

candid and intelligent doubt as to the sound policy of the Act, the result is equally disastrous, and equally disgraceful to our cause. One sure test of the power and efficiency inherent in this Act is seen in the hostility with which it is everywhere confronted by the tavern-keepers. They know when their business is in danger and are consistent in their opposition. Let all temperance men be equally consistent, and avoid the stigma attached to too many of being found standing on the side of the enemy. I would recommend that this Grand Division express its continued faith in the wisdom and utility of "Dunkin's Bill," and that we will aid in its adoption and enforcement whenever, and wherever practicable.

Our Order, as a whole, throughout Canada, maintains its wonted strength and vigor. In the West our brethren have commenced their campaign for 1866, with retrospective satisfaction, and agreeable anticipations. I took the opportunity to visit their Grand Division at its late Session in Ottawa, and was greatly pleased and edified with their proceedings. The attendance was large and the several sittings were characterized with entire harmony, and with marked ability. One important measure was introduced and settled which is worthy the special attention of this Grand Division. They decided to abrogate their semi-annual Session, and to meet but once a year, this prerogative having been granted by the National Division at its convention held in New Haven last June. Whether it were wise in us to effect a like change is a question of grave importance, and I here present it to your notice that you may deliberate upon it and decide to the best of your judgment.

The state of our Order in Canada East is not so encouraging as I could desire. The reports furnished by my Deputies indicate, in certain localities, a tendency to retrogression. A spirit of apathy, which is almost as bad as the spirit of rum, has taken possession of some of our Divisions, and the non-attendance of a majority of the members disheartens and paralyses the faithful few who are always found at their post. Still there is no positive ground for despondency. On the contrary there is ample promise to stimulate us to perseverance. Within the last Quarter charters for three new Divisions have been issued, and only one charter has been surrendered. Besides, there is a fair prospect that additional charters will soon be in requisition. On the night of the 20th December, we planted our standard in the beautiful village of Lennoxville, a place which has hitherto resisted all attempts at temperance organization, under any flag. Learning from our indefatigable Grand Scribe that a charter was called for, I proceeded from Montreal to Lennoxville, and there meeting with our esteemed Bro., the Rev. Mr. Duff, we together had the pleasure of instituting the Division. It is worthy of note that Bro. Duff took an active part in laying the foundation and preparing the material for this new outpost on our territory. His zeal upon this occasion is only one proof of his uniform love for the Order. May he long be spared to utter his protest against the curse of the age, and to illustrate by his own truly christian example what can be accomplished to abolish a vicious custom. If all public servants of the Divine master were as he is, the churches, without exception, would soon become powerful seminaries of total abstinence, and the liquor traffic would be broken down throughout Christendom in a single year. At our last Annual and Semi-Annual Sessions the motion to employ a lecturer was discussed and adopted. The design has not yet been carried out, partly from insufficiency of funds, but chiefly from a difficulty experienced in obtaining a suitable person to undertake the work. A considerable sum has, I believe, been collected and pledged, and the Committee have been endeavoring to secure the services of the Rev. Bro. Manning, a gentleman whose qualifications are well known. He has not yet consented to act, but it is thought he may be induced to do so; and I now urge upon this body the imperative necessity of immediately raising the balance of supplies required to prosecute the labor for at least three months. There are extinct Divisions which can