

## DANCING BY SONS.

We have noticed in the reports of Soirees held in various parts of Canada in June, that after the proceedings at the Soirees were over, dancing by the young people took place. Dancing was not a part of the published proceedings, nor did it take place under the sanction of the Sons as divisions, or in a body, but merely a portion of the members upon the occasion, thought proper to amuse themselves in this way. This was the case at Bayham, near London, at Gananoque, at the Rising Star Division, near Richmondhill, we believe at Brougham, and on the Mazeppa going over from Toronto, on the 18th June. It must be recollected that the Order of the Sons of Temperance embraces within its limits persons of all political and religious persuasions, as well as from all classes of society. Some of these persons believe there is no sinfulness in the amusement of dancing, whilst others do. Some of them believe that there is no occasion to be sectarian or bigoted in divisions; others are inclined to take rather too limited a view of toleration. As to such matters we intend to take a common sense view, and such as is adapted to the general nature of our organization. Toleration is one of the beauties of our order, and another excellent feature in it, is that Sons acting in divisions should not and do not do any act, of a religious or political nature, that would wound the feelings of brothers in the division. So long as dancing is not sanctioned as a part of the programme of Soirees, or gone into by divisions as a body, there can be no offence given, and to restrict others in the exercise of any amusement, not a crime in the eye of society at large, would be narrowing down our organization too much. We must not stand on such narrow limits. Such offences as gambling and drinking are of a different kind. The action of the Grand Division on this subject only extends the length we go. Dancing as an amusement cannot properly be sanctioned by divisions acting as such—but the divisions cannot properly notice, or censure the actions of individual Sons, if they think proper to indulge in the custom.

## NATIONAL DIVISION.

We incidentally mentioned in our last issue in reference to this body that they were in Session only part of each day alluded to, and feel most happy to be corrected in this respect by Br. Ross. Our remarks were made not with a view of depreciating the labors of the members, but because we thought it was correct in substance. The Grand Division of Canada were only in session a part of the time. The members of the National Division were all very zealous and talented men in the order.

*For the Canadian Son of Temperance,*

Mr. Editor.—In the "Son" of the 24th inst. you state under the head of "Grand Division of

Canada and National Division." "These bodies were in session on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th June in Toronto; for short periods each day," which may apply to the Grand Division of Canada and that for the 18th and 19th July, as that body merely met in special session for the express purpose of uniting with the National Division of North America in the annual Jubilee, and not for the dispatch of business, having only closed their semi-annual session in the City of Hamilton or few days previous. As to the National Division, I can certify from personal experience (having the honor of being present during the whole of their deliberations,) that no body of men ever sat together with greater zeal or application to business, than they did; from 9 o'clock A. M. to 10 o'clock P. M., and sometimes 12, this noble band of brothers perseveringly sat from day to day and evening too, without the least interruption (except while they were in the Procession) until they closed their arduous and voluminous business of the Session, and if this perseverance had not been strictly adhered to, and the respective Committees setting, when they ought to be sleeping, the large amount of business gone through, could not have been settled in less than three weeks.

New York, Eastern—D. H. Sands, James H. Perry, Mr. Kinear, Augustus Cowdin.

New York, Western—D. P. Barnard, J. S. Graham, J. S. Smith, G. W. Jermain, W. Richardson, J. Kennedy.

New Jersey—Jacob S. Yard, Frederick B. Betts.

Maryland—Wm. P. Spencer,

Pennsylvania—Philip S. White, F. A. Fickardt, G. Crosby, Edward Paxson, J. C. Sims, G. R. McFarlane.

Connecticut—Henry J. Fox.

Massachusetts—W. R. Stacy, Daniel Baxter, Stevens Baker, C. W. Slack, W. H. Wilson, David S. Tarr.

District of Columbia—No Representative.

Virginia—J. M. Conrad, Edward Delany, LeRoy M. Lee.

Maine—Joshua Nye, jr., E. M. Thurston, A. P. Higgins.

Ohio—Samuel F. Cary, Chauncy Olds.

Delaware—No Representative.

Indiana—Stems Fisher, T. A. Goodwin.

