

It was agreed that for the present, the Prov. Sec. be also Prov. Treasurer.

Agreed that Provincial club meet at New Glasgow, on the 2d. Tuesday of Jan. 1858, at 2 o'clock P. M.

The thanks of the Convention were given to "Flowing Fountain" Division Sons of Temperance, for the use of their Hall &c., on this occasion.

The Convention closed by forming the Endless Chain, Singing, and Prayer, by Rev. J. McLean the Prov. Chaplain.

It was also unanimously resolved, that the Prov. Secretary endeavour to get the Report of Gen. Com. and an abstract of proceedings, published in the *Abstainer*, and in the *Witness* or *Eastern Chronicle*.

D. McDONALD,

Prov. Sec. Temp. Watchmen.

New Glasgow, N. S. July 30, 1857.

REPORT.

To the Convention of the Temperance Watchmen of Nova Scotia.

WORTHY BROTHEREN,—Having met again in Annual Session, your Central Committee respectfully submit the following report:

Since last Convention Committee have held five meetings for the despatch of business.

Committee have been deprived of the services of their Chairman. His vocation requiring his absence from home so frequently, he has not been able to attend to the duties of his office.

Committee have much pleasure in reporting that five new Clubs have been organized since our last meeting, viz: Phoenix at Baddeck C. B. (This Club has arisen in the place of Baddeck Club, formerly reported defunct) Black River, Marshall, and Raglan, in County of Pictou, and Ivy, at Welsford Hants County. The last four communities may be regarded as "territory taken by conquest from the enemy." So far as committee are aware, no Temperance organization ever previously existed in these localities. These Clubs all exhibit the ardour and energy of first love, and are a great acquisition to our ranks.

Committee regret to have to report, that two of our Clubs have gone down, viz: Mayflower and Youth's Refuge, located respectively at Lower Stewiacke and Brookfield; also, that Brookville, at W. B. East River, Pictou, has suspended operations, and serious fears are entertained that it will not revive. Angella, Artic, Coldstream, Sebastopol, Olive Branch (Pictou), and Gough, it is feared are in a very languid condition. Committee have to reiterate the former complaint of want of promptitude in forwarding the Quarterly Returns.

For the quarter ending, Dec. 31st, 1856, only 20 Returns have been received. These report 695 members in good standing. For the quarter ending March 31st, 1857, only 17 Returns have come in. These present 581 members. For the term ending, June 30th, 1857, 13 Returns have come to hand, presenting 577 members.

So long as this remissness continues, it is absolutely impossible for Committee to ascertain, much less to report the real state of the order. It is as unsatisfactory and annoying to your Committee, as it can possibly be to this Convention. Committee sincerely hope that clubs will see the duty of promptitude in future. It would tend much to the prosperity

of our cause, and to the satisfaction of every member to know the precise state of the order.

Committee hope that such measures may be adopted as will, in some measure at least, remedy the evil. Your committee consider the Order in as healthy and progressive a state as could reasonably be expected. The Order, though not numerically strong exercises a vigorous and salutary influence in disseminating Temperance principles, and imbuing the public mind with Prohibitory sentiments. Public Meetings have been held, more or less frequently, in all the Clubs, at which addresses were delivered for the public good.

Committee have pleasure in reporting a decided improvement in the Financial Department since last Convention. At that date the Committee were in debt to the amount of £1 7s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The expenditure since has amounted to £6 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, and the receipts to £11 15s. 4d, leaving a balance in hands of Treasurer of £5 14s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Committee beg to call attention to the large item of postage as will appear by reference to the Treasurer's account. Comparatively few Returns or communications to this office are pre-paid. The practice of enclosing silver in letters is inconvenient and expensive. For example a Return came to hand in an envelope, inclosing 5s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d in silver and three penny pieces, and cost 1s. 6d. postage. Committee would recommend that Clubs send Dollar Bills, or Gold Dollars, and for small change Postage Stamps.

