the part of a majority of our members. Many of our Divisions are badly attended: there is evidence of apathy on the part of those who stay away, and probably on the part of those who, though they attend, do not labor sufficiently to make the meetings interesting. Only two of our Divisions have paid any attention to the temperance education of children.