

n other glass or two, and it will help him over the difficulty wonderfully.

DICK.—Talks it off like a book, don't he?

ETHELBERT.—(bowing) I'll not pretend but what I found some of my ideas in a book; but they are just as true as if I had made them up myself. Now, boys, whoever wants to enlist as a private under this general, let him walk up and take a glass of beer.

Just take one glass, and you have enlisted. For my part, I train under another leader. (Goes to the water pitcher and pours out a glass.)

"You may boast of your brandy and wine as you please;  
Gin, cider, and all of the rest;  
Cold water transcends them in all the degrees,  
It is good, it is better, 'tis best."

DICK—I'll follow your lead, Bert. Your speech makes me dry. (Takes a glass of water.)

CHARLEY.—You may as well send down the ale to the cook, Frank. We want none of it here.

ETHELBERT.—(earnestly) No, no; let us have nothing to do with making drunkards. The sewer is the only proper place for it. There isn't an animal so low down in the scale that would drink it.

FRANK.—Throw it out then, Bertie, and I'll put a quarter in the bottom of the pitcher to make it right with the cook. She'll spend it on a new cap-ribbon, I'll engage, rather than a pitcher of beer.

CHARLEY.—Let's wind up with a song, Bertie. You are always on hand with one, and it's the order in all well regulated temperance meetings.

(Bertie takes from his pocket a copy of "Temperance Chimes," and turns the leaves.)

ETHELBERT.—Here is one you all know, I am sure.  
(Boys sing.)

"There's a good time coming, boys,  
A good time a-coming;  
There's a good time coming boys,  
Wait a little longer.  
They shall pledge eternal hate,  
To all that can intoxicate,  
In the good time coming;  
They shall use, but not abuse,  
And make all virtue stronger;

The reformation has begun,  
Wait a little longer.  
Chorus.—There's a good time coming,"  
etc.

(Exit all.)

## Our Divisions.

### Division Room Amusements.

To the Editor,

SIR,—My attention has recently been called, through the columns of the SON OF TEMPERANCE, to an article on "Division Room Amusements," and I heartily endorse every sentiment which has been expressed in a friendly criticism on this matter. I am assured that discussions of this kind, with which our Subordinate Divisions have an opportunity of becoming acquainted through your columns, will elevate the moral tone in our Divisions, not only in connection with the ordinary regular meetings of the Divisions, but also in regard to special public meetings, and those of District Divisions, of which there are a goodly number in the different counties. A gentleman who was a delegate to a "County District meeting," which had been held not far distant from Toronto, referred to a "Nigger Show" which had been held in the Division of which he was a member. There was said to have been nothing really bad connected with it, further than certain low, vulgar allusions which had been made in some parts thereof. The weakness in this particular was so far removed from pure style and chaste thought, that the ladies assembled, in a body withdrew from the gathering. The opprobrious epithet which had been used to designate the sort of entertainment would almost in itself stamp it with disapproval. One would almost infer from the title which had been used, that the entertainment would not be of the purest and chastest description. The further fact of the withdrawal of the ladies *en masse* from the gathering, confirms an unfavourable opinion in regard to the questionable references in the proceedings. Anything in this direction which does not meet

with the good opinion, respect, and favourable consideration of good women of pure taste and pronounced virtue, requires the crucible operation to separate from it the dross. The whole tenor of the Division proceedings, whether readings, speeches, recitations, dialogues, vocal songs or selections in music, should not smack of unwholesome wit, humour, or general tendancy in the proceedings. Any weakness in this direction fosters an unfavourable opinion in regard to the divisions concerned in the several communities where they exist. This feeling obtains among the moral, staid, and religious element in society, the substantial portion of the community. The Divisions are denounced as associating with them, the vulgar and low-toned in morals. If the proceedings are removed from an elevating description, and are pervaded with an aspect of triflingness, the character for levity obtains, and is levelled against the Divisions concerned. Particularly is this the case in regard to public meetings associated with the Divisions. They need not partake of the sombre and morose description, singed with the gloom which might clothe "Young's Night Thoughts," or "Harvey's Meditations on the Tombs." At the same time they may be of a pure, chaste, wholesome, and elevating character. Improper selections at times may be made by younger members of the Order. Such may be done through no wrong intention. I am assured that under many circumstances, there is no good ground on which to asperse their motives. This tendency should be mildly restrained by the older members.

Then I think Divisions should be aroused in regard to holding public meetings under their auspices. Their influence should be felt in the communities around. They may be a potent source of power, widely diffusing temperance views, opinions, and sentiments in their several localities, through public assemblages. This sphere of work is quite within their province. There can be no