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JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

**GRAND DIVISION**

OF THE

**Sons of Temperance**

OF THE

**Province of Nova Scotia.**

At the Quarterly Session, held in the town of Liverpool, January 31st, 1849.

YARMOUTH.

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## Journal of Grand Division.

### QUARTERLY SESSION OF THE GRAND DIVISION.

Victoria and Queen's Own Divisions' Room, Liverpool, N. S., Jan'y 31st, 1849.

THE Grand Division of the Order of the Sons of Temperance of the Province of Nova Scotia assembled, Grand Worthy Patriarch, William Burrill in the chair.

G. C., A. M. Gidney made the usual proclamation, after which the Grand Division opened in due form.

Prayer by G. C., Rev. J. McMurray.

Roll of officers called.

Present:—G. W. P., William Burrill; G. S., John Tooker; G. T., J. B. Dane; G. C., Angus M. Gidney; G. S., James Starr; G. C., Rev. J. McMurray; P. G. W. P., F. W. Redding.

Absent:—G. W. A., Thomas O. Geddes.

G. W. P. declared J. McMullen G. W. A. *pro tem*.

G. W. P. declared the Grand Division ready for business.

Credentials called for and presented.

G. W. P. appointed the following Committee on Credentials:—brothers McMurray, Redding and Tooker.

The committee on Credentials made the following

### REPORT:

*To the Grand Worthy Patriarch, Officers and Brothers of the G. D., S. of T., N. S.*

The Committee on Credentials would respectfully report, that they have duly examined and find the following correct:—Jos. Burnaby, P. W. P.; Danson Kinsman, P. W. P.; and W. A. S. Blewitt, W. P.; Stewart Freeman, P. W. P.; M. Freeman, P. W. P., and Hiram Freeman, W. P., Albert division; W. S. Jacobs, W. P., Queen's Own division; Thomas Munro, W. P., Prince of Wales division; W. V. Andrews, W. P., Bridgewater division; James A. Smith, W. P., Paradise division; Joseph Randall, P. W. P., and Benjamin Gardner, W. P., Roseway division; J. E. VanBuskirk, P. W. P., Mayflower division; James Johnston, P. W. P., and Robt. McIntosh, P. W. P., Roseway division.

W. T. Douglass, no credentials—J. DeMoliter, credentials incorrect.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

In Love, Purity and Fidelity,  
J. McMURRAY,  
F. W. REDDING,  
J. TOOKER.

Report ageed to.

G. C. introduced the following brothers, who were duly initiated.

Joseph Burnaby, Danson Kinsman, W. A. S. Blewitt, Stewart Freeman, Malachi Freeman, Hiram Freeman, Thomas Munroe, W. V. Andrews, James A. Smith, Joseph A. Randall, Benjamin Gardner, J E VanBuskirk, W S Jacobs.

Report of G. Scribe was read and adopted.

G. W. P. appointed brothers VanBuskirk, Blewitt, and Freeman, Committee on G. Scribe's report. Also on Bye-laws and Appeals, brothers McMurray, Redding and Tooker.

Grand Division adjourned till next day at 10 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, Feb 1, 10 o'clock.

The Grand Division met pursuant to adjournment, and opened in due form.

G. W. P. in the chair.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Credentials reported the credentials of Charles Lordley, W. P., of Chester Division; W F Douglass, W. P., of Medway Division; George Armstrong, P. W. P., of Medway Division as correct.

The G. C. reported the following brothers in attendance, who were introduced and initiated:—Charles Lordley, W. F. Douglass, George Armstrong.

Brotlier Andrews presented a Petition from Bridgewater division, asking for a D. G. W. P.

Read, and referred to a committee, consisting of brothers Gidney, Young and Lordley.

Brother Gidney offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*,—That a Circular be addressed to all the D. G. W. P's. in the Province, requesting their attendance at each quarterly and annual session of the Grand Division; and also to report to them the inconvenience th's G. D. labors under in consequence of the Returns of the subordinate Divisions under their jurisdiction not being forwarded in time to be added to the G. S's. Report.

