

# Referred to Committee on State of the Order.

The accounts of the Grand Scribe and Grand Treasurer were read and ordered on file.

## The following report was read and adopted :

The Standing Auditing and Finance Committee have examined the Grand Scribe's and Grand Treasurer's books and accounts, and find them to be correct, excepting an error in addition, against himself, of one dollar in Grand Scribe's account. They have also examined the following accounts, which they find to be correct, and recommend the same for payment.

Z. S. Hall, Stationery..... \$1.85

Wm. MacNab, Journals, &c..... 58.00

Abstainer Office, Charters, &c..... 18.50

R. H. WETMORE, } *Auditing and*  
ROBT. J. WILSON, } *Finance Committee.*

Halifax, April 27th, 1869.

## The Grand Worthy Patriarch read his Report as follows :—

*To the Grand Division, S. of T. of Nova Scotia.*

**OFFICERS AND BRETHREN,**—As this Grand Division has now been established twenty-one years, and has arrived at the age of manhood, it might seem to be a fitting time to give an outline of its proceedings during that period, to refer to the worthy names of those who have stood by its righteous banner at all times, never faltering in the work, nor shrinking in the strife, and to present a list of those noble standard-bearers who never failed in their labor of love, until relieved from duty here by that summons which we must all obey. We fervently cherish and revere the memory of the departed ones who were faithful workers unto the end, and who we now hope wear the crown which shall never fade.

Although not permitted, at present, to enter upon this subject so well calculated to call up sweet memories and fond recollections of the past, I may be allowed to notice some statistical facts in connection with the traffic in intoxicating liquors in this Province, which strongly indicate the amount of good accomplished by the Temperance Reformation within the bounds of the jurisdiction of this Grand Division.

Temperance Societies were first established in Nova Scotia about the year 1828, and the average consumption of intoxicating liquors in the Province for the five years from 1825 to '29 (inclusive) was 799,000 gallons, or over 5 gallons per head of the population, and even this enormous and almost incredible consumption was further increased until in 1832 it rose to 887,000 gallons.

During the five years of 1850 to '54 (inclusive) the average consumption of intoxicating liquors in Nova Scotia had fallen to 216,000 or to a little over three quarts per head of the population. This indicates the minimum consumption.

Taking the four years from 1861 to '64 we find that the annual average consumption for these years to be 366,000 gallons, or about one gallon per head of the population.

In 1866 the consumption was 579,000 gallons, or about 1½ gallons per head of the population.

Very copious remarks might be made in reference to these facts which cannot be appropriately introduced into this report. They prove beyond all doubt that the good effected in this Province by the Temperance movement is neither small nor insignificant, but that the result has been a great and glorious one in thus stemming the awful torrent of intemperance which to such an alarming extent, was threatening to sweep our land with the besom of destruction.

While we contemplate the ravages of the monster vice which our beloved land is suffering under at the present time, have we not good cause to take up the language of the prophet and say "Oh that mine head were waters, and