

ings of their Divisions. A Committee was appointed to take into consideration the state of the Order in the city, and report at the next meeting.

It was also agreed to recommend that on account of the death of Father Mathew, the members of the Divisions wear the usual badges of mourning (crape on the hat) for six weeks, commencing Sunday, January 11; and also to request that the Editor of the *Abstainer* would cause that paper to appear in mourning.

Brother John Shean, P. W. P. of Athenaeum Division, has been appointed D. G. W. P. for the City. He has paid an official visit to each of the Divisions, and was well received.

It is the intention of the City Divisions, conjointly, to publish a series of Tracts during the winter. Having heard some of the M. S. S. read, we will vouch for their being good Tracts.

We are pleased to learn that a Temperance Society was organized on Thursday evening, 18th Decr., at the Granville Street (Baptist) Chapel. The *Total Abstinence Pledge* was adopted; officers and committees appointed; meetings to be held monthly, or oftener if thought advisable. A similar Society was previously organized at the North Baptist Chapel, Cornwallis Street. Success attend their efforts, and may they increase rapidly! We would say to all other religious denominations, "Go and do likewise."

The City Divisions have increased rapidly during the past quarter—new members having been initiated. The Mayflower Division had the greatest increase. The number of Sons in Halifax on 31st December last, was 640, showing an increase of 120 over 1855. This increase has been steady—we hope sure, and is encouraging. Keep the ball moving, brethren, and let your motto be—"Upward and Onward."

There was a large meeting in the Division Room, on Friday evening, the 2d January, composed principally of the military. Those present were addressed by Messrs. W. M. Brown, J. Shean, J. S. Thompson, and Rev. Dr. Twining. Twenty took the pledge. Colonel Hill of 63rd Regt. was present.

The Halifax Temperance Society's meetings, held every Friday Evening, from half-past six to eight o'clock in the Division Room, for military men, continues to be well attended, and are occasions of great and increasing interest. Several old friends of the cause attend regularly, and are ready to take part in the proceedings; some of these having been in the army, speak in a manner at once novel and interesting to civilians and pleasing to the soldiers. Some of the Military address the meetings with good ef-

fect, and on two occasions lately, officers commanding regiments in garrison, have honored the meeting with their presence, accompanied by Rev Dr Twining. One commanding officer addressed the soldiers with much feeling, expressed great pleasure in seeing them engage heartily in so good a cause, and the pain he experienced whenever he was obliged by the rules of the service, to punish those for drunkenness who were ready to shed their blood in their country's service, and who had fought by his side on the battle field of the Crimea. Remove drunkenness he said, and there would be but few offences in the army;—a commanding officers duties would be light, and much more agreeable than they now are. Before the meeting closed on Friday last, thirty-eight men were at one time ranged in front of the chair, assenting to the society's pledge, which was read to them by the President.—(See page 63.)

#### WHAT I SAW.

Decr. 24th.—When going to the funeral of a Brother, saw a woman staggering through the streets. She was very drunk. Her husband is in comfortable circumstances,—but could keep her sober, nor at home. She is drunk daily. In consequence of her intemperate habits, her mother, who is over 70 years of age, has had to go to the Poor Asylum.

Saw three men also staggering through the streets to-day, two of them very drunk. A sad sight, these four cases, in the streets, under such torrents of rain.

25th, Christmas Day.—Saw seventeen drunk to-day. One, an old man between 60 and 70 years of age; eight, between the years of 15 and 20—some of them very drunk. They probably obtained the keys in the second story of a building near the Parade, where liquor is said to be sold secretly. The other eight were between 20 and 30 years of age—many of them stupidly drunk.

26th.—Saw a young lad, 11 or 12 years old, rolling through the streets, very drunk. At 6 p. m. come across a sailor, a Frenchman, lying in the street, without coat or hat. It was freezing very hard at the time, and some snow falling. He was so drunk as to be unable to move, and was cursing, and making use of very obscene language. At 10 p. m., when passing through Grafton street, a man fell down eight or nine steps, much intoxicated.

27th.—Saw seven men, two boys, and two women drunk.

28th, Sunday.—Saw five men drunk, two of them heads of families; one about 28 years of age—a stranger.

29th.—Saw a young man staggering through the streets, very drunk, was nearly falling through the window of a tavern. He is about 30 years of age—

a good mechanic—hardly ever sober. was brought into the Order a few years ago, but there were so many temptations that he was soon expelled. He is the only support of a respectable and aged mother.

Decr. 30.—Saw a young man drunk, who, about twelve months ago, was seized with *delirium tremens*, and his death was daily expected. He was in that state two months. He seldom, if ever, goes home sober at night.

Decr. 31.—Saw eleven persons drunk to-day. Seven men—two boys, about eighteen years of age—and two women, one of whom had an infant in her arms.

Jan. 1, 1857.—Saw numbers drunk at the fire. Counted fifty-nine, and then gave up. Rum was carried to the place in buckets-full.

Jan. 2.—Saw two men and a boy drunk in the street. A young man, about 22 years of age, in a fit of drunken madness, attempted to choke his step-father. He was married about six months ago. What a prospect for his wife! When sober, he is quiet and inoffensive; but when the drink is in him, he smashes furniture and perpetrates all sorts of mischief.

In the course of the forenoon, two labourers employed on the Railway works had a dispute about *two glasses of Rum*, and after some words had passed between them, one stabbed the other with a knife. The wound was a dangerous one, but believed not to be mortal. The occurrence took place at the house of a man named McCabe, on the Windsor Road.

Jan. 3.—Saw three men drunk in the streets. Also a woman, about 50 years of age, staggering through the streets, very drunk. About ten months ago her husband was choked when at his dinner, he being drunk at the time.

Jan. 4.—Saw a man and a boy very drunk. They appeared to be strangers in the city.

Jan. 5.—Saw two men and a woman very drunk. One of the former—an old man of about 60 years—blaspheming his Maker.—(See page 64.)

#### Correspondence.

To the Editor of the *Abstainer*.

SIR,—

As a Son of Temperance, I cordially welcomed the appearance of the *Abstainer*, and hailed it as a token of promise to our good cause, in the ultimate triumph of which I have an abiding faith; for though our Order is now prostrated, and the friends of Temperance, after the labour and devotion of years, have been defeated, yet the principles of Temperance have been firmly rooted in the ideas of our people, and Temperance habits have been extensively formed.