

The Son of Temperance.

VOL. I.

BRANTFORD, NOVEMBER, 1879.

No. 7

The Good of the Order.

Wanted. A Minister.

By W. STITT JENKINS.

[Recite earnestly, but with vigour.]

We want a friend both kind and sage,
Of tender youth and hoary age
The best affections to engage—
As minister.

Nor one austere and grim and sour,
That will disdain the lowly poor,
But enter oft the rich man's door—
As minister.

Nor one to in the pulpit shine,
And talk a deal of things divine,
Yet tarry often o'er his wine—
As minister.

Give us a man to "watch and pray,"
And feed the tender lambs each day;
Nor from his duty turn away—
As minister.

Yes, give to us a sterling man,
Still ready with some noble plan
To bless his neighbours all he can—
As minister.

And if perchance he have to write,
Will show no favour, fear, nor spite,
But still in holy things delight—
As minister.

Who still will choose the better part,
And bind God's precepts to his heart,
Nor from the golden rule depart—
As minister.

A man like this will all revere,
And young and old, both far and near,
Will hold him to their souls so dear—
As minister.

Ah! send us, Lord, throughout the land,
A sober, pious, faithful band,
For Thine inheritance to stand—
As ministers.

To fear not hunger, heat, nor cold
To covet no man's stores of gold,
But for the truth be ever bold—
As ministers.

Who will not e'er with tongue or pen,
Gloss o'er the crimes of wealthy men,
But beard fell Bacchus in his den—
As ministers.

And haste to preach a new crusade,
Against strong drink's unholy trade,
AND DARE TO CALL A SPADE A SPADE—
As ministers.

Mary's Treat to Her Husband.

(Dialogues suitable for male and female, representing Husband and Wife.)

Mary is seen sitting with her arm reclining on a table, as if resting for a few moments from her needlework. She says, looking up at the clock:

"I do declare if it isn't nearly nine o'clock! How late John is again; and yet he promised me

most faithfully he would be home to-night early; for I could not help telling him that to-morrow we shall have been married twelve months, and that taking all things together, though we have had our little troubles, yet upon the whole it has been a happy time with us. The only thing that at all disturbs me even now is the growing habit of his staying out a little later. But I won't despair. I'll still do my best to make his home happy, and show him it is the best place for him when his day's work is done. (A knocking is heard: she continues as she rises) Ah, he has come at last! (Going to the door she lets him in, saying:) I'm so glad you've come, for I was feeling lonely."

John. I'm sorry to be so late, my dear, but the fact is I stayed rather longer than I intended at the Cat and Fiddle; but they wouldn't let me come away, for one of our chaps told them that to-morrow was the anniversary of our wedding, and so they made me stand treat before they'd let me leave.

Mary. It's just as I feared; but I'm glad you've come, though you're later than I expected.

John. Better late than never, you know, Mary, as I said twelve months ago, when they blamed me for not getting married before.

[They both sit down.]
Mary. That's quite right; and now, John, I want to ask you where you propose taking me to-morrow, for I quite expect you'll give me a holiday to celebrate the anniversary of our wedding-day.

John. Indeed, nothing would please me better; but the fact is, Mary, I'm hard up, and shall not be able to take you out anywhere, I'm afraid.

Mary. Not take me out to-morrow? What, can't you scrape together only enough to go and see my parents in the old spot. I'm sure they would be delighted,

for you know we haven't been since the day you brought me away from there to here.

John. That's true, Mary; but I declare it has taken all my earnings to keep us going, even by trying to be as careful as I could.

Mary. Bear with me, John, if I ask whether you really have been as careful as you could. Does it not cost you something more every night you go to the Cat and Fiddle than it would if you came home?

John. That's quite true, but you wouldn't deprive me of all my comforts. Why, you know, Mary, I cheerfully agreed, the day we were married, to let you have your two half-pints a day as your share at home, and I only take the same as a rule at the public-house.

Mary. That's all very well, but surely you can manage to take me for a holiday to see the old folks?

John. I would if I could, but I've not a penny in the world until wages are paid on Saturday.

Mary. What would you say if I would stand treat and take you?

John. You stand treat? Where are you to get the money from I should like to know?