Resolution adopted.

The Committee on G. S's. Report, presented the following.

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the G. S., respectfully report that they have examined the same, and exceedingly regret that only forty-two Returns have been received out of sixty Divisions.

On examination we find that there are 767 admitted members; two have been suspended; six expelled; 13 violated the pledge; 6 reinstated; 1895 contributing members;—Cash received, £678, 13s. 3d.; Cash on hand, including monies invested, £583 8s. 2d.; per centage to G. Division, £33 8s. 2d.

In consequence of the imperfection of the Report, it must necessarily fall far short of the real number of members admitted, and the amount of the sums received and paid.

L. E. VANBUSKIRK.

W. A. S. BLEWITT.

W. S. FREEMAN.

On motion the Report was adopted.

The Committee on G. S's. acct., reported as follows:—

The Committee to whom was referred the account of the G. S.; respectfully report that they have examined the same, and find a balance in his hands of £31 2s. 3 1/4d.

L. E. VANBUSKIRK.

W. A. S. BLEWITT.

W. S. FREEMAN.

On motion the report was adopted.

#### REPORT.

The Committee on Bridgewater Petition reported as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition from Bridgewater division, No 55, asking that a member of that Division should be appointed to the highly responsible position of D. G. W. P. in one section of the County of Lunenburg, beg leave to report:

That they have taken the petition into consideration, and are of opinion that in selecting Deputies, care should be taken that no local, sectional, or sectarian feeling or prejudice should be aroused, and that they are strongly impressed with the conviction that one efficient Deputy for that County is quite sufficient. That the petition has emanated from only one Division, and that but recently formed, and we hope our brethren belonging thereto will see the propriety of

acting with due caution and prudence in a matter of such vital importance to the interests of the Order.

A. M. GIDNEY, Chairman.  
L. N. YOUNG.  
C. LORDLEY.

On motion the Report was concurred in.

Brother Young offered the following Resolution :

*Resolved*.—That the following copy of proceedings of the National Division relating to a General Relief Fund be addressed to all D. G. W. P.'s in the Province, and request them to forward to the G. S., before the next Quarterly Session of this Division, a Report of the decision of each Subordinate Division under their jurisdiction, relating thereto.

**RULE XXVI.**

*General Relief Fund.*

**SECTION 1.**—Each member of a Subordinate division shall pay into the treasury, by the usual course, on or before the first meeting in January annually, the sum of ten cents, which shall be paid into the treasury of the Grand Division with the April returns, accompanied by a list of members who have contributed the annual instalment; and the sum thus collected shall constitute a General Relief Fund.

**SEC. 2.**—This Fund shall be held in trust by the Grand Division, for the relief of worthy, sick and distressed brothers, who in the opinion of the G. W. P. or his Deputy for the District where application is made, shall have a claim on said Fund, under such regulations as the Grand Division may adopt.

**SEC. 3.**—When a brother from another jurisdiction is assisted from the General Relief Fund, the Grand Division granting such assistance, shall, through its G. W. P. and G. S., forward to the Grand Division under which said brother held membership, a correct statement of the case, when the former Grand Division shall be reimbursed out of the General Relief Fund of the latter.

Adopted.

The Committee on Appeals presented the following

**REPORT.**

Your Committee on appeals beg leave to report,

That they are unable to agree on the Appeal of Brother George Killam, and would therefore beg leave to suggest the propriety

of its being referred to a Committee of the whole body.

On motion Report adopted.

Read appeal of Brother George Killam, of Central Division, No 2.

Brother Gidney offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*.—That while we are of opinion that the Brother installed F. S. of Central Division, for the present quarter, should be permitted to hold office during the present term, that we are also of opinion, that in all future cases, in the event of one of the officers elect being absent on the regular night of installation, no other should be chosen for three successive nights, and if absent on the fourth night of the quarter, another should be elected, and forthwith installed.