Tennessee—Isaac Littin, T. Taylor.

North Carolina—No Representative.

Kentucky—Charles Eginton, M. D. McHenry.

Georgia—Joseph Felt, George S. Obear.

Illinois—J. F. Gresh, A. B. Morean.

Rhode Island—Nathan Porter.

Michigan—No Representative.

Missouri—C. H. Winslow.

New Hampshire—No Representative.

Louisiana, do. do.

South Carolina, do. do.

Alabama—Richard H. Powell.

New Brunswick—Asa Coy, S. L. Tilley.

Mississippi—L. M. Patterson.

Iowa—V. W. Kilbourne.

Wisconsin—No Representative.

Nova Scotia, do. do.

Vermont—S. P. Williams, Daniel Lotheau, R. A. Severance.

Texas—No Representative.

Arkansas, do. do.

Florida, do. do.

Prince Edward's Island, do. do.

Canada West—W. S. Burham, Edward Stacey.

England—No Representative.

In your next issue of the "Son" I may trouble you with some extracts from the M. W. Scribes and Treasurers reports. I fear my present communication is already too long for your

present number, meantime I remain yours Fraturnally.

JOHN M. ROSS.

Toronto, 3rd July, 1851.

## IMPORTANT SUGGESTION.

Burford, June 6th, 1851.

To the Editor of the Son.

DEAR SIR:

Enclosed you will receive a list of subscribers with the necessary accompaniments to entitle each to a copy of your valuable paper for one year, which I trust you will immediately forward.

Our Division is moving on slowly but surely, we number upwards of seventy members, and I am proud to say, we have not had occasion to reprimand, fine, or expel a single member as yet. There is however one source of regret connected with our (as well as all other Divisions) which is admitting members by card. Under the present system, a Brother must pay 1s. 3d. to be dismembered, and on presenting his Card to another Division he must be subject to the examination of a Committee and pay his initiation fee as though he had no Card. This should not be, if we wish to benefit that class of men who need it most (I mean the transient journeymen) we must receive members on the presentation of their Card, by paying the weekly dues from the time the Card was given or some nominal sum. There is a case in hand, a member of our Division (a mechanic who had been a hard case) removed to Buffalo. He anticipated a good deal of pleasure in connecting himself with Brother Jonathan's Sons, but when he was told that he must pay 1s. 3d. for his Card and 5 or 10s. as the case might be for initiation, he said he would leave the Division; and while on his way down the river to Caledonia he was seen to drink ardent spirits; thus for the want of a uniform rule to receive card members without paying the initiation fee, he with many others like the sow returned to his wallowing in the mire.

Yours in L. P. & F.,

L. D. MARKS.

[A member of the order at the least possible expense should be admitted into other divisions everywhere, and should be made to feel that he belonged to a brotherhood knowing no place bounds or distinction.]—EDITOR.

## SMITHFIELD SOIREE—NEAR CLAREVILLE.

To the Editor of the Son.

A public demonstration was held at Smithfield in the Township of Etobicoke on the 5th June by Smithfield division of the Sons of Temperance. The procession formed about one o'clock P. M., composed of the officers and a number of the members of four divisions of the Sons of Temperance, viz., Weston, Smithfield, Berwick, and Boulton Divisions, and a number of visitors from various other divisions, amounting to upwards of 200 Sons of Temperance, and a number of other friends of the temperance cause. The procession proceeded from Smithfield to St. Andrews, a distance of about one mile, and back again accompanied by the Weston Band and Brampton Band, who alternately struck up some lively airs on the march. After their return they proceeded to a tent erected and beautifully decorated with evergreens, where a table was richly supplied, at which 350 sat down to a rich repast. After tea the speakers mounted the platform, erected for the purpose in front of the tent. The meeting was opened with an appropriate prayer by the Rev. Robert Dick; then followed music by the Brampton Band, after which a *Beautiful Bible* and stand were presented by one of the ladies to the W. P. of the division, and an appropriate address delivered by another of the ladies in behalf of the ladies in that locality. The Rev. Mr. Wheeler, D.G.W.P., in that locality made a very suitable reply to the ladies, and presented