


are chiefly gin palaces? As for our cathedrals and great churches, we mostly have them locked up, for fear any one should steal in and say a prayer, or contemplate a noble work of art without paying for it; and we shut up people by thousands in dense towns, with no outlets to the country but those which are guarded on both sides by dusty hedges. Now an open space near town is one of nature's churches; and it is an imperative duty to provide such things. Nor, indeed, should we stop at giving breathing places to crowded multitudes in great towns. To provide cheap locomotion as a means of social improvement should be even in the minds of legislators and other influential persons. Blunders in legislating about railways, and absurd expenditure in making them, are a far greater public detriment than they may seem at first sight. Again, without interfering too much, or attempting to force a "Book of Sports" upon the people who in that case would be absolutely dull and lugubrious, the benevolent employer of labor might exert himself in many ways to encourage healthful and instructive amusements amongst his men. He might give prizes for athletic excellence or skill; he might aid in establishing zoological gardens or music meetings, or exhibition of paintings, or mechanic's Institutes. These are things which some of the great employers of labor have already set him the example. Let him remember how much his work people are deprived of by being almost confined to one spot and let him be the more anxious to enlarge their minds, by inducing them to take interest in anything which may prevent the "ignorant present and its low cares from absorbing all their attention. He has very likely some pursuit or some art in which he takes especial pleasure himself and which gives to his leisure perhaps its greatest charm; he may be sure that there are many of his people who could be made to share in some degree that pleasure or pursuit with him. It

is a large, a sure, and certainly a most pleasurable benefice, to provide for the poor opportunities of recreation or means of amusement as I have mentioned above. Neither can it be set down as at all a trifling matter. Depend upon it, that man has not made any great progress in humanity, who does not care for the leisure hours and amusements of his fellow men.

THE INDIAN CHIEF.

 The following beautiful story is literally true and was first published in a lecture delivered by William Tracy, Esq., of Utica, on the early history of Oneida County. It has been altered by some body, but we have not at hand the means of correcting the alterations, nor are they sufficiently important to greatly mar the beauty of the incidence as gracefully related by Mr. Tracy, whose fine pen, we would take this occasion to say, it is a reproach to him that he has suffered to lie idle so long:

One of the first settlers in Western New York was Judge W——, who established himself at Whitestown about four miles from Utica. He brought his family with him, among whom was a widowed daughter with an only child, a fine boy about four years old. You will recollect the country around was an unbroken forest, and this was the domain of the savage tribes.

Judge W—— saw the necessity of keeping on good terms with the Indians, for, as he was nearly, alone he was at their mercy. Accordingly he took every opportunity to assure them of his kindly feelings, and to secure their good will in return. Several of the chiefs came to see him, and all appeared pacific. But there was one thing that troubled him; an aged chief of the Oneida tribe, and one of great influence, who resided at a distance of a dozen miles, had not been to see him, nor could he ascertain the views and feelings of the Sachem in respect to his settlement.