Br. Jacobs offered the following in amendment.

*Resolved*.—That the resolution just read do lie on the table till the next quarterly session.

Brother Armstrong moved the following in amendment to the amendment.

*Resolved*.—That, while it is desirable that the officers of the Divisions should be installed the first regular meeting of each quarter, yet, if absent, it should be left to the option of Divisions to elect another person to fill said office or offices, on the first evening of every quarter, or to wait not more than three weeks.

Upon the vote being taken, there appeared—for the motion 15, against it 5.

Adopted.

On motion, Grand Division adjourned for one hour.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

Grand Division met pursuant to adjournment and opened in due form.

G. W. P. in the Chair.

Prayer by Grand Chaplain.

The Committee on Bye-Laws presented the following

**REPORT.**

Your Committee beg leave respectfully to report on Bridgewater and Lunenburg Constitution and Bye-Laws,

That each of these Divisions desires to make additions to the Constitution of the Subordinate Divisions, which Constitution having

been fixed by the National Division, cannot be amended by Subordinate Divisions, as thereby confusion would be introduced, and the uniformity of the Order be disturbed; nevertheless, the greater part of the articles referred to may be constitutionally included with the Bye-Laws of said Divisions. In the said Bye-Laws, and also the Bye-Laws of Queen's Own Division, your Committee have made such erasures as are constitutionally required, and with such alterations we report said Bye-Laws correct.

J. McMURRAY, Chairman.

On motion Report was adopted.

Brother Redding offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*,—That a committee of five be appointed to prepare Bye-laws for the Grand Division, and that brothers residing in Liverpool be chosen for the purpose.

Brother McMurray offered the following in amendment.

*Resolved*,—That a Committee of five brethren residing in Yarmouth, be appointed to prepare Bye laws for the Grand Division.

Amendment agreed to.

Brothers Gidney, E. Sterns, J. Tooker, Redding and E. Huestis, were nominated and appointed a Committee to prepare said Bye-laws.

Brother Armstrong offered the following:

*Resolved*,—That a Committee be appointed to prepare a Petition to the House of Assembly.

Brother Gidney moved in amendment,

That the consideration of the foregoing resolution be deferred till the next Quarterly Session in Halifax.

Amendment agreed to.

*Resolved*,—That the thanks of this division be tendered to Victoria and Queen's Own divisions for the use of their Hall during the present Session.

Agreed to.

Brother Jacobs offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*,—That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a Circular to be addressed to each division in the Province.

G. W. P. appointed brothers McMurray, Jacobs and Blewitt.

Brother McMurray offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*,—That as in connection with picnics and convivial parties there will sometimes arise circumstances painful to the feelings of seriously disposed persons, and as it is exceedingly desirable to enlist and retain in our cause the co-operation of all the wise and good, we therefore advise either that such parties of pleasure be not carried on under the auspices of any Division or Divisions in the Province, or else that they be conducted on such principles as shall prevent their being offensive to the consciences and judgement of pious persons.

On motion the foregoing resolution was directed to be embodied in the Circular to subordinate Divisions.

Brother McMurray, Chairman of Committee to prepare Circular to subordinate Divisions, submitted the following

### Grand Division Circular.

*To the Subordinate Divisions of the Sons of Temperance in the Province of Nova Scotia*

GREETING.

WE, the Grand Division of Nova Scotia, now assembled in Quarterly Session, deem it advisable to address the several Divisions under our jurisdiction, on some points connected with the interests of our Order.

