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The Saturday Evening Visitor ;

A Cheap Family Paper,

DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, EDUCATION, MORALITY, &c. &c

VOL. I.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1842.

NO. 6.

From the Montreal Transcript.

THE TEMPERANCE SOIREE.

The Temperance Soirée in honor of the Birth of the Heir Apparent took place in the large hall over the St. Ann's Market, on the evening of Thursday last ; it was one of the most splendid celebrations ever seen in Montreal. The coffee sipped and the usual number of recognitions, nods and smiles to the friends whom one found regaling themselves on the exhilarating article—over—on the company passed to the Grand Saloon, where the beauty and the fashion, as well as the worth and responsibility of Montreal, were assembled. Inside, at both sides of the entrance, the bands of the 55th and 23d, on raised platforms, were discoursing most eloquent music—and there was something like military precision in the steps of the crowd, which, three or four abreast, were marching in streams round the centre of the Hall. At the sides were placed seats and benches, where on entering, parties took refuge to prevent themselves from being swept into the current of promenaders. The room was quite full, but not too crowded, although containing probably not less than 1200 persons, all busily engaged in conversation, or in admiring the decorations of the apartment, or the still more agreeable and brilliant spectacle which was presented by the moving mass which met the eye on every side.

At the entrance was suspended the splendid Banner of the Mechanics' Institute, supported on either side by the United flags of the Montreal Light Infantry and second Battalion of Volunteers, and on the right and left the Bands of the 23d and 85th Regiments, in front of which were displayed Britannia and Scotia. At the head of the immense room was a fine transparency representing two families, the one suffering from the effects of Intemperance, and the other enjoying the blessings of Total Abstinence. This transparency was supported on each side by the Banners of St. George and St. Andrew. In the centre to the right was placed a large platform, decorated with evergreens, forming an elliptic arch, and directly over the chairman hung the British Arms, of exquisite beauty, tastefully arranged on either side were the splendid Banners of St. Patrick and the German Swan, and supported by the colours of the Light Infantry and 2d Battalion. Directly opposite the chair was a large pier glass surmounted by the Prince of Wales' plume, and on each side two smaller glasses supported by the British and Irish colours ; on either side of the plume were two beautiful transparencies, the one representing the Queen representing the infant Prince to Britannia, and the other emblematical of the Navy, representing the Citadel of Quebec in the back ground. Each of these transparencies was supported by banners. There were two other beautiful temperance transparencies, on the right and left of the grand centre arch supported by national colours, and the whole room interspersed with elegant pier glasses, handsomely decorated, and presenting a most brilliant appearance.

A small raised platform was on one side near the middle

for the speakers, surrounded with evergreens, with the arms of England gleaming from amidst their freshness. Probably the most interesting moment to a spectator who could see the whole room, was that before the addresses were commenced—when every one was animated and in motion—2 or 300 young ladies all in their gayest dresses, with their most bewitching smiles thrown on all sides to their numerous acquaintances—groups of more matronly dames seated looking on—young gentlemen of all degrees looking perfectly contented with their partners, or by threes and fours waiting for the favourable instant when the revolving tide should give them an opportunity of offering an arm to some acquaintance—the bands playing—a profusion of lights suspended in rows from the ceiling. But after some remarks, A. Buchanan, Esq. Q. C., was called to the Chair, which he filled during the evening with as much ease as he had been seated in his own parlor. Then followed Addresses—not delivered, however, without intermission, but interspersed with songs and music from the bands ; " Rule Britannia " was sung in fine style and encored, the audience joining with great enthusiasm in the chorus, and at the close giving three cheers and one cheer more for our most gracious Queen. We cannot help noticing the particularly happy speech from his Honor the Mayor. At ten the company proceeded to supper. As to eatables there were sandwiches in plenty, with cakes, jellies, apples and other niceness. The ices were very fine, the drinkables were soda water, lemonade, &c. The company passed in at one door and went out at the other, their places being filled up by new comers. About eleven when all had supped, the promenading commenced for a time in the Assembly room, and soon after all dispersed to their several homes. The Temperance Soiree will not soon be forgotten, nor soon surpassed in Montreal.

