

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. T.—Yes, the friends in Oshawa intend giving the members who attend the next meeting of the Grand Division a right royal welcome.

Enquirer.—Members who have been suspended for six months, or more, for non-payment of dues, may be admitted as new members.

Mary.—A member, not a physician, has not the right to prescribe alcohol for himself whenever, in his opinion, his peculiar state of health seems to demand it.

David.—There is no doubt the liquor traffic, licensed or unlicensed, is the great hindrance to the Temperance Reform.

☞ We will mail to any address, a copy of the SON OF TEMPERANCE for one year, for twenty-five cents, if payment is made in advance.

The Son of Temperance

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THOMAS WEBSTER,

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To whom all business letters must be addressed.

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TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1880.

Secrets of the Order.

"WHY is it that there is so much talk about the secrecy of your Order? Are you actually secret in your work inside the Division room? Is your work of saving men a secret mission? Are you ashamed to show the world the results of your labours? Why do you not come out plainly, hiding nothing, showing to all who wish to know that you are doing a noble work?"

Such questions are asked Sons of Temperance every time they bring up the subject or beat up for volunteers to the ranks of the grand army of temperance. Those who declare it is wrong to have "secrets" will, with the knowledge that half our members are sisters, declare that no woman ever kept a secret! How often does it happen that a sister is found guilty of informing some one, "not entitled to know the same," of any of the ritual work

of our Order? We have never heard of a woman who so violated her obligation. We all know, that many people in this world, having no business of their own must dabble in things they know as little about as a hog does of electioneering. We are no more secret in our work inside the Division room than we are in other occupations of life. A merchant, when he fills his shelves with goods places upon them a private mark which none but he and his clerks can read, thus forming a secret society of himself and salesmen! When a man becomes master of a household, things frequently transpire within the family circle which he would hardly have told to the neighbours, even though he knows his friend Jones has the same household happenings. Right here, therefore, he institutes a secret society, using his marriage-license for a charter! True, we have a password, but it is used as the lumberman in the Ottawa regions use a private mark on the logs he cuts—to identify his own labour—so we protect ourselves from outsiders who might do us an injury. Our signs and signals are to save us from the deception of imposters passing themselves on the brotherhood for members, though they never saw the colour of a Son of Temperance regalia. Neither are we ashamed to show to the world the fruits of our labours. Our results speak for themselves. Our labours are gladdening hearts once cast down with sorrow almost too great for endurance. Experience has taught us that we need auxiliaries to reach the goal for which we are

striving. In a Son of Temperance Division room everything conducive to the moral welfare, or that will enhance our social pleasures, is looked after. We cast no reflections upon our brother wearing the red or blue ribbon; but after a careful examination of all orders and societies, it will be very clearly seen that in no organization is the band of brotherhood so well guarded as in the Sons of Temperance. In no Order is there such union of work, such perfect co-operation of principle. Here may be seen the great family altar, surrounded by a band of brothers and sisters, in whose countenances we read the determination to rescue the fallen, and secure them from temptation. But, sir critic, put your strength where it will bless, and stop hindering what would do a world of good if left alone. We have enough to harass us without stopping to fight you, who should be a help and aid to us. And you, my brother, struggling along with your load of care, be of good cheer! there is "a good time coming." If we keep on the harness, and work for the good old Order of the Sons of Temperance of the World, our reward is sure.

From the Grand Scribe.

Receipts from Divisions from Aug. 12th to Sept. 14th.

ANNISKILLEN, 38c; Maple Grove, \$3.36; Triumph, \$1.82; Ramsay, \$1.54; Welland, \$1.47; Elmbank, \$2.80; Phoenix, \$4.22; Brockville, 63c; Rising Sun, \$2.03; Renfrew, \$1.00; Ayr, \$5.25; Thorold, \$1.89; Lotus, \$2.10; Goodwill, 10c; Woodham, \$3.36; Galt, \$4.90;