It is with us a matter of thankfulness to Almighty God, in looking back upon the short period since the introduction of our Order into the Province, to see its rapid progress, its beneficial working, and the amount of good it has been instrumental in effecting. It is not yet 15 months, since Acadia Division No 1. was formed with 9 members, and although our statistics for the last quarter are incomplete, owing to the circumstance of one third of the Quarterly Returns not having been received, yet we are aware that we have now 60 Divisions in the Province, numbering but little short of 3000 members, and of these more than

one third have been added since our annual Meeting in October. Our Divisions like so many garrisons of well disciplined troops, are established in every town, and very many of the rural districts of our Province, presenting a formidable appearance before the common foe; and it is gratifying to us to reflect, that the prosperity of our cause in our own land, is but in agreement with the history of the Order wherever it has been established from its origin to the present time. Little more than 6 years ago the cloud arose small as a human hand, and now its pure white flakes, fill the horizon, giving promise of spreading over every civilized country, and of dropping in blessing on our fellow man of every clime. Nor can we sufficiently estimate its advantages and value by its extent, for the benefit it has been to a vast number whom other means have failed to save, and the attraction it presents before the public generally, thereby winning many, and especially young persons who but for this instrumentality would in all probability have been wandering in the path of dissipation, bring it before our view, as an institution designed by Providence for the accomplishment of a great work.

Nor are we to overlook the fact that previously to the introduction of the Order into the Province, the Temperance societies were very generally in a weak and depressed condition; but we trust that by our operations, new life has been inspired into the true friends of the cause. We are aware however that to this some exceptions are to be taken, that some who are very warm friends of Total Abstinence Societies, have not thought proper to unite with us, and in some instances, are led to view our efforts and our progress with jealousy and distrust—but for this we are not to blame, nor would we censure such, for the course they pursue, but would strongly hope that, when they become better acquainted with our

principles, and see the working of our organization, the most of them will feel it to be their duty to come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Let it be our care to encourage Total Abstinence Societies, to attend Total Abstinence meetings and to labor harmoniously with Total Abstinence men whether they are "Sons" or not. "The encouragement of every right Temperance effort under whatever name it may present itself, is but policy and duty, inasmuch as all are parts of a great common whole, and each may contribute to swell the tide which is destined to bear us on to a great common triumph." And while we justly regard our order as being the most complete and efficient form of the Temperance movement, we will show that ours is not a rival institution, or at all events, not intended immediately to supersede the Societies previously in existence, but that there is work enough for all to engage in, and that we are with them fellow helpers in a great and glorious cause. And we would earnestly recommend to all our own brotherhood, the exhibition of those principles of good will towards all classes of men, by which we profess to be governed; not denouncing any who stand aloof from us, or who bitterly oppose us, but endeavoring by a courteous and kind demeanor, to win them to our ranks.

The Grand Division have viewed with extreme satisfaction, the excellent tendency of our institution, in allaying political feeling, party excitement, and sectarian differences, and doubt not but that by a strict maintenance of our principles on these points, we shall be the means under the blessing of God, of uniting very generally the scattered elements of society together, and thereby of greatly lessening those differences on vexed questions, which have to a very wide extent divided and injured our happy Province. While we maintain individually our dis-

tinctive character and opinions—our feelings towards those who differ from us, have become widely changed by our association in this "fraternal bond," and while all expressions of a party nature are strictly prohibited in our Division Rooms, and while our intercourse out of doors with our brethren of all parties is affable and brotherly let us at the same time, as Sons of Temperance, carefully avoid identifying ourselves with any political movements or sectional difference, either by public addresses or otherwise, and let us studiously guard, in all public meetings connected with the Order against all allusions that might tend to excite party prejudices. If any of our Divisions or brethren have inconsiderately acted, or expressed themselves on questions of this nature, the Grand Division would take this opportunity of disclaiming in the name of our Order in the Province, all sympathy with such actions or sentiments.

