

On the 20th ult., the first annual meeting was held at the Victoria Mills; and the greatest number of people who ever assembled here for any purpose, were present. Able addresses were delivered by the Rev. Jas. Armstrong, William Edwards, Esq., J. P., and several other gentlemen.—Mr. Sheriffs, from Clarence, with an excellent choir attended, and added much to the interest of the meeting by their excellent singing. Several signatures were obtained at its conclusion.

The following persons were elected the Office-bearers for the current year, viz:—Jas. L. Gray, Senr., President, Messrs. William Edwards, Eliphalet Hardy, and Geo. W. Cameron, Vice-presidents, and the writer Secretary and Treasurer, and a committee of 14 ladies and gentlemen.—Our Society now numbers upwards of 180 members.

We shall probably soon be able to forward you some money for the *Advocate*, for distribution.

Considering the opposition with which we have had to contend, we consider we have achieved a victory over the enemy, and we are determined to prosecute the holy war with increased vigor. I remain, &c.,

G. LAKING PARKER,  
Secretary & Treasurer.

Brooklin, March 1, 1850.

SIR,—The Annual Meeting of the Whitby Association for the suppression of intemperance, was held in this village on Wednesday, the 6th of February; the meeting was rather a thin one; in the absence of the President, Mr. John Campbell was called to the chair. The Secretary stated that he was not prepared with any Report, as the Secretaries of the several Divisions had not furnished him with any materials from which to compile one, but he had reason to believe that, notwithstanding much coldness and apathy, our numbers had not diminished during the year. He lamented much this state of things, only one division having given in a Report previous to this meeting.

After a few remarks from the chairman, the meeting proceeded to elect Office-Bearers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows: Rev. R. H. Thornton, President, John Ratcliff, Secretary & Treasurer, with an Executive Committee composed of the Presidents and Secretaries of the several Divisions.

The late Secretary, Mr. L. C. Thomas, then proposed, that as we had no speaker of celebrity present, the remainder of the day should be spent as a social meeting, which was unanimously agreed to; the chair n then called upon several of those present, who, in succession, gave short and forcible addresses, condemning the drinking usages of society, and expressing a determination, on their part, to continue the warfare against King Alcohol, till these customs are utterly abandoned. A flattering account was given of the Sons of Temperance, who have organised three divisions in the Township, namely, at Oshawa, Whitby, and Brooklin; they have already been instrumental in reclaiming some who have gone far in the path of the drunkard, and many others are diligently searching for information, and seriously contemplating joining their ranks. It is generally believed

here, that they are more likely to be efficient organizations for reclaiming and retaining the reformed inebriate, as there is something at stake which is *not* in the ordinary Temperance Society, besides their intercourse with each other in their weekly meetings, have the very best effect on the future conduct of the reformed.

Since our annual meeting, several meetings have been held in the North-east part of the Township, at one of which no fewer than 50 joined, with a prospect of many more shortly following their example; this is encouraging amidst all the backwardness and apathy which has been felt here during the past year. Hoping to be enabled to send you a more favorable account of our proceedings at an early day,

I remain yours,  
JOHN RATCLIFF.

Weston, 9th March, 1850.

SIR,—I beg leave to lay before your readers an evil of the deepest dye, which cries aloud for redress,—an evil which demands the united efforts of all those who love their country and their God, and who estimate aright the value of immortal souls. I speak of intemperance in the use of ardent spirits. Although I expect to do little more than repeat what has been often repeated on this subject, still I hope that what I may say, may have the effect, through the power of God, of causing some wandering star to return to its proper and legitimate sphere. Oh! that I had the pen of an angel and the diction of a seraph, to aid me in this holy purpose. Intemperance is a crime of olden date: ancient Patriarchs fell before its withering blast, and it is still progressing with giant strides. And what, may I ask, will shorten the strides of this monster in this village? Nothing short of the combined and powerful efforts of our total abstinence men and women: let them awake to their duty and make one powerful and determined effort, to the best of their ability in this godlike work, and it will prosper.

The history of mankind, in our day, is replete with its widespread inroads; the Jails, Penitentiary, and Lunatic Asylums of this our country are fearful, but still truthful, mirrors, by which we can judge of its lamentable and distressing havoc. Can we, then, who profess to be total abstinens, beings who expect to be judged according to the talents entrusted to us, contemplate these things without being moved? Can we behold our fellow men gliding on in a state of almost insensibility to that place "where the fire is not quenched, and where the worm dieth not?" Our Brother's voice crieth with fearful meaning from the grave. It is our duty, then, to set forth the stern reality of the awful effects of intemperance on mankind.

More particularly, to the young men of this village, would I address myself. Beware, O young man! there is deadly poison in that cup which you occasionally sip; it may be very enticing, but its enticements destroy the body; it may be sweet to the mouth, but it is bitterness to the soul. But methinks I hear the young man exclaim: "Oh! I can take a glass without being a drunkard." So said numbers before you, men who were luminaries in the intellectual world; such as Burns, Sheridan, and a host of others, but they were