

THE ABSTAINER.

Halifax, N. S. February 16, 1857.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. G. Freeman's letter has been forwarded to the publisher, to whose department it properly belongs. We have no doubt that entirely satisfactory arrangements will be made.

Our New Glasgow correspondent will observe that we have omitted a part of his communication. We are unable to see the propriety of publishing the resolution he has sent us. The members of the Division, we trust, will admit the prudence of our procedure in this respect.

Our readers will find in another column a full account of proceedings connected with the late Quarterly Session, for which we are indebted to the same brother who supplies the "Halifax" news. As there is very little business to be transacted at the January Session, the brethren were able to devote an unusually large portion of time to the advocacy of the cause in public meetings. The good effects of those meetings will be felt for months to come.

The resolution respecting the employment of Lecturers gratifies us exceedingly. We trust it will not share the fate of many other resolutions, and become a "dead letter," but that it will be taken up so zealously by the Divisions that the Agency Committee will be encouraged to look out for the right men without loss of time. Neither argument nor persuasion can be needed in this matter. All admit the desirableness of continual appeal to the public. But as this measure cannot be carried into effect without funds, what is now required is that the friends of Temperance throughout the Province should contribute to the object *a portion of their savings*. We mean, their *Temperance savings*. Every Total Abstinence man is a gainer by his abstinence. He can well afford to be benevolent. Brethren! respond liberally to the request of the Grand Division. A tithe of the "Temperance savings" of Nova Scotians would form no inconsiderable fund. Let it be forthcoming.

The "Publication Committee" presented a Report, which has been handed to us for insertion. It is as follows:—

"The Publication Committee beg leave to make the following Report to the Grand Division:—

"The *Abstainer*, with its selections, arrangements, and editorials, has given as much satisfaction as a small monthly publication could be expected to do.—Your Committee have to regret that the list of subscribers is not as extensive as it should be, considering the large number of persons who are friendly to the cause, and the small amount of money required from those who desire to avail themselves of the advantages it affords. The issue at present is only 1710.

"Your Committee would respectfully suggest the importance of urging on the members of our Order throughout the Province a more extensive patronage, inasmuch as the measure of success which attends this small effort in the way of giving publicity to our doings and principles, will probably be the criterion by which the feasibility of a more efficient, and consequently more expensive, organ will be estimated hereafter;—and that such an one should be established as soon as practicable, your Committee believe is the opinion of all who are anxious for the further extension of our views and practice.

"W. M. BROWN, *Chairman*.

J. A. BELL,

A. J. RITCHIE,

C. ROBSON,

PAT. MONAGHAN.

"Halifax, 26th January, 1857."

As it would be obviously improper to speak of ourselves and our doings, we can only commend this Report to the favourable consideration of our readers. If every subscriber will try to get another the ultimate success of our enterprise will be by no means problematical, and the way will soon be opened for the "more efficient" organ spoken of in the Report. A monthly Journal ought not to satisfy the Temperance public of Nova Scotia.

DEATH has again appeared among the advocates of total abstinence in the mother country. The Rev Dr Bates of Glasgow, who died recently, was "a devoted abstainer," who "joined the temperance ranks at a very early period in life, and laboured both in season and out of season to promote the movement."—Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M. P., died on the 7th of January, aged 73 years. We extract the following passage from a sermon preached on occasion of his death:

"He was the friend of every movement that had for its object the real advantages of his fellow men. And as a teetotaler, I wish to take the present opportunity of rendering

my humble meed of praise to his memory, especially because of his long-continued, and uniformly consistent attachment, to what I believe to be one of the noblest causes on earth, next to Christ's gospel—I mean the Temperance Reformation. For more than 40 years he was an abstainer from intoxicating drinks; and when you consider his numerous engagements as a public man; when you remember the scenes in which he was often obliged to move; when you imagine the temptations to which during that period he was no doubt subjected, temptations to deviate a little at least from this practice; and when you recollect that all through he adhered firmly to his principle—you must feel, even if you are not teetotalers yourselves, a high degree of admiration for the man. If all teetotalers had been as faithful as he the cause of true temperance would at this moment have been indeed a triumphant one in this country."

It is pleasing to reflect that as the men in the front rank fall, others are ready to take their places. And certainly we ought to be very thankful that there is now a large number of talented and enterprising young men engaged in the cause. They enter into it under much greater advantages than their predecessors, and the facilities for carrying on the work are in all respects abundant. They will rejoice in the jubilee which their elder coadjutors may not live to see.

And we should gratefully observe the goodness of Providence in sparing so long many of those who have given themselves to this work. Mr Brotherton, as has been just noted, was 73 years old. Then there is our venerable friend Judge Marshall, who is now travelling in England and Scotland as a volunteer Lecturer, and is received with marked respect wherever he goes. The Secretary of the Alliance writes thus of him:—

"The judge, who is upwards of 70 years of age, but of active and energetic habits, understands to use a common expression, the top and bottom, the legal and other bearings of his subject to a nicety, and is well versed as might be expected, in various subjects of national importance. He pays his own travelling expenses, and does not receive any remuneration for his services. Long may he live to help on the temperance and Maine-law cause; may his honorable and worthy services, whenever and wherever given, be crowned with unbounded success; and may the hon. and learned judge, in due time, meet with his reward, in return for his disinterested and philanthropic labours."

WE are happy to inform the friends of Temperance that Dr Lees is engaged in preparing a "Sequel" to his Prize Essay, in which all the objections to the Maine Law will be considered and replied to, doubtless in a masterly way.