

were being established; Sunday drinking was becoming prevalent in many of our low taverns; all utterly at variance with our license law, and a great detriment to the morals of the community, and the peace and happiness of many a family. The temperance society at length became aroused to a sense of its duty, and, alarmed at the state of drunkenness in our midst, determined, as far as legal and moral means would permit, to prosecute each and every one offending and violating the law of the land; and for this purpose, our Amherstburgh society resolved itself into a committee of vigilance, to put the foregoing into effect, that they might stop this growing evil: and, that no undue advantage might be taken, they instructed their secretary to warn every one of the tavern-keepers that such was to be the course pursued by the society. Our secretary is very apt to call things by their right names; he, in his warning to the tavern-keepers, denominated the drinks they sold as "alcoholic drugs" and "virulent poisons," which raised such a storm about our ears, that I thought we should have been all the inmates of Sandwich jail by this time. Actions for libel and slander were talked of; hundreds of dollars were to be spent in bringing the society to condign punishment; even the poor secretary was talked of as the victim of the *horse-lash*; but all these commotions have at length subsided, and, I have no doubt, has had the effect of uniting the friends of the cause closer than ever; and they seem to have formed the resolution to show their unanimity when the pic-nic took place. Scarcely an advertisement had been stuck up to warn the community of its approach, but the watchword had gone through our ranks, and all eyes were directed towards it. The auspicious day at length arrived; the sun shone with unusual brilliancy, as if smiling upon the occasion. About nine in the morning, carriages and waggons began to arrive, loaded with the sons and daughters of temperance, whose countenances were beaming with delight, in anticipating the enjoyments of the coming day. About ten o'clock, the order of procession began to form in Ramsay street; first was the union jack, as the emblem of protection and loyalty; second, the flag of the Malden Society, with its trumpet-tongued angel proclaiming universal teetotalism and peace, along with the band of music; third came the Gosfield Society's flag, with the emblem of a barrel, and its end staved in, with its contents spilt on the ground, as unworthy of a place among merchandise; and last came the Wyandott Indians' flag, with its snaping turtle catching a snake; the turtle is considered the guardian of the Indian race, and the snake its greatest enemy, so that the meaning of the emblem is, that the Indians have triumphed over their great enemy, alcohol. What a happy sight it was to see so many of the Indians there! to see them who, not many years ago, could scarcely come to town, to transact their little business, without going away at night in a horrible state of intoxication, and grey morning has often found them in the ditches and holes by the way side! But I am digressing. The procession, which, I believe, numbered from thirty to forty vehicles, marched from Ramsay street through the principal streets, to the place of rendezvous before mentioned, which

was a beautiful bower, formed by some large trees on the south side, and poles with long branches strung upon them, forming a shelter from the scorching rays of a summer sun. All being quietly seated, John Sloan, Esq., was called to the chair, who called the assembly to order. A temperance hymn was sung, and the Rev. Mr. Phelps engaged in prayer. The chairman then, in a few brief observations, addressed the meeting, and concluded by introducing to them their old and tried friend, Isaac Askew, Esq., who addressed them in his usual happy manner, followed by Messrs. Borrowman and Graveline, in a few brief remarks.

Then came the dinner hour, when each family, with their friends, collected in little groups, and spread out their tables with refreshments, each furnishing its own, in regular picnic order; and I am sure, suppose the keen eye of an Addison had surveyed our tables, he would not have seen those diseases he saw lurking among the dishes that graced an English table, among ours—but all plain and palatable, in strict harmony with total abstinence.

Our repast being concluded, Mr. White, an Indian, addressed us in the Indian language, which Mr. A. Clark interpreted. The purport of his remarks were to the effect, that he hoped the day was not far distant when the white man and the red would see eye to eye in this glorious movement. He thanked the white man for coming and taking his red brethren by the hand, and leading them on to temperance and sobriety, instead of holding out the cup of fire-water to them, as the early settlers and traders did. Mr. White was followed by the Rev. Mr. Phelps, in a powerful address, illustrative of the great physical and moral evils connected with intemperance. He showed the effect of alcohol on the system, and the brain in particular, causing the utter prostration of every benevolent and sympathetic feeling in the human soul, corroborated by many facts that came under his own observation. Rev. Mr. Peden concluded the addresses with his usual perspicuity, in preaching a sermon from a text that is not to be found in the volume of nature; it is nowhere recorded by the pen of inspiration, but entirely a device of man—the text was this, "*Licensed to Sell Wines and Spirituous Liquors.*" He showed the immense preponderance of evil over the good, if any good could come from the traffic. He enumerated its deleterious effects upon society, and showed the ridiculousness of the law legalising the evil, and not rather protecting society against it: he concluded by urging the friends of the cause to more exertion. The addresses were all followed with appropriate airs by the band of music, which was led by Mr. Boyle, president of the Malden Society, to whose exertions the assembly owe a debt of gratitude for his indefatigable labours in getting up this band for their amusement on this occasion. After the usual complimentary votes of thanks, the benediction was pronounced, and the meeting broke up; all parties, no doubt, were delighted with their day's amusement. What a delightful spectacle it was to see upwards of 300 persons, of all ages, sexes, creeds, and opinions, assembled together, to enjoy themselves! and that enjoyment, too, unmingled by strife or discord, or any of those jars and contentions arising from