

earnestly desire and pray that he may soon be restored, and that he may be permitted to labour still for many years in the cause of Temperance.

Due attention has been paid to the resolutions passed at the Annual Session, and certain documents therein referred to have been prepared or are in course of preparation.

Public notice of a Temperance Convention has been issued by the Committee appointed at the Annual Session. The Convention is to be held on the 20th of February. I beg to commend this object, most earnestly, to the immediate attention of the Subordinate Divisions, trusting that they will not only appoint Delegates to the Convention, and provide for the payment of their expenses, but also be prepared to carry into effect such measures as may be adopted for the advancement of Temperance interests.

Much will depend on the action of Temperance Institutions at the present time. A new House of Assembly is about to meet. The Prohibitory Liquor Bill will be presented to the consideration of that House. But we cannot expect that it will pass into a law unless it will be sustained by the petitions of the people. It is true that they have already petitioned, and that their desires have been most firmly and most unequivocally expressed; but, as has been observed, we have to deal with a new House, and it is of great importance, under existing circumstances, to produce a powerful impression, both on the House and on the public mind. Numerous signed petitions will accomplish the object.

There is yet another topic which it is my duty to bring before the Grand Division. I allude to the Athenæum newspaper. It is with pleasure that I inform you that an arrangement has been made for the continuance of the paper. The names of several gentlemen will appear, as "Stated Contributors," whose attention will be especially given to the Temperance Department, and who will supply information respecting the Cause, and prepare articles in advocacy of its interests, expressive of the views and determinations of the members of our Order, as well as of Total Abstinence Societies in general. Permit me, therefore, to ask of you, on behalf of the Athenæum, much more extensive support and patronage than it has yet received; for if the subscription lists be not greatly enlarged, adequate remuneration will not be obtained, and the efforts of the proprietor and his friends will be unsuccessful. A well-managed Temperance