Mary. If I haven't got the money, I've got the price of a pint of ale, and that will do it.

John. Why, you are crazy. The idea of talking such rubbish—a pint of ale to take us both for a holiday. Ha! ha! You've had an extra pint, I fancy.

Mary. Stop a bit—not quite so fast, You shall have a holiday—for, see—(Taking out of her dress-pocket a bag with a lot of cents in it, and shaking them on the table)—"Instead of spending my 5 cents per day in ale, I have saved them, and see how they have grown. 5 cents a day is 35 cents a week—\$1.40 in four

weeks—\$16.80 in twelve months. That's how it is that you can have a holiday with my pint of beer money, for I've been to the Post Office Savings Bank, and fetched it out on purpose. So we'll have a fine time of it, won't we?

John. Bless thee, my lass. You have taught me a lesson, for if you can do without your beer and save the money, so will I; and to-morrow we'll both go to the old house and there take a fresh start, and by God's help we may be successful in rising in the world by the help of the cents which have, I see, been thrown foolishly away at the Cat and Fiddle.

Mary. That's right, and no doubt we shall be able every year to spend the anniversary of our wedding-day much more happily than if we spent the money at the Cat and Fiddle. [Exit.]

The Effects of Drinking.

ONE hundred thousand crimes are committed each year, under the effects of drunkenness. A majority of persons arrested for disorderly conduct are found to be drunk. In the vicinity of licensed grog-shops, half the nights are made hideous by drunken revelry; a bar-room is the accompaniment of every brothel, and vice presents an unabashed front, under the protection of the traffic in intoxicating drinks. It is well to inquire why this is so.

It is the effect of alcohol to stupefy the moral faculties of the mind, and to arouse to unnatural action all that is brutish and immoral. As the victim progresses step by step in the downward way, the voice of conscience becomes fainter and fainter, until it no longer is heard. Carnal nature grows daily more powerful, until all that is immoral, brutish and devilish, is in complete ascendancy. The victim has lost all sense of virtue, and has no fear of God or man before his eyes. Every bar-room becomes a school of vice. The persons who assemble there keep each other in countenance, and vie with each other

as to who shall outdo in the immoral pastime. The minister, the church-member, the morally upright man, are represented as canting hypocrites, while some drunken atheist, who argues without reason or sense, is applauded to the echo. The filthy jest or story, and ribald song, goes the round of the assembly.

Sympathy with the dealers in intoxicating drinks, and hatred of those who labor to suppress the vice, are assiduously cultivated. Boys at that age when parental restraint is felt as a burden, and skepticism is the natural bent of the youthful mind, are the common victims. Who shall be surprised that persons become enamored of great vices, or that profanity becomes a habit, where scarce anything is heard which is not interlarded with oaths, and where he who can drink and swear loudest, and tell the vilest story is most loudly applauded? By this means a large proportion of our people are becoming familiar with vice.

Intoxicating drinks arouse the animal passions. Women are easily led from the path of virtue when under the influence of strong drink, and a majority of the ruined victims of reckless libertines are led to ruin by the help of wine or brandy.

What must be the effect upon the nation, of more than 200,000 bar-rooms, in which these schools of vice meet nightly, and every Sabbath is bacchanalian revel? Is it a wonder that dishonesty and crime stalk abroad all over the land; that Sabbath-breaking and profanity disgust the pious and well-disposed citizen, or that the shameless wanton walks the streets in broad day?—*The Lever* (English paper.)

Church Temperance Work.

THE following is from a paper read at a conference invited by the National Temperance Society, held in the Lecture Room of the Young Men's Christian Association, New York, some time ago, and is worthy of consideration by all temperance workers:—

Do something! The old Athenian said first *action*, second *action*, third *action*. Work in all the ways we have named; work in some only; work in ways we have not named; work in only one way, but work. An Irishman, ridiculed for starting off on horseback with only one spur, replied very justly: "If I get one side of the horse moving, I'll trust the other side." Move on one point, if you can do no more; feeble work rather than no work; timid work rather than no work; effort toward the least of all the phases of this sin; strike at the smallest of the heads of this hydra. Anything rather than that apathy which hangs like a dense, damp chill, paralyzing our energies. The late Jabez Burns, in the city of London, January 24, 1876, preached his thirty-fifth annual temperance sermon. Suppose he had done nothing else but preach one sermon a year? Do something, yea, anything, rather than be indolent and awaken God's curse as of old, when He said; "Curse ye Meroz: curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof, because they came not to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

