

young, grave and gay, light-hearted and melancholy, to a cosy gossip. Condemn it as inhospitable! why it has the most abundantly spread table that eyes ever beheld, and is possessed of a thousand winning ways to tempt the fastidious appetite. Its arts of jelly-making is incomparable; its jecs are unsurpassable! Out upon all cavillers then! While Temperance can bring together, as it did on Thursday night, hundreds upon hundreds of happy mortals, and whilst it can furnish so excellent a receipt for driving away care, it must be regarded as the most pleasing, the most amiable, the most kind-hearted of censors!

The large room over the market place had been fitted up for the occasion with a splendour and excellence of taste which is creditable to the managers. There were banners of all kinds and characters, from the rational standard to the colours of the different societies whose benevolent designs do honour to the City of Montreal. There were besides devices exceedingly rich, and enclosing mottos appropriate either to the occasion or to the glory of the nation of which it is our boast to be a portion. The entire sides of the very long apartment were entirely covered with a succession of decorations of this kind, relieved by mirrors, and surmounted by the banners of which we have already spoken. In the interstices were arranged evergreens, which were also profusely placed in all appropriate situations. Giving brilliancy to this brilliant scene were three rows of wax candles running the entire length of the room, and imparting by their subdued light a proper tone to the whole. On the right hand side was arranged a platform for the speakers, who were to address the meeting, and around this platform, and on the opposite side, were placed the most gorgeous of the banners and devices.

The hour for assembling was seven, and shortly after this time the company began to pour in. As they entered, tea, coffee, &c. were handed out in an adjoining room. Having performed this part of the Temperance system, the visitors passed on into the saloon, where the band of the 85th were keeping up a lively succession of airs. The music kept every one lively—the tea made every one talkative—the decorations made every one curious—and thus what with looking at one another and looking at themselves every one seemed perfectly happy, and time slipped away rapidly.

At about nine o'clock there was a move towards the platform and the Rev. Mr. Esson, in a very eloquent speech, opened this part of the business of the evening. He was listened to with the greatest attention, for his language was exceedingly happy and his illustrations well chosen. There was something for the young Prince, and that was joy; something for his illustrious mother, and that was hope. There was a reference to the triumphs man has achieved, and a confident anticipation of greater that he is still to achieve. Then came a happy grouping together of all the joys of the evening—of the pleasure that required no unnatural excitement, and that was drawn from no other source than the healthful flow of spirits attendant on well-attuned minds and undiseased bodies. He was succeeded by others. There was a call for the Hon. the Mayor, and Mr. McGill accordingly presented himself. He was received with loud cheers, and made a most admirable speech, unaffected but hearty.

By the time the speaking was over the supper was ready,

and here was a fresh triumph for the Temperance people. The raspberry vinegar made excellent claret—the soda water was a first rate substitute for champagne! Although every one drank freely, no one (strange to say!) got tipsy, and for once and away we are sure that the ladies will concur that the gentlemen were remarkably well behaved.

In this way about a thousand persons passed a most pleasant evening together, there being an agreeable intermixture of all classes. Indeed, there was nothing exclusive about the entertainment, and all seemed to enjoy themselves equally. The only symptom of rebellion that we saw was once when the band struck up a lively tune, and then it certainly seemed to us that several young ladies and gentlemen made movement as though they meant to dance!

On the whole, nothing could have passed off better, although we fear we have written a very nonsensical account; yet, we can say, with perfect sincerity, that we have scarcely ever passed two or three hours more pleasantly than at the Temperance Soiree.

From the P. E. Island Colonial Herald.

P. E. ISLAND AUXILIARY TO THE NEW BRITISH AND FOREIGN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—The First Anniversary of this Society was held in the National School, on Monday evening last, the Rev. J. Waddell, President, in the chair.

After adverting to some of the difficulties with which they have had to contend, the Committee take notice, in their Report, of many cheering circumstances connected with the progress of the cause in the world, and within the sphere of their own operations. They advert, with much interest, to the testimony of the Hon. the Chief Justice in their favour, at the opening of the last Court, when, after congratulating the country upon the comparative absence of aggravated crime, he ascribes it, in a great measure, to the prevalence of Temperance operations. "The Committee do not arrogate to themselves, nor to their Society, all the credit that is due to human agency, under God, for this cheering declaration; but having been first in the field, and having long contended, single handed, in the service, they rejoice that their views have been adopted, and extensively and efficiently acted upon by others, who have brought into the field more force and more harmonious and concentrated action, and given an impetus to the work at which every philanthropist must rejoice." They advert with much pleasure to the entertainment in the Central Academy, in June last, provided by several of the Ladies connected with the Society, which they say was conducted with so much taste and skill as to delight all who were present at it, and to realise to the funds, from the proceeds, a very handsome donation—and they do not hesitate to recommend that something of the kind (on a more extensive scale, if possible) be undertaken every year, for the double purpose of bringing the friends of the cause into more immediate concert, and for aiding their funds, which are so much in need of replenishing. Still, they see need for more and vigorous exertion, and are anxious to enlist new recruits in the important service. They have circulated a large number of copies of their Prize Essay, and have still a large stock on hand, for present and future distribution, and they call upon the friends of the cause to aid them in putting them into circulation. They have distributed many tracts and papers, as well as advocated their principles in frequent public meet-