Many objections are urged against our order, by those who do not understand our principles. Let us endeavor to answer them in mildness, and to live them down by a strict and practical adherence to our professions; and while some oppose us as antagonistic to Christianity, and as founded on an unscriptural basis, let us rebut such insinuations by faithfully exhibiting and maintaining the character of our institution, as growing out of, and being auxiliary to, the Gospel of Christ, acknowledging our entire dependence upon the Divine blessing for success in our good work. The Grand Division have observed with much pleasure, the introduction in the By-Laws of some of the Divisions, a formal recognition of evangelical principles, in connection with a regulation for the performance of the duties of the Chaplain, nor is it difficult to see that such a law could be framed, as would be in entire keeping with our position of neutrality on sec-

tarian grounds. We would earnestly recommend to all Divisions to have the reading of a short portion of Scripture, and prayer to Almighty God, by the Chaplain, as a regular part of the proceedings of our Division meetings, and that in the fitting up of Division Rooms, a stall or stand with a desk for the Chaplain be put up on the right side of the room, half way between either end, agreeably with the plan of many Division rooms in the United States, and which will thereby render such rooms the more convenient for the holding of Quarterly Sessions of the Grand Divisions.

We would also bring before your consideration the following resolution introduced by a member of the Grand Division during the present Session.

"That as in connection with public pic-nics and convivial parties, there will sometimes arise circumstances painful to the feelings of serious and piously disposed persons; and as it is exceeding desirable to enlist and retain in our cause, the co-operation of all the wise and good, we therefore advise, either that such parties of pleasure be not carried on under the auspices of any Division or Divisions in the Province, or else that they be strictly conducted on such principles, as shall prevent their being offensive to the consciences and judgment of pious persons."

The Grand Division would recommend to all the Divisions, a strict regard to economy in the management of their funds; as a course of extravagant expenditure, would prevent the carrying out of one of the great designs of our institution, in affording relief to afflicted brethren, and if Divisions fail in this particular, their energies and capabilities of doing good in other respects also, will be cramped, and our order proportionably cramped.

The National Division have in contemplation the establishment of a fund, to be entitled the General Relief Fund,"

for, the benefit of worthy, sick, and distressed members, especially such as may be in necessity at a distance from home. This fund is to be sustained by the payment by each member of a Subordinate Division of a small sum not exceeding 6d annually, such Fund to be held in trust by the several Grand Divisions. The National Division however, before the establishment of such a Fund, have referred the subject to the several Subordinate Divisions under the jurisdiction for their approbation or rejection. Your votes are registered on this question and the returns of the same are required to be forwarded to the Grand Scribe during the present quarter.

The Grand Division regret to have to say that there exists a great degree of negligence in forwarding the quarterly returns to the G. S. in making up the quarterly statistics. We would therefore recommend the careful consideration of this matter, to the several Divisions of the Deputies throughout the Province.

As the youth now rising up are "the men of the future," and it is of vital importance to check immorality in the young, to enlist and secure them in the cause of Temperance, and to prevent the foundation of evil habits during that interesting and susceptible period of human life, the Grand Division would therefore cordially recommend the opening, in every community where it can be done, a Section of Cadets of Temperance, that institution being, in our estimation well calculated to benefit in every sense, the youth of our land.

In conclusion, the Grand Division would urge upon all the members of our order in the Province ever to keep prominently in view the great object of our union. The cause in which we have embarked is good, the work lying before us is great, and the call for exertion is loud. Let us be faithful and zealous, relying upon Jehovah for strength and wisdom. Our order is aggressive. We should advance to do good. All our members should be active in promoting our glorious cause. If each one would but wisely and kindly exert himself to bring in even one during each quarter, how rapid would be our march and how great our triumphs. We are, by God's blessing destined to achieve mighty results, and although, the most sanguine expectations of the most ardent desirers and supporters of the order, have been greatly exceeded, yet we remember that we are but in our infancy, and that our future success depends upon a strict regard to Constitutional rule and usage, and a faithful maintenance of those great principles upon which our institution rests—"Love to our brethren in sickness and health—Purity of intention, strictly to carry out the object for which we are united, and Fidelity to the solemn and binding obligation, we have voluntarily taken upon ourselves."

On motion the Circular was adopted.

On motion to adjourn the closing ode was sung, and the Grand Division adjourned in Love, Purity, and Fidelity.

JOHN TOOKER G. Scribe.