

TO THE GRAND DIVISION S. OF T. OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Grand Worthy Patriarch and Brethren,—

I beg to congratulate you on the fact that there are indications of improvement in the Order in this jurisdiction.

Since the Annual Meeting three new Divisions have been chartered, two of which have been organized, viz :

1. ——— Division No. 321, at Springville, Pictou County, on 21st December, 1871, by P.G. W.P. Marshall.

2. Cornwallis Division No. 322, at Lower Canard, Kings County, by the G.W.P., on 20th January, instant.

The third Division has not yet been organized. It is to be located at Lormy Mines, Gisborne, Cape Breton County. The prospects of all these Divisions are very good.

Cobequid, Gold Hunter, Homeville and Still-in-Time Divisions have resumed work. International at Bridgeport, C. B., has been resuscitated.—Ingraham has held one meeting with prospects of retaining its Charter. Addington has probably been resuscitated by this time, with 38 members. A few other Divisions would have been in working order before this meeting, had it not been for hasty action in planting other organizations in their Chartered locality.

Two or three Divisions have ceased to hold their meetings regularly; yet they are not in such a condition as to warrant me in reporting them as in operation.

A number of Divisions are working with energy and adding to their membership. Notwithstanding the strong influences of the liquor traffic in Halifax, the City Divisions are improving; their meetings are better attended; initiations are frequent, and their doors are opened, occasionally, to the public.

A large Committee, composed of representatives from every Temperance organization in Halifax, is meeting with success in obtaining signatures to a petition to the Mayor and Aldermen, requesting them to so amend the City Charter as to confer on the Rate-payers the same privilege as is now enjoyed by those of every Polling district outside of the city, in reference to the granting of licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors. A number of propositions to amend the Provincial license law will be presented (from various sections of the Province) to the Legislature at the approaching Session. Temperance men will need to be on the alert to watch the amending process, in order that the liquor sellers will not receive additional facilities for carrying on their traffic.

I would direct your attention to the resolutions passed at the April Session of this body, in reference to the advisability of incorporating Temperance associations, and to enable them to prosecute violators of the license law. It will be necessary to give instructions as to what further steps should be taken in the matter.

This Grand Division having on several occasions petitioned the Legislature on the subject of an Asylum for inebriates, I would suggest that that body be again memorialized to establish such an institution.

In reference to the proposed National Division for the British Provinces, action in favor of the organization of such a body has been had by the Grand Divisions of P. E. Island, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Ontario. The G. Division of New Brunswick, at its Annual Session held in October last, postponed consideration of the question for six months. The Grand Division of Quebec will discuss the proposal at its Annual Meeting to be held next month, when it is likely a large majority will vote in favor of it. It is pleasing to know that while the Provincial Grand Divisions are thus taking steps to form a head for British North America, they will separate from their Brethren in the United States with kindly feelings. As the Grand Divisions of Quebec and New Brunswick have yet to take action, instructions as to further steps to be taken in applying for a Charter, will be necessarily deferred until after the next meeting of those bodies.