

waking up more and more to the importance of Total Abstinence principle. I believe the time is very near at hand when our Christian Churches shall cease to encourage the drinking habits of society, either by the use of the intoxicating cup at the Lord's table—which has proved a curse to so many—or the retaining in Church membership those who indulge in its use as a beverage. We call upon the Churches of our land to arise in their might, and be forever free from the curse of alcohol. We do so the more readily from the fact that the desire of the many in our Churches for the pure "fruit of the vine" uncorrupted with alcohol or the other deleterious admixtures common to modern wines, can now be met, and we hail with pleasure the establishment in Halifax, by our good and worthy Brother H. A. Taylor, of a depot for the sale of non-intoxicating wine, the pure blood of the vine for communion purposes.

STATE OF THE ORDER.

Through the faithfulness of my Deputies, as far as heard from, I am able to report the Divisions working satisfactorily, for the most part. I think I may safely say that our grand old order retains a strong hold upon the affections of the people, and through which total abstinence principles are gaining ground day by day, slowly but surely. I believe the success of the future will be largely identified with the Sons of Temperance. I quote from reports to hand:—

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.—"The cause generally is on the advance." "Queen Anne" Division, formed in Annapolis Royal, by your grand officers immediately after the session at Granville Ferry, in April last, is in a very active condition. Deputy Uniacke says:—I feel safe in predicting a grand future for the temperance cause in this locality."

ANTIGONISH.—Temperance principles prevail to an increasing extent.

COLCHESTER.—"The cause of temperance is strengthening, and the good feeling in respect to it deepening amongst the better classes."

CAPE BRETON, NORTH.—"Divisions not prospering as hitherto."

DIGBY.—"The traffic in strong drink is well nigh driven out" of this County.

EAST HANTS.—"Temperance feeling is rather at a stand still at present."

WEST HANTS.—"Divisions, excepting "Avon," not doing as well as in the past."

HALIFAX sends a good report. In the Divisions, Sections of Cadets and Bands of Hope, good work is being done, a few of the Divisions not as prosperous as hitherto.

QUEENS.—"Divisions doing well as far as heard from."

DISTRICT OF BARRINGTON.—"Divisions as far as heard from still hold on."

YARMOUTH.—"Most of the Divisions are alive, and working along with a good degree of success."

KINGS.—"Our march has been steadily onward. The Divisions are generally in a healthy state."

CAPE BRETON SOUTH.—"The traffic in ardent spirits has considerably decreased within the last five years."

In addition to reports from County Deputies I have a full report of work done and the state of the order in Digby and Annapolis Counties.