

Annual Report. With feelings of pride, as I see the steady and increasing advancement and progress of our noble order, not only in Canada East, but also in every Province and State around us, where its radiant star has shone. But while we feel thus proud, let us feel humble and grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, for what He in his infinite goodness has done, praying that the time may soon come when Intemperance with all its concomitant evils will be forever banished from the world, and truth and righteousness reign triumphant.

It was certainly feared by many well-wishers to our cause, that as more than ordinary exertions had been used by the friends of Temperance during the past year, a reaction would take place, and consequently great falling off in the Temperance ranks and in our Order would be the natural result; but experience has shown that these fears were false and groundless—and there is at present a better disposition, not only by Temperance men, but by all others, to forward the cause and to cry out for the Maine Law. As to the assertion that our Order is on the increase, allow me to refer you to the Grand Scribe's Report, and for finances, to that of the Grand Treasurer's.

I have to regret that I am unable to furnish any sufficient information upon the working of the Constitution, and new ritual, and usages of the Order, in consequence of not having received reports from the D.G.W.Ps., who generally, (with two honorable exceptions,) have not displayed that zeal in the fulfilment of their duties in this respect, which their Commissions and the requisitions of the Order require. These two honorable exceptions are D.G.W.P. Easton, of Montreal, and D.G.W.P. Clauson, of Aylmer, who deserve much credit for their zeal, capacity, and promptness in their reports, and their constant endeavors to promote the interest and maintain unsullied the reputation of the Sons of Temperance. As to the new Ritual, from personal experience I can only say, that I am convinced that the more strictly it is followed in all its parts, newer and more harmonious will it appear, until the whole is blended together in beautiful and lofty proportions, like unto some beautifully chiselled and sculptured monument of ancient art.