

During the past year, the best of feeling has existed between the several organizations throughout the Province. At a Regular Session of the Grand Lodge of the I. O. of G. T. your G. W. P. and G. S. conveyed the fraternal greetings of this Grand Division to that body; they in return appointed a Deputation to visit us during this Session, it will be for us to say at what time you will be prepared to receive the deputation.

Among the important matters to be brought forward during this Session may be mentioned the want so keenly felt for some months past—a Temperance Newspaper. I trust that this most important subject may receive that due consideration that it demands at our hands. Never in the history of the cause did we require the powerful agency of the press more than at this present time.

Another very important subject will be brought forward, the importance of carrying out the Amended License Law, especially in the City of Halifax. I most ardently pray that such an expression of opinion and sentiment upon this important question may go forth from this meeting, to the world, as cannot be in any manner or degree mistaken, and while we strive for this question, I trust we will not forget that we have another step to take, and that is to aim in all our efforts to give the country at large to understand that we are tending in all our labors to the total *Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic*.

I believe that the Committee of the House of Commons of Canada expressed the sentiments of every genuine Temperance man and woman in our land when they said, That it is clearly the duty of Government when the social, moral and civil standing of the subject is imperiled by the existence of any traffic or trade, that apart from all consideration of gain or profit the interests of the subject should not be sacrificed even to the expansion or maintenance of the revenue. To these sentiments all our efforts tend, and we will never rest until the world shall respond a *loud*, a *long*, a *heartly* Amen, let this principle of Prohibition be inscribed upon our banner, and written upon our hearts.

For a glorious day is breaking and the darkness disappears; the Sons of men are waking they cast away their fears.

During the past year I have had the pleasure of receiving quarterly reports from County and Divisional Deputies, they have been read at the Sessions of the Grand Division, and portions of them published in the Journals. I am sorry that the practice is not more general; it certainly is impossible for any Officer to present a report without the necessary materials. I am pleased to say that to some extent I have been favored with reports from a few of the County and Divisional Deputies, and with your permission I will read them as far as time will allow.

For Reports from Deputies see Appendix.

From these reports we gather in "the main" hope and faith for efforts in the future.

Our City Divisions have not been as well attended during the past quarter, but when taken in connection with the work of the past year, they have all made advancement in influence and interest as well as in numbers. We cannot expect large meetings at this busy season of the year, but I speak the sentiments of my brothers and sisters of the City Divisions when I say that we expect a successful campaign during the coming winter.

I cannot forget to mention the valuable course of Lectures delivered in this City and in some of the principal towns in this province by that veteran advocate of Temperance *Dr. Charles Jewett*, these admirable Lectures can never be forgotten, they have left impressions upon the public mind such as were never made before, and I am sure I speak the opinions of all who had the satisfaction of listening to him. We shall be glad to hear him again at no very distant day.

It becomes my painful duty to report that during the past quarter, P. W. P.