

der to a communication on this subject, which will be found in our "Correspondence."

The same Circular contains a request for contributions to defray the expenses of the Delegation to the National Division, in June next. The brethren appointed were, G. W. P., Rev A. McArthur—G. W. A., James Mosher—and P. G. W. P., Rev Dr. Cramp. The Annual Session of the National Division will be held at Providence, R. I. It is on many accounts highly desirable that the Grand Divisions of the British Provinces should be well represented there, and it may be accomplished at a reasonable expense.

THE article entitled "Thoughts for the Sons," which we have borrowed from the *Crusader*, deserves to be repeatedly read and pondered over. Those hints and cautions are salutary. If we wish to see prosperity, we must be more zealous for the Order.

We intend to insert a paper or two, shortly, on the history and principles of the Order, with a view to explain—recommend—answer objections—and reanimate decaying energies.

THE "International Congress," held at Brussels in the month of September last, was a singularly interesting affair. Statesmen and philanthropists of all the principal nations of Europe were brought together in order to consider human improvement in its various aspects, and deliberate on measures designed to promote it.

The subjects announced in the programme as likely chiefly to occupy the attention of the Congress, were agriculture, political and charitable economy, scientific and industrial pursuits, machinery and inventions calculated to facilitate manual labour—to improve the sanitary condition of trades and professions, and to prevent accidents,—the amelioration of the workmen's habitations, of their furniture, and their clothing. The Congress was further invited to discuss the best means of diminishing and of preventing the abuse of strong drink, considered in the twofold point of view; namely, the loss of the nutritious substances employed in their manufacture, and their

influence upon the health and the morality of the working classes.

A Temperance deputation was sent from England. J. Simpson, Esq., Mr Alderman Harvey, Samuel Pope, Esq., and Dr F. R. Lees, represented the United Kingdom Alliance; Messrs. T. Beggs and E. Grubb were delegated by the National Temperance League. These gentlemen were associated with others in a sub-committee on intoxicating liquors.—Subjoined is their report:—

"The Sub-Commission having considered the waste of food and productive energy in the manufacture of intoxicating drinks, and the moral and social evils resulting from their use, have adopted the following conclusions respecting them:—

"1st. That in whatever community intoxicating beverages are used, the same evils—poverty, crime, and disease—prevail, and are inseparable from their use,—modified by social customs and the facilities for procuring the drinks.

"2nd. That the disuse of intoxicating liquors is quite compatible with the enjoyment of perfect health, as is now proved by the experience of thousands of men in all ranks and occupations of life.

"In relation to these facts, the Sub-Commission have examined the various recommendations which have been made from time to time by committees of the British Parliament, and by private societies and individuals. They have enumerated the principal ones, and have given a selection of such as they are prepared to recommend. But they regard these as mere palliatives, calculated in some degree to mitigate the severity, but not to subdue the evil. They beg therefore to direct the attention of the Congress to the remedies proposed by the British and American Temperance Societies, and which seem the only ones really adapted to the necessities of the case.

"1st. Entire abstinence from intoxicating beverages, as practised by the members of these societies.

"2nd. Legislative prohibition of the sale of these liquors.

"The Sub-Commission urgently recommend the consideration of these subjects to the Congress."

We are not surprised to learn that a large number of the members of the Congress were thoroughly startled by such a report. The opinions enunciated were quite new to them. They were not prepared to give up their wine, and beer, and *eau-de-vie*; much less could they imagine it proper or practicable to prevent the sale of intoxicating beverages. Nevertheless, the reasonings of the advocates of Temperance were so powerful, and the array of facts so tremendous, that they could not but admit the importance of the subject. An exciting debate followed, and it was resolved to postpone the further consideration till next year's

meeting. This was all that could be expected. Much has been gained, in our opinion, although nothing practical has yet resulted from the meeting. Some of the most intellectual and benevolent men of Europe were assembled on that occasion; and it must be regarded as a good step in the right direction that such men have been made acquainted with the arguments by which the Temperance enterprise is sustained. Care will be taken to supply them with additional information, and to correct any mistakes into which they may have fallen; they will no doubt be abundantly supplied with Temperance documents; and it may be fairly inferred that when they attend the Congress next year they will be much better prepared to discuss the subject.—We anticipate great benefit to our cause from this movement.

Our facetious contemporary, *Punch*, finds Temperance a fit subject for his mirth. This is a good sign. *Punch* wishes to be considered a "jolly good fellow," and he has fallen into the not uncommon error of supposing that human happiness is largely indebted to gin, wine, and beer; hence he argues that as Temperance advances there will be a lessening of enjoyment, with long faces, and downcast looks, and an abnegation of pleasure. We can forgive his blundering, which is easily accounted for, while we hope that as he becomes more enlightened he will have courage enough to direct his shafts against the real enemy. We are well pleased with his taking up the subject. He would not have troubled himself about it if the Temperance cause were not evidently making head. We trust he will keep it before his readers.

AN esteemed correspondent informs us that "the Railroad has fearfully contaminated the land," and that the "dolts of Justices" in his neighbourhood "will not do any thing to prevent the illegal sale of rum." "Dolts" they are, no doubt, and worse than that; for the intemperance which they refuse to check produces pauperism and crime, wastes the resources of the country, retards its progress, and lowers its character. Our friend thinks that these men ought to be "lashed without mercy." We think so too.—