Do something, and let your doing be continuous and regular, as opposed to the spasmodic. The less machinery you have the better. One wide-awake man and a temperance pledge will work as a rifled gun in the hands of a trained gunner. Begin with a prayer meeting; be willing to have small meetings. Let not the day of small things be despised, but keep right on doing something—doing with both hands with all your heart, in all winds and weather, with ebb or flood tide—keep right on doing something.

Do something! A revolver may be best to kill a mad dog, but all cannot aim straight, and few carry revolvers. Try a boot-jack or a brickbat. A life-boat is the best thing with which to rescue drowning men at sea, but many a man has been kept up by a hen-coop or a floating plank. Do something! "Let all goo

men, respecting each the other's methods, and all moving forward, if not on the same line, yet on parallel lines, confront this old serpent, this hundred-headed mad dog Cerberus, and with Hercules' club despatch him." We may not be able to do what we would, but hereafter, when the records of this warfare are written, may it be said of our churches, "They did what they could." In every good work—

"Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will spite;
Cease from men and look above thee;
Trust in God and do the right."

Our Divisions.

Welcome to Brother and Sister Halkett by Chaudiere Division.

DEAR SIR,—It has been remarked by a wise man that, not time, but events measure life. Measured by this standard, I think our Division can take rank as one of the senior Divisions of our country. Events worthy of note are not rare occurrences within the walls of our Division room, but at our last meeting one took place which I know will be of interest to many of your readers. We had the pleasure of welcoming to our number the bride of D. G. W. P., Bro. J. B. Halkett (Sister Belle Lightbody, of Grand River Division, Brantford). The Division embraced the occasion to express their appreciation of honest worth by presenting the happy pair with an appropriate address, which was read by Bro. J. G. Howe. After Bro. Halkett's reply, an intermission was granted to give a chance for sociability and to enjoy coffee and cake, which the ladies had in readiness. On resuming business, congratulatory addresses was the order of the evening, and all went merry as a marriage bell. Many visitors from Bytown and New Edinburgh Divisions graced our meeting with their presence and took part in our rejoicing.—Yours in L. P. and F.,

J. B. C.

THE following poem was a contribution to the last number of the newspaper issued in con-

nection with Chaudiere Division, and was read before that body, by the authoress, on the evening of Friday, the 10th Oct., 1879:—

Wedding Bells.

BY SISTER JENNY CROSS.

Dedicated to the Editor of the "Chaudierean Chronicle" (Bro. J. B. Halkett), and his bride.

Ring out, ring out with a merry chime!
Float afar on the fragrant air,
With the breath of flowers,
From sweet summer bowers,
And visions of all things fair;
Chime on, sweet bells, chime on!

Chime on, chime on, while the heart
beats high,
With a blissful, new-found joy,
Let them laugh who will,
Love is happy still;
Let no tone of sadness annoy
While the wedding bells peal on.

O, wonderful bells, 'with your musical
swells,
May your cadence float on down the
current of time,
And whatever betide
May the heart of the bride
In unison beat with your rapturous
chime,
As you still ring on.

When the frost fingers silver the tresses
of brown,
May the perfume of orange still hallow
her brow!
And when the last night
Veils the fair form in white,
May thy echoing chimes float around
her as now,
And blend with the music of heaven.

York County District Division.

DEAR SIR,—The regular session of York District Division was held in the Temperance Hall, Wexford, on Friday, September 26th. Owing to various causes the number of delegates present was not so large as could have been desired. There was a fair representation, however. Among those present were Bros. Thomas Caswell, G.W.P.; G. M. Rose, P. G. D. P.; John McMillan, P.G.W.A., and the G.W.A. We were also favoured with the presence of a number of well-known lady members of our Order.

Much important business was transacted, and plans presented and adopted with a view to increasing our membership in this county.

