

Smith, John

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R 25, 1881.

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behalf of a special fund for their sustentation. The favorable results that have accrued from the labors of Brother Hutchings are manifest ; we must not think of letting this arm of our service droop or become inoperative. The Brother's Report is at hand and will be read, with your permission, by the Grand Scribe. The impetus given to the cause by our agent in the County of Hants, just before the polling on the Scott Act, was no small factor in the production of the splendid majority rolled up there.

We have now a weekly paper, as our organ, of which we need not be ashamed. If the support given is anything like what its importance demands we will have, ere very long, an addition to its size, which will add much to its appearance and usefulness.

Bro. Halliday has thrown himself into this work with zeal and energy far beyond any praise that I may award, and with sacrifice of time and money that can hardly be continuously sustained.

It behooves the Grand Division, at this Session, to devise measures that will place this indispensable arm of our service, if possible, on a better financial basis ; in no case whatever, as matters now stand, should we let this light of our Order expire. I, therefore, call upon all true brothers of our Order, in their individual capacity, loyalty to second the efforts of the Grand Division to this end, without which the labors of this Body must, to some extent at least, fail. If these do their duty as individuals, as well as in their Divisions, success is certain—the difficult problem solved.

Alas, how many are content with a mere passive sort of loyalty to our great cause, eulogizing our principles, selfishly enjoying the manifold advantages attendant upon abstinence, pocketing the savings, rejoicing in the health, happy in the domestic felicity it intensifies, and stop there ! Hence the unsatisfactory roll of subscribers to our paper ; hence the miserable collections so often counted over with shame by our agents and their assistants ; hence the sad, sad accounts we so often hear of—dead and dying Divisions. Would I could always praise ; loyalty to the high office I occupy compels me to write thus ; hoping that simply calling attention to these matters will not be entirely without effect.

Among the questions submitted to me during the past year, those only emanating from Brother R. S. Owen, County Deputy of Queens, I deem of sufficient importance to be brought under the consideration of the Grand Division. He writes thus :

"In the Commission which you have been pleased to grant to me as Co. Deputy, among other things, the Subordinate Divisions in this County are requested to receive me as head of the Order in the County in your absence. At the head of the Installation service, Sub. Division blue book, it reads : 'On night of installation the G. W. P., or in his absence, a Dep. G. W. P. shall take the chair and proceed,' &c.

"Question 1.—Has the Co. Dep. a right to act in place of G. W. P. on these occasions, being his nearest Representative ?"

Answer—The commission under which the Div. Dep. holds his office gives him in explicit terms the highest position in the Division of which he is Deputy, making him there, the Representative of the Grand Division. In enumerating the specific duties which he is instructed to perform, it especially charges him, once in each Quarter, after ascertaining that the constitutional requirements have been fulfilled, to install the Officers. While his Commission remains in force, no other Officer of the Order can demand as a right the installing of the Officers elect.

"Question 2.—The Divisional Deputy being elected to office in Division, after he has installed the rest of the officers, can he request the newly installed W. P. to install him—the Div. Deputy, the County Deputy being present, without first asking the County Deputy to do so ?"

Answer—The Commission granted by the G. W. P. to a County Deputy places him, in the absence of the G. W. P., at the head of the Order in the County, and calls upon all in the County to receive him and respect him as such. He is in No. 2.

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