

As the country became more thickly settled and the people more comfortable in circumstances, churches and circuits increased, and the camp-meeting seems to have become more and more a sort of yearly Feast of Tabernacles, where the people loved to gather for social religious intercourse. Forty or fifty years ago they were in their palmy days, and many wonderful scenes were witnessed at those meetings. There were times when saints and sinners were alike overcome by the mysterious spiritual influence which swept over the immense congregation like a whirlwind and prostrated the people like fields of grain borne down by mighty winds. Those were veritable Pentecostal days, the history of which is too well authenticated to be disputed, and is well worth study.

Grimsby Park is one of the few survivals, if not the only one, of the old-fashioned camp-meetings remaining in Canada; but the summer visitors who throng this pretty resort would never suspect that forty years ago a very different scene was presented to those who came to the spot for very different reasons. Indeed, as early as 1846, we are told, thirteen years before the first camp-meeting, a mammoth temperance meeting was held here. At that time the bank extended out much farther than it does now. Great trees stood over where the waters now ripple, but the waves gradually undermined the bank, and earth and trees disappeared, the shore receding year by year until a great change has taken place in the appearance of the water front.

This temperance meeting, which they called a "*soirée*" was held on the high bank in front of the home of Samuel Russ, Esq., which stood near the present Lake View House. There were long tables bounteously spread,