An interesting discussion arose upon the presentation of the report of the Committee upon the District Scribe's report, which we

trust has inspired the delegates present and their Divisions, through them, to more united, effectual, and aggressive work on behalf of our Order.

From the fact that only a part of the Divisions had reported to the D. Scribe, that officer was unable to give a full report of the state of the Order in the county.

The District Division strongly urges every Division to report promptly to the Scribe when requested by him, as these reports are at present the only available means of obtaining the information from which to frame a report that will be serviceable to the District Division. We trust that all our Divisions will note this fact, and forward their reports punctually in future, bearing in mind that when the D. Scribe is unable to present at least an approximately correct and full report, the interest of the District Division must be necessarily lessened, while its usefulness must in a very great measure be destroyed.

Several strong committees were appointed for the purpose of visiting and reviving our weak divisions, for organizing new divisions wherever practicable, as all the delegates present seemed determined to do their part in promoting the interests of the Order, and we confidently expect valuable and permanent results from their individual and united efforts. In addition to the above named committee, the District Worthy Patriarch was requested to visit officially as many divisions as possible before our next meeting.

Bros. Rose, McMillan, and Caswell were appointed a special committee to arrange a suitable list of subjects for discussion at our next meeting, which will be held at Mount Albert, on January 8th, 1880, where we will receive a royal welcome, and will expect a large representation, and will have a very important and interesting session.—Ever yours, in L. P. and F.,

W. H. BEWELL, D. Scribe.

Scarboro' Junction,
Oct. 9th, 1879.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. S.—Your letter on "Division Room Amusements" is crowded out this number, but will appear in our next.

M.—With regard to the issue of tracts, especially intended for Sons of Temperance, the matter is in the hands of the Grand Scribe, who will, we are sure, soon have them ready.

E. S.—We approve of good Dramatic Entertainments being gotten up by members of the Order; but we would not consent to having the usual meeting of the Division put off that such might be held. There is a time and place for everything.

Another Old Son.—The editing committee have examined your letter dated "Ottawa, 1st Oct., 1879," and concluded not to insert it. You labour under so many misapprehensions that, in their opinion, it would take up more space than we can spare to put you right—and the controversy, moreover, would be of no interest to the Order generally.

Inquirer.—Yes, Mr. Hine has written the book you mention, and attempts in it to prove that the British Nation is the lost tribe of Israel. The *Herald of Health*, an English paper, says, "it won't do. Israelites are temperate, thrifty, provident, and long-lived. They have very few paupers, drunkards, or criminals. The British Nation is considerably lacking in these characteristics."

M. S.—It is not for us to say what the nature of the discussions may be that will come up at the next meeting of the Grand Division, but we think something will be said about the Per Capita Tax; the Scott Act; the duty of temperance men to support politicians who support their views in Parliament; the position and duties of the Grand Treasurer; the salary of the Grand Scribe, and other questions having a bearing on the Order and general temperance work.

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 2629, Toronto.

BRANTFORD, NOVEMBER, 1879.

Annual Session of the Grand Division of Ontario.

THE Officers and Representatives are hereby reminded that the Annual Session of this Grand Division will be held in the Sons of Temperance Hall, in the Town of Almonte, commencing on Tuesday the 2nd day of December next, at Two o'clock P.M. Arrangements have been made by which comfortable board can be obtained at the hotels at ONE DOLLAR per day. Representatives wishing to secure rooms, can send their names to

"Bro. David Ballantine, R.S., Almonte, Ont."

Arrangements are being made for the usual reduction of fares, viz., one and a third fare for the double journey, on the several railways. Certificates can be had on application to the Grand Scribe.

Delegates will take the Grand Trunk to Brockville, thence by the Canada Central to Almonte. Trains leave Brockville for Almonte at 9.40 A.M. and 3.40 P.M., arriving at 12.25 and 6.40 P.M. The public meeting is expected to be held in the Music Hall on Tuesday evening.

The Credentials of the Representatives should be sent to the Grand Scribe at once, to save time at the opening of the Session.

From the Grand Scribe.

Receipts from Divisions, from Sept. 20th to Oct. 20th.

