

habits having been abandoned, her father might consent to the renewal of his visits.

It was the era of the Washingtonian reform, and the hearts of the philanthropic beat high with hope, as they saw the degraded and besotted drunkard throwing off his fetters, and breaking his allegiance to the destroyer, and with his own hand signing that second Declaration of Independence, the *Washingtonian Pledge*. It seemed that the Millennium was about to dawn on our benighted and sin-ridden world, and the songs of the redeemed take the place of the Bacchanalian shout, and the notes of thanksgiving from hearts before bowed down with sorrow, be substituted for the voice of revelry. No change seemed too great, no reformation too wonderful; and there were not wanting those who prophesied that ere long Alcohol would be banished from our shores, and we be freed from the curse, the wretchedness and misery of intemperance. But experience has proved that these were too sanguine; and that the car of reform, though destined to eventual triumph, must move slowly yet surely.

But to return. Julia attempted time and again to bring her lover under the influence of the Washingtonians, but in vain. He would not listen to their arguments, nor be prevailed on by their entreaties. "He could govern himself," he said, "he knew when he had taken enough; he did not drink for the love of the liquor, but merely for the sake of being social."

Undismayed by defeat in this attempt, Julia resolved to change her mode of attack; and accordingly, having drawn up a pledge of total abstinence from all that can intoxicate, differing somewhat in its form from that used by the Washingtonians, she solicited the aid of her younger sister, in attempting to persuade him to sign it. Ellen M., one of the most beautiful and gifted girls I ever knew, possessed that rare combination of energy, decision and prudence, which admirably fitted her for this duty, and she entered upon it with zeal. Seeking him at those seasons when he was least under the influence of alcohol, she portrayed, in language of the most artless eloquence, and touching pathos, the consequences of the course he was pursuing; the wretchedness he was bringing upon himself and his friends, and her sister's anxiety in his behalf. Aton she would change the subject, and paint, in vivid colours, the happiness of the reformed, the ease of reformation, and the bright hopes of the future which awaited him. Poor Henry at first refused to sign the pledge, but as she continued to urge upon him its claims, his stubborn heart relented, and brushing a tear-drop hastily from his eye, he affixed his signature to the instrument with a trembling hand.

Words cannot express the joy of Ellen M., at her success. She flew with eager haste to her sister, and exhibiting the precious document, exclaimed—

"'Tis done! 'tis done. Henry is free!"

Julia could hardly trust the evidence of her eyes, as to the fact of the signature; but having obtained from her sister even the minutest details of her successful efforts, she seemed at length to comprehend its truth, but the emotion was too much for her feeble frame; she fainted from excessive joy, and it was with difficulty that animation was restored.

For eight weeks Henry kept the pledge most solemnly. He remained at home, frequenting no longer the house of dissipation, but devoting his attention to the adorning and improving of his estate, which had suffered from his neglect. But he was not thus to escape from the snare of the fowler. The fiend in human shape, from whom he had formerly purchased the poison, had missed him from his accustomed haunts, and indignant at losing so valuable a customer, had resolved to inveigle him back to his old habits. For this purpose he repaired to his house one morning early, and proposed a fishing excursion. Henry consented, and the two sauntered along the banks of a beautiful stream, near the village, where they angled for an hour or more with indifferent success, when the rumseller pulling from his pocket a flask of brandy, offered it to Henry, observing that he must be thirsty. Henry declined, however, despite his repeated solicitations, and his own desire for the liquor, refused and quenched his thirst from the brook.

Defeated but not disheartened, T——, resolved to lay another stratagem. Accordingly, he directed his daughter to issue invitations for a large party, and to invite Henry G. among the guests. He furnished some choice wines for the party, and instructed his daughter to persuade Henry to drink with her. Actuated by the same demoniacal spirit with her father, she performed her part to perfection. She requested Henry to take a

glass of wine with her, and when he respectfully declined, she urged it strongly, and rallied him so much on his want of gallantry, that he, who never could bear ridicule, at last drained his glass. *That glass was his ruin!* It roused his dormant thirst for alcohol, and ere he left the house that evening, he was intoxicated. The next morning early he was found at T——'s store, calling for a morning dram, and the heartless wretch smiled fondly at the success of his stratagem.

Numerous attempts were made to induce Henry again to abandon his cups, but in vain. He plunged deeper and deeper into dissipation, and at length, some two years after, during a carousal of more than ordinary duration, he was seized with *delirium tremens*, and, in a paroxysm of the disease, put an end to his own life.

In one corner of the grave-yard at F——, may be seen two graves; the one that of Henry G., the other that of Julia M. When all hope of Henry's reformation had ceased, she began to droop and wither like the flower smitten by the breath of the tempest. Her disease had already made fearful progress, when Henry's death occurred, and in a short weeks after that event, she, by her own request, was laid by his side, the victim of consumption!

O ye, who by your magic smiles and frowns rule the world, be warned by this simple but true narrative, to wield your influence on the side of temperance, and not, like the fabled siren, to lure, by your enchantments, the unwary to destruction! T.

Abstract of Report, American Temperance Union.

Presented at the Anniversary of the Society, held in New York last month.

This document stated that the operations of the year were of no inconsiderable interest. The issue of *Journals* and *Advocates* had been much as heretofore; and by the publication of tracts, almanacs, small temperance books and scientific treatises, the Union are endeavoring to furnish the public with a valuable temperance literature. Several voluntary agents have lent their assistance, and the Committee have engaged Mr. J. P. Coffin, who has thoroughly explored several counties in the State of New York, lecturing and scattering abroad temperance publications, and obtained over twelve thousand signatures to the pledge. The tour of the Secretary with Mr. J. B. Gough the last summer through Central and Western New York; their united labours in the city of New York in the winter, and their subsequent visits to Trenton, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington and Richmond, Virginia—everywhere meeting with great kindness and attention, and finding crowded and attentive audiences, have been among the prominent operations of the year. The expenditure of the Committee the last year amounted to \$8,206, which they were enabled to meet by the sale of their publications, by donations, collections, &c.—they have also paid part of their debt of \$1600.

By the continued donation of \$100 from Orin Day, Esq. they have been enabled to send 200 journals monthly to Foreign Missionary Stations; and by the same sum from C. Bulkley, Esq., two hundred to Home Missions. Members of Congress, and Members of the New York Legislature, have also been supplied through the liberality of J. J. Knox, Esq.

Wherever they cast an eye, the Committee see an onward progress even amid all the adverse influences of the late Presidential election; and they view it as a subject of thankfulness, that the successful candidate in that election, in his first public tour and public movements, openly discarded all intoxicating drinks from his table.

Three new State societies have been organized during the year—one in Ohio, one in Indiana, and one in Illinois.

The Congressional Society has held no public meeting the past year; and only one Legislative society, that of Massachusetts, has been convened; and the people, in their local associations, have actively sustained the interest in the enterprise, and various popular lecturers have been listened to with an interest not surpassed in former periods. If the Washingtonian movement has spent its force, still its results are great and good. Multitudes of reformed men, standing firm to their pledge, are monuments of the goodness of the cause, and also efficient agents in its extension.

The press has everywhere been with us, and temperance jour-