

## HAD TEA AND COFFEE OR LEMONADE

been substituted for intoxicating liquors the affair would have ended as it began in an instructive and social entertainment.

## THE FOUR YOUNG DRAPERS.

About forty-five years ago Toronto was a small city. The largest dry goods or drapery establishment was kept by a Mr. M——, who did a large business and kept a number of smart and gentlemanly young men as clerks. Amongst the latter were four whom the writer knew very well, seeing them almost daily. Two of the four hailed from Old Scotia and two from the Emerald Isle. The two Irish were not the two lively ones nor the two Scotch the quiet and "cannic" ones. The grave and gay were equally divided between each country. For instance, J. Mack, from the "land o' cakes," was a good representative of his country—steady, cautious, thoughtful, a Sabbath-school teacher, and, consequently, a Bible student. W. Little, the other Scotchman, was the opposite of Mack in many respects. He was genial, social and fond of lively companions, especially those who were musically inclined. With such he felt at home, enjoying his pipe and glass of toddy, while he sweetly sang a Scotch melody or one of Burns' bacchanalian songs.

And now for the sons of Erin. T. Crew, like J. Mack, was reserved, studious and a teacher in the Sunday-school. Notwithstanding this he was of a lively disposition, fond of a well-timed joke, but always kept within the bounds of propriety. R. Maunt, we will call him, the last of the quartette, was thoroughly Celtic in disposition, hailing from the south of Ireland. He still retained the Munster accent and was very lively, impetuous, witty and genial. Like Little he was very fond of lively company, and was always welcomed on account of his oratorical ability and his patriotic and comic songs.

Such were the "Four Young Drapers" who commenced their business education with equal chances of success. But mark the divergence of their career in after life. Little, the sweet singer of Scotch airs, was invited to public and private parties on account of his good singing and social disposition. Burns' anniversary was not complete without Little, and at midnight or the sma' hours of the morning his musical and, by that time, mellowed voice might have been heard leading in the "Barley Bree:—

"The cock may craw and the day may dau,  
But we will lou the barley bree."

It has often occurred to the writer that there has been as much intoxicating liquor drank over Burns' songs as would float the "Great Eastern," and if Burns were permitted to re-visit this earth, especially on one of the anniversaries got up in his