EVENING STAR, \$2.10; Grafton, \$4.00; Alberta, \$3.01; Huron, \$2.27; Stamford, \$2.94; New Edinburgh, \$2.05; Goshen, 84c; Allenwood, \$3.43; Malton, \$2.03; Haldimand, \$4; W. & P. Grove, \$1.33; Leaskdale, \$1.19; Mt. Forest, \$2.10; Quarry, \$3.00; Tyrone, \$4.41; Orono, \$6.72; Bethesda, \$7.28; Ayr, \$6.58; Invincible, \$2.80; Phoenix, \$2.59; Conestoga, \$2.10; Huron, \$1.50; Ontario, \$2.03; Mt. Vernon, \$1.82; Stirton, \$1.35; Brownsville, \$4.55; Bethel, \$1.00; New Edinburgh, \$1.00; Oshawa, \$3.71; Welcome, \$3.06; Harvest Home, \$5.38; Acton, \$3.50; Fairview, \$1.40; Orono, 45c; Vernonville, \$4.97; Lobo, \$6.65; Martintown, \$1; Hayden, \$3.00; Arran, \$3.50; Cedardale, \$5.74; Rockview, \$2.80; Cumminsville, 49c; Lone Star, \$1.68; Glenmorris, \$2.94; No Surrender, \$5.00; Stanly Mills, \$1.12; Ethel, \$2.50; Graf-

ton, \$4.06; Maple Grove, \$3.72; Zephyr, \$1.47; Orillia, \$5.00; Wyebridge, \$3.01; Standard, \$1.47; Otterville, \$2.52; Huron Belle, \$1.00; St. George, \$1.00; Rideau Union, \$2.73; Freedom, \$4.00; Greenbank, \$4.27; Goodhope, \$2.10; Mount Meldrum, \$2.45; Holland Landing, 77c; Laskay, \$3.57; True Love, \$4.41; Rising Sun, \$1.40; Ravine, \$2.25; Avonbank, \$4.06; Brockville, 77c; Port Robinson, \$2.94; Unity, \$1.54; Coldstream, \$3.00; Leskard, \$2.66; Union Star, \$3.08; Sheridan, \$2.17; Mount Hurst, \$1.89; Palgrave, \$3.50; Galt, \$6.20; Cedar Creek, \$1.68; Granton, \$5.87; Bronte, \$2.10.

Receipts on account of "The Son of Temperance."

GREENBANK Division, No. 331, per Bro. R. Michie, R. S., \$1.00; Royal City Division, No. 1, New Westminster, British Columbia, sends the liberal contribution of \$10.00.

Special Appeal.

THE Grand Scribe would urgently appeal to Deputies and Scribes to see that the returns of their Divisions are sent without further delay. The Grand Division looks for a full report of the State of the Order at the Annual Session. This report is now in course of preparation, and cannot be completed until the Returns are received. Will our Divisions see to this. If Divisions are dormant, or whatever may be the cause of delinquency in sending returns, please notify the Grand Scribe.

Our Lecturers.

PRO. R. M. Barratt, P.G.W. P., whose services have been secured for Lecture and Agency work, is at present labouring in the Counties of Carleton and Russell, and will continue his work in the eastern counties during the months of November and December. I hope to hear a good report as the result of his labors, and that the Divisions will aid all in their power in making arrangements for successful meetings.

The Work and the Workers.

—The annual meeting of the Provincial Woman's Christian Temperance Association for Ontario was held last month at Brantford. A large number of delegates were present from the various branch associations, and the meeting proved a great success.

—The electors of Middlesex County, Ont., seem to have undertaken the movement of submitting the Scott Act to a popular vote in real earnest. The necessary petitions are being circulated, and nearly 3,500 electors are already reported to have appended their signatures. This looks like business.

—A new Division was organized at Lesterville on the evening of the 30th September by the Grand Scribe, assisted by Bro. S. Batchelor, District Conductor of the Brant, with good prospects of success. Bro. A. J. Pollard was elected W.P., Bro. W. C. McColl, R.S. Regular meeting every Tuesday evening.

—The new hall of Avonbank Division was opened on the 17th Oct. The proceedings consisted of a tea meeting in the Presbyterian Church, after which a public meeting was held in the new hall. The chair was occupied by Rev. Mr. Hamilton, and addresses delivered by Rev. Messrs. McLeod, Hyslop, and Grcy, and the Grand Scribe. Excellent music was furnished by the choir of the Division. A good sum was realized. This Division is to be congratulated on its enterprise and zeal.

