

TO THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

Officers and Brothers,—

Three months have passed away, and we have commenced upon a new year since we last met in Grand Division; and I feel that we have abundant reason for gratitude and thanksgiving to the great Patriarch above for the manifold mercies vouchsafed to us as an organized body, and for the fostering care which he has been pleased in his great goodness to extend toward us since our last meeting.

But while we have much cause for thankfulness for the great success with which the Almighty has been pleased to crown our efforts, during the year just brought to a close, many of us must feel self-condemned in view of our coldness or lukewarmness in the good cause which we are banded together to promote. But let our past unfaithfulness suffice, and let us as one man on this the first month of the year 1865, gird on our armour and dedicate ourselves anew to the noble work in which we are engaged, that of saving our fellow-men from impending ruin.

It affords me very great pleasure to be able to say (notwithstanding the lukewarmness of many) that perhaps at no period in the history of this Grand Division, have we enjoyed a greater degree of prosperity than we enjoy at the present time. Evidences of which are found in the institution of New Divisions,—the resuscitation of apparently lifeless ones,—the increase of membership, and the healthy condition of our highly praised and eminently useful organ the Abstainer; we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that we owe much of our present prosperity to the influence of this paper; and I feel that the thanks of this Grand Division are due to our worthy Grand Scribe for the very able and efficient manner with which he conducts our organ. I think I may be excused for saying that I felt some degree of pride when I saw the first number of the Abstainer adorned with its new year's dress. And what Son of Temperance does not feel pleased at the important and favourable changes which have taken place in this department of our work, since the Abstainer was first introduced to us with so much difficulty and under the most unfavourable circumstances, by our very worthy brother, P.G.W.P. Rev. Dr. Cramp; at first appearing as a monthly,