

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Scottite"—Yes; the Rose-Belford Publishing Co., Toronto, have just published an Edition of the "Temperance Act of 1878," (the Scott Act), and it can be had by addressing a letter to them. Single copies 10 cents each; by the hundred 8 cents.

Enquirer—The M.W. Scribe regulates the prices of supplies to the Grand Division.

P.P.W.—You are mistaken. When the junior P.W.P. of a Division is absent, the W. P. has the privilege of calling any P.W.P. to the post of honour.

N.D.—There are no proxies allowed in the Order.

✂ 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

IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY,

AND CAN BE PROCURED OF

THOMAS WEBSTER,

Grand Scribe, BRANTFORD.

To whom all business letters must be addressed.

✂ Communications, articles, etc., intended for insertion should be sent in by 20th of each month, addressed "To the Editor," P. O. Box 2542, Toronto.

BRANTFORD, SEPTEMBER, 1880.

A Division at Work.

MEMBERS of the Order sometimes discuss the question of withdrawals and suspensions and endeavour to find out why, in the past they have borne such a large ratio to the admissions. A thoughtful study of the subject, however, will convince any candid mind that the causes have been perfectly legitimate, and for the most part, could not be avoided. In one sense, a large number of withdrawals and suspensions are the necessary results of the successful workings of the Order. From a cursory view, the statement seems to contradict itself; but let us examine some of the causes that produce withdrawals.

(1) Take for example a man who is possessed of some natural ability, but who has been for several years the victim of an appetite for strong drink. During which time he has rapidly fallen from one position of trust to an-

other, till even his suffering wife and family are compelled to flee for their lives. At this time, a member of a Division asks him to join, and try to be a man once more. He may reply, as others do every day—"It's of no use, there is no one who cares for me now. I might as well drink on and die as soon as possible." The Son of Temperance tells him of persons who have been saved by the Order, some of whom were formerly his companions; and the man thinks if they can keep the pledge there is hope for him, and allows his name to be proposed for membership, and he is admitted. Every member of the Order is very familiar with the result. Often there is a severe struggle for the mastery of the perverted appetite, and sometimes through the influence of the man's old associates, he is led to violate his pledge. Occasionally he does so twice, but very rarely the third time. In a few months, such is the radical change in the personal appearance of this man, that he would not be recognized as the ragged and bloated inebriate of the past. Returning health of body brings health to his mind and he is once more master of his faculties. His abilities are promptly recognized by the Division, and he is elected to a position of honour. His home is re-established, situations of responsibility are offered and accepted, and he enters upon a career of usefulness. Members of other societies have been watching his progress, and now invite him to join different associations, such as the Odd-Fellows, Knights of

Pythias or Masons, for they are glad to obtain such recruits, as they command a premium. Such are the inducements offered that he no doubt joins all. The church extends her arms, and himself and family pass her hallowed portals. At this point his varied duties conflict. No doubt two or more societies meet on the same evening, and of course he can only attend one. He, therefore, is led to argue, that as he is now a safe and sound temperance man there is no use in his being in the Division room every evening, and he neglects to be there for several meetings. Most Divisions are constantly initiating new members, so that when he does attend he sees so many new faces that he cannot feel at home; and so he either asks for a card of withdrawal, or stays away and neglects to pay his dues, and is suspended by the Division.

(2) Lady members have a variety of reasons for staying away from Division meetings. In our experience I have heard the following given repeatedly:—"I am living so far from the Hall now, that I cannot walk there after a hard day's work." "If I went I might have to come home alone late in the evening, and I dare not risk an assault." "I am married, and am keeping house, and my household duties are such that I cannot go out evenings, as I used to." "I have a babe to take care of, and of course you cannot expect me to attend the Division." These are certainly valid reasons, and the persons who made them could not be blamed heretofore for wishing to