Correspondence.

D. G. W. P.

To the Editor,

SIR,—Will you please inform all D.G.W.P.'s that a list will be furnished to the Grand Division of all those who send me reports as required by their Commissions. This may be considered one of the criterians on which

the next G.W.P. will act in selecting the new Deputies for next year.—Yours in L. P. and F.,
THOMAS CASWELL, G.W.P.
Toronto, 10th Oct., 1879.

REFORM.

To the Editor,

DEAR SIR,—In the correspondence which you have recently published between "Old Son," the G. W. P. and "Another Old Old Son," all members who have the good of the Order at heart, will sympathize with the laudable attempt of "Old Son" to have those abuses corrected which are a blot on the Grand Division. In matters of everyday life, firms are expected to conduct their business transactions in the most open and honourable manner. Why should it be otherwise in a temperance Society? As for that member (it is difficult to think of him as a *brother*.) who could call his fellow-member a "snake in the grass," his conduct is most unbrotherly; and, it is a satisfaction to know that he has been so ably answered by "Old Son" in the number for October. At the next meeting of the Grand Division, it is earnestly to be hoped that "Old Son" may be supported in his measures of reform. The members ought to think the matter carefully over, and not wilfully shut their eyes to existing abuses.—Yours, etc.,

S. of T.

To the Editor,

SIR,—On perusing "Old Son's" letter in the October number, I feel it to be my duty once more to refer to some statements therein contained. I thought my letter in the September number clear enough, but "Another Old Son" having answered "Old Son" in rather too sharp a manner, "Old Son," to vindicate himself, strikes the Grand Scribe through an effort to meet the stings of "Another Old Son's" letter. The G. S. who is entirely outside of the controversy is the sufferer, and I deem it my duty to explain his position, and I

shall do so under no *nom de plume*.

The only error so far as I can learn in the balance sheet presented at Galt was, that \$77.00 due Bro. Millar, P.G.W.P., was not inserted as a liability. The liabilities should have been as follows:—

National Division Supplies Account.....	\$337 74
Hunter, Rose & Co., printing supplies account.....	148 50
David Millar, G.W.P., travelling expenses.....	77 00
Balance.....	699 27
	\$1262 51

From enquiry I learn that Bro. Millar had not presented his account to the G.S., and hence it was not inserted. Strictly I suppose the G.S. should have asked him what amount he had against the G.D., but I suppose this was forgotten. I hope the private accounts of all our members are as nearly correct as the above-mentioned statement. Our G.S. does not claim to be infallible, but I have not yet heard of any error being in his cash statements except a slight one of \$1.00 or thereabouts in the addition of the Financial Statement presented at Port Perry, and this was at once corrected.

In reference to the G. T. not being handed at once all monies received by the G. S., I have this to say in defence of the present Executive, that I found for many years back, and I believe during the time the predecessors of the G. S. and G. T. held office, it was customary for the G. S. to receive and disburse most, if not all the monies, and he and the G. T. seemed to have it an understood thing that the G. T. would accept the paid drafts as cash; but after I took office, the three Executive officers agreed that all monies should be regularly transmitted, twice in the quarter, to the G. T., and then paid out by him to those having properly attested orders on him. But this was not carried out, as the G. T. became ill and has not been able to resume his duties. I must say I found both the G. S. and G. T. desirous of having all monies transmitted to the G. T., and as both officers were to hold monies

of the G. D., I got from each of them a bond for the faithful accounting for of all monies received by them. If the monies have not been sent regularly by the G. S. to the G. T. in former years, I think the blame attaches more to the G. W. P., for it is his duty to see that all the other officers perform their duty, and if they refuse to do so he should inform the G. D. at the Sessions.

I think these letters headed "Reform" should now cease. I believe not a single particle of harm has resulted from the G. S. paying most of the drafts, and "Old Son's" letter would lead many to believe the G. S. has been almost committing a crime. I don't know of a Society that is run so carefully as our Order, and while I am in favour of changes for the better being agitated, I fear "Old Son's" letters will stir up a bad feeling in the Order, and cause many to think some crimes may exist when nothing of the kind, I really believe is to be found or is intended to be charged by "Old Son." I think you should not publish any more letters on this subject.

