

we may safely say, that the Rood Fair passed off most creditably; with the exception of a very few fellows, some of whom are the very scum of the police-court, scarcely a drunken person being seen on the streets on Friday. And this plain and unexaggerated statement must yield unalloyed satisfaction to those friends of the town, who, though far away, are continuing to cherish a deep interest in its welfare.

The morning of Friday was ushered in with the beating of drums, and the tolling of bells. About 10 o'clock the deputations from Annan, Lochmaben, and Dalbeattie, who had previously met, marched into town with banners flying, and a band playing; from that time to the termination of the procession, the town was on the *qui vive*, and whatever feelings of disrespect may have been previously entertained, they were immediately dissipated as soon as the procession itself appeared. Shortly after 11 o'clock, A. M., the bells again, by permission of the Magistrates, began to toll a merry peal in honour of the occasion. The members in the course of a short time afterwards began to assemble in the New Markets, the use of which was also granted by the authorities, where they were joined by the deputations from Annan, Lochmaben, and Dalbeattie; subsequently they proceeded to the field immediately behind the New Markets, where they were marshalled by Mr. Robert Love, who performed the duty which devolved on him in a most efficient manner. The phalanx now mustered nearly 400 strong, and the aspect which it presented was most imposing, each person being attired in his holiday clothes, and decorated with a white rosette—his feelings of enthusiasm glowed with intense ardour, and being under the influence of a mighty inspiration in regard to the moral grandeur of the enterprise in which he was embarked. The procession, as soon as arranged, marched from the field into town, by English Street. A multitude of flags were streaming in the air, bearing the most striking and appropriate mottoes. We select the following:

Scottish Thistle—motto, "Scotland will yet free herself from the withering curse of Intemperance."

Floral Crown, with motto, "Let the Maiden Crown be supported by a nation of sober men."

A Loaf, with motto, "Better to eat it, than to drink it."

Barley Sheaf, and motto, "Abuse not the fruit of Providence."

Sheaf of Barleys—motto, "And it shall be to thee for meat."—Gen. i. 29.

Not the least attractive part of the procession was a splendid phæton, generously furnished by Mr. Beck, coachmaker, English Street, richly decorated with flowers, and surmounted with the motto, "The Press! we hail it as the terror of the tyrant, the liberator of the slave, and the great promoter of the Temperance reformation;" and in which was a printing press, wrought by Mr. John M'Manus, pressman in the *Times* Office, aided by Master James Johnstone, apprentice in the same Office, and Master James Anderson, son of Mr. John Anderson, bookseller. The articles "thrown off" by the pressman and his assistants were entitled "Be wise in time," and "What are you laughing at?" and dispersed amid the countless throng which accompanied the cavalcade, and were grasped at and read

with a degree of eagerness more intense than that which actuates the veriest quidnunc when engaged in scanning the raciest passages of the public journals.

The Lockerby band was hired, and that of Annan volunteered its services on the occasion; and it is only justice to state, that they played several beautiful airs in a masterly style. This was the first procession of tee-totallers which has taken place in Scotland; and, from its novelty, the respectable appearance of the members of which it was composed, and various other circumstances which might have been enumerated, attracted great attention. The streets along which it passed, were lined with spectators, the windows also were filled with persons anxiously gazing on the scene; and, altogether, the "walk" may be regarded as having passed off with great eclat.

THE SOIREE.

The Soiree took place in the evening, in the New Assembly Rooms, which were crowded on the occasion, there being upwards of 800 persons present, comprising a great proportion of the youth, beauty, and respectability of the town and vicinity. About half-past 6 o'clock, Mr. Broom, the President of the Society, and the Committee entered the room, amid the most deafening cheers—indeed, their reception was perhaps the most enthusiastic that we ever witnessed. On the platform were Mr. Broom, Rev. Mr. Machray, Rev. Mr. Tucker, Mr. Beveridge, Mr. M'Lellan, and Mr. M'Intosh, Mr. Laing, preacher, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Wilson, Johnston, who headed the deputation from Annan. Silence having been restored, and tea having been served up, the Rev. Mr. Machray, minister of the Congregational Church, here, asked a blessing, and, the repast being finished, the Rev. Mr. Tucker returned thanks. During the evening the bands continued to delight the company with several of the choicest national airs; and the gentlemen of the Choral Society, led by Mr. Wright, teacher of vocal music, struck up the Queen's Anthem, after thanks had been returned, which had a very fine effect, all the company standing; and, betwixt the speeches, they sang, in beautiful style, temperance verses which were selected for the occasion—and particularly one composed by our townsman, Mr. Smith, teacher of English. During the evening, a liberal supply of fruit was served by the stewards.—The proceedings were conducted with the utmost propriety, and as they had no tendency whatever to becloud the understanding, awaken vicious dispositions, deaden the moral powers, or to rouse to the commission of acts of immorality, for no profane oaths, no impious jests, no impure sentiments were permitted to salute the ear, no scene was exhibited to excite rude and senseless merriment, no circumstance occurred to fill the heart with unsupportable anguish, and to drive it into a state of despair; but, the proceedings on the contrary, were calculated to expand the intellect, refine the feelings, regale the heart, and to ennoble in the scale of being, and it is to be hoped that they have led, upon an extensive scale, to the most beneficial results. The meeting, as we formerly stated, was most respectable, and we would state that the beauty of the female