From the Morning Courier.

This entertainment came off as had been promised, and proved all—more even—than had been expected. The knowledge that it was to some extent an experiment, had doubtless stimulated the Committee in their efforts, and certainly they have succeeded most satisfactorily in establishing, that as a means of rational and really healthful enjoyment, the new principle is as powerful as it has shown itself to be in overcoming a selfish and degrading habit. Henceforth Temperance assumes a new and less severe character. It will woo us with the fascination and splendour it calls to its aid. It will court us with music—with the smiles of the loveliest and most noble of the sex—with the rustle of rich brocades, and all the splendour of costume—with the glare of the illuminated hall and walls hung with banners and rich drapery, it will tempt the eye with its luxuriance, and the ear with the delicate repast of sweet-tongued instruments. Under this aspect it is the most cunningly devised medicine in the world, tempting ear, eye, and taste, with its delicacies, and yet winning its way. Laugh at it as prudish ! why it is the pleasantest guest that calls together old and

young, grave and gay, light-hearted and melancholy, to a cosy gossip. Condemn it as inhospitable! why it has the most abundantly spread table that eyes ever beheld, and is possessed of a thousand winning ways to tempt the fastidious appetite. Its arts of jelly-making is incomparable; its jecs are unsurpassable! Out upon all cavillers then! While Temperance can bring together, as it did on Thursday night, hundreds upon hundreds of happy mortals, and whilst it can furnish so excellent a receipt for driving away care, it must be regarded as the most pleasing, the most amiable, the most kind-hearted of censors!

The large room over the market place had been fitted up for the occasion with a splendour and excellence of taste which is creditable to the managers. There were banners of all kinds and characters, from the rational standard to the colours of the different societies whose benevolent designs do honour to the City of Montreal. There were besides devices exceedingly rich, and enclosing mottos appropriate either to the occasion or to the glory of the nation of which it is our boast to be a portion. The entire sides of the very long apartment were entirely covered with a succession of decorations of this kind, relieved by mirrors, and surmounted by the banners of which we have already spoken. In the interstices were arranged evergreens, which were also profusely placed in all appropriate situations. Giving brilliancy to this brilliant scene were three rows of wax candles running the entire length of the room, and imparting by their subdued light a proper tone to the whole. On the right hand side was arranged a platform for the speakers, who were to address the meeting, and around this platform, and on the opposite side, were placed the most gorgeous of the banners and devices.

The hour for assembling was seven, and shortly after this time the company began to pour in. As they entered, tea, coffee, &c. were handed out in an adjoining room. Having performed this part of the Temperance system, the visitors passed on into the saloon, where the band of the 85th were keeping up a lively succession of airs. The music kept every one lively—the tea made every one talkative—the decorations made every one curious—and thus what with looking at one another and looking at themselves every one seemed perfectly happy, and time slipped away rapidly.

At about nine o'clock there was a move towards the platform and the Rev. Mr. Esson, in a very eloquent speech, opened this part of the business of the evening. He was listened to with the greatest attention, for his language was exceedingly happy and his illustrations well chosen. There was something for the young Prince, and that was joy; something for his illustrious mother, and that was hope. There was a reference to the triumphs man has achieved, and a confident anticipation of greater that he is still to achieve. Then came a happy grouping together of all the joys of the evening—of the pleasure that required no unnatural excitement, and that was drawn from no other source than the healthful flow of spirits attendant on well-attuned minds and undiseased bodies. He was succeeded by others. There was a call for the Hon. the Mayor, and Mr. McGill accordingly presented himself. He was received with loud cheers, and made a most admirable speech, unaffected but hearty.

By the time the speaking was over the supper was ready,

and here was a fresh triumph for the Temperance people. The raspberry vinegar made excellent claret—the