Yours in L. P. and F.,
THOMAS CASWELL, G.W.P.
Toronto, 10th Oct., 1879.

To the Editor,

SIR,—In your issue of the present month I notice a communication signed "Old Son," in which the writer complains of being assailed in a previous number by "Another Old Son," for some complaints he has been making in reference to the manner in which the Grand Scribe carries out the details of his office. The writer then goes on to make assertions and accusations such I suppose as drew forth the response to his previous letter. I have not seen that effusion, but if the present is anything like an echo of it, I believe it was entitled to severe censure. Aside from the merits or demerits of the statements contained in this latter epistle, I think "Old Son," who claims to have some experience in the working of our Order, ought

to be aware that the meeting of the Grand Division, when the report of the auditing committee on the Grand Scribe's books and papers is presented, is the proper time and place for the discussion of the points he raises, when I believe, all things being considered, due justice will be administered. Anonymous contributions such as his are neither manly nor fair, and are entitled to no notice from the Grand Scribe, while their whole tendency is to create disruption and disorder. This one in particular seems to have for its aim the undermining of an officer, who, by his earnest, continuous and energetic discharge of duty, for many years, has largely contributed to raise our numbers in Ontario from the handful to which it had dwindled when he took office, to be the foremost Grand Division in numbers and usefulness on this continent. From a long and intimate acquaintance with the Grand Scribe, acquired in the working of our Order, and from the courtesy and kindness with which he has met every inquiry, I believe that did any friction occur he would at the first hint, quietly given, apply himself to remedy the evil. The circulation of *The Son of Temperance* is not and cannot be confined altogether within our ranks, and I ask is it proper that the flare of publicity should be given to petty grievances, which even if true can be better dealt with in the privacy of our Grand Division. Were every member of our Order as injudicious as "Old Son," our local papers would become the medium of assaults on subordinate Division officers to such an extent that in a short time the dissensions would create general disruption. I have taken up my pen at the suggestion of a large number of leading members in Ottawa and vicinity, and have but repeatedly, but often more emphatically expressed with regard to this matter. Since writing the foregoing I have obtained the September number, and I see the G.W.P. explains the matter satis-

factorily by showing that owing to the illness of the Grand Treasurer the G. S. had been requested to temporarily perform his duties. I am, Mr. Editor, fraternally yours,

J. K. STEWART.

Ottawa, Oct. 16th, 1879.

THE PER CAPITA TAX.

To the Editor,

SIR,—While I like the general tone of the letter in the September number of your paper by "J. McM.," I confess I have no sympathy with him when he advocates a reduction in the per capita tax. I hope, however, that at the next annual meeting of the Grand Division this question will be thoroughly ventilated, and that it will be shewn to "J. McM.," and others like him, that a contribution annually of twenty-eight cents a member is not too large a sum to ask to carry on the affairs of the National and Grand Divisions and for other Temperance work.—

Yours,
OLD SON.

To the Editor,

SIR,—At the meeting of the York District Division, last week, it was decided that while it would be unwise to reduce the amount of per capita tax, yet it would be better if the same were more equitably distributed. It was suggested that a share be given to District Divisions to be used in local work. Such a plan seems likely to accomplish good. A District Division could employ men living in the vicinity to organize new Divisions and resuscitate dormant ones, thus benefiting the Order and the cause at a very trifling cost. A delegate from the Crystal Fountain Division, Brother G. M. Rose, expressed himself as "tired of employing highly paid lecturers. They delivered fine orations, but were away the next morning, and could not follow up the work by organization, as a person residing in the locality could do." During its next meeting the Grand Divi-

sion will doubtless take some steps towards the distribution of the capitation tax in a way which is likely to do the greatest amount of good.—Yours in L. P. and F.,

A MEMBER.