Your Committee have much satisfaction in reporting that the Cause of Temperance and Prohibition is progressing steadily and favorably in this Province, and throughout the world. The order of the Sons of Temperance has revived considerably in Nova Scotia during the last year. The old Total Abstinence Societies have, in general, been kept up with a creditable degree of interest. In no part of the Province has more attention been paid to these Societies than in the city of Halifax during the past winter. If the centre is sound and vigorous, a general influence must eradicate to the extremities.

Committee cannot specify all the evidences of increasing enlightenment of public sentiment, yet there are some such significant facts, which the committee would feel to be a dereliction to pass unnoticed. Your committee would observe that the Church in her official capacity is taking a deeper interest in, and assuming a higher position relative to this matter than she formerly did. The subject has occupied a prominent position in the deliberations of her supreme courts at their recent sessions. From action taken at a former meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, nearly all the ministers of that body preached a Temperance Sermon on the last Sabbath of 1856.

The Inferior Ecclesiastical Courts are also dealing with the matter in a manner more worthy of their high calling, and individual clergymen, who stood aloof from, if they did not oppose the movement, now give it their cordial support. All these circumstances unquestionably exert a favourable influence on the progress of the committee. This general progress is apparent throughout the world.

[The great length of this Report compels our deferring the remainder of it till our next issue.]

Doings of the Traffic.

WHAT I SAW.

Aug. 4.—6, p.m. Two civilians very drunk, one of them was driving a waggon, and retained his seat with difficulty. 7, p.m., a number of soldiers, sailors, and marines, very drunk—fifteen in all!

5.—P. M. Seven man-of-war sailors drunk. August 5—A number of sailors drunk.

7—A soldier and five sailors drunk.

9—Sunday—a number of sailors and three soldier's drunk.

10—Two civilians drunk. 7 p.m. a young girl about nineteen years of age very drunk.

12—6 p.m. a woman about twenty-five years of age very drunk at Bedford Railway Station. When the Railway train stopped at the Four Mile House Station a number of young men, about a dozen in all, more or less intoxicated; a few of them were very drunk; some of them lost their passage, and had to foot it to the city. We saw (from the cars) the proprietor of the establishment and his son wrestling with one young man in the bar-room, several others were also engaged; we presume the subject of the *hauling match* was forgetting to *foot his bill*. Nearly all the young men were mechanics, who took a drive in the cars, to finish their days sport, this being the day on which the St. John's crew won the race from Halifax. Of course we must make some allowance for the excitement of the day.

13.—A man drunk.

15—During the Temperance Procession a man drunk; he appeared to be a stranger in the city. "Twould be well if he had taken the pledge and fell into the ranks.

17—In the evening three young men drunk

19—8 p.m.—Near the Post Office, a respectable dressed young man drunk.

20—1 p.m.—A coloured man drunk. 2 p.m. a sa' or drunk.

21—A respectable dressed man—a stranger—drunk.

25—7 p.m.—A number of sailors drunk.

27—7 A. M.—Near King's corner, a wretched looking woman who asked us for a penny. She appeared to have slept out all night; was a pitiable object to behold, and looked like one that was reduced to poverty by intemperance.

10 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.—Three drunken men in Grafton Street.

The "Pivot" chap was very drunk.

29—In the evening, a young man drunk.

31—6 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.—Near the Garrison Chapel, a man very drunk. He was singing "Hey bonny laddie." He is a very violent person when drunk, and has been often sent to Bridewell for misconduct when in that condition—such as fighting, beating his wife, breaking furniture, windows, &c.

Sept. 1—6 p.m.—A Fisherman drunk in Gottingen street.

5—Two men drunk.

7—6 p.m.—a mechanic drunk in Gottingen street. He lost some property by his intemperate habits. He works at his trade only until he obtains sufficient money to go on the spree.

8.—8 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.m.—Two man of war sailors drunk.

9.—6 A. M.—A man drunk; he appeared to have been on the street all night.