To the Editor,

DEAR SIR,—In last month's paper one of your correspondents cited the present position of the Good Templars as proof that a low tax would not be a benefit. Why, sir, with a 5 cent contribution that Order increased to nearly 30,000 members and an income of over \$6,000. The advisability of raising the tax was discussed in their Grand Lodge meeting, but they very wisely decided not to do so, but decided very unanimously to cut down their Grand Lodge expenses, and they have done so to the extent of about one half. Let us go and do likewise, and we will also reach a membership of 30,000. Our present system of spending the Grand Division income is unjust to the Subordinate Divisions. When the tax was raised by our Grand Division from 5 cents to 7 cents, it was on the plea that the 2 cents additional was for propagation purposes. Of late years the money has been always kept in one common fund, and the employment of lecturers depended on their being any money to spare, and instead of being the first consideration, it was always the last.

The scheme I propose is this, of the 28 cents per member which we now receive from the Subordinate Divisions, 12 cents shall be set apart for the payment of Grand Division expenses, viz. :—Grand Scribe's salary, Officers' travelling expenses, National Division tax, and sessional expenses. Should this amount not be deemed sufficient, let us put a curb on our generosity for the present, and wait until our income increases. 8 cents to be set apart for propagation work, under the direction of the executive, who shall employ a lecturer to go not where he pleases but if possible to be at the service of our Subordinate Divisions for special meetings. 8 cents to be

remitted to the Order to be used by their County or District Divisions, for the purpose of propagating the Order in their several localities. This last is where the strength of the scheme lies, for I believe that \$50 in the hands of the District Division of the County of York will in one year bring in at least five new Divisions and a membership of from 150 to 200. What can be done in one county can be done in another. The men who are on the spot know what is wanted better than those at a distance, they can also spend the money to better advantage, and when a new Division is organized they are near enough to it to be able to nurse and encourage it until it is able to stand alone and assist others in its turn. Let any of our members figure out for themselves what the result would be in one year in the jurisdiction under this system, and they will find that in a very short time our membership and income would be doubled, and besides, the Subordinate Divisions would be actually paying only a 5 cent tax on their membership, the obnoxious additional 2 cents going back to them and forming a fund to be spent by themselves under their own supervision. As it is at present, every cent they have to spare goes to the Grand Division, and they are without means at their disposal to inaugurate any movement for the advancement of the Order. I believe if our Subordinate Divisions get the opportunity they will avail themselves of it immediately. In action there is health, not only to the individual but also to societies, and the result will be strong, healthy Divisions instead of so many weak and sickly ones as there is at the present time. As our membership increases, and it is bound to increase under this system, our income will also increase, and we will have a larger income than ever at our disposal, whilst our Grand Division expenses proper need not be increased to any great extent. But whatever may be done at our next session, by all means let us know exactly

how we stand, and prepare to do our best to pay our debts and do our work systematically, according to our means. Your correspondent acknowledges that the Order is low at present. I know our expenditure has been in excess of our income, and it is absolutely necessary that a reform should be inaugurated in every department of the Grand Division. I blame no one but every one, we are all responsible, we have not done as well as we might have done, and we will be faithless to our principles and to ourselves if we fail to do our work as Sons of Temperance, honestly and fearlessly without regard to individual feelings or prejudices, but looking to the best interests of the Order now and always.—

Yours truly,

J. McM.

Bro. Carswell.

PRO. CARSWELL has been holding meetings in Milton, Hamilton, Dundas, Welland, Burford and Beamsville, lecturing on Temperance. The meetings have been well attended, and the brother seems to have lost none of his former popularity. Grand River Division, Brantford, desirous of giving him a financial benefit, invited him to deliver his popular lecture on "Laughter," and the Brantford *Telegram* of the 16th, says:—"Wickliffe Hall was completely jammed last night to hear Mr. Carswell lecture, about the best compliment that could be paid the lecturer, who is well known here. He handled his subject "Laughter" in an able manner, and kept the audience in splendid humour. Many of his anecdotes were told as only Carswell knows how to tell them, and were received with roars of laughter. Nor were his pathetic parts wanting in earnestness or simple language that enlists the sympathy of an audience. The mayor occupied the chair, to the satisfaction of the audience. Messrs. Fax, Klepper and Lee filled the programme with instrumental and vocal music. The silver collection taken up amounted to over \$30.

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Printed by Hunter, Rose & Co., Book and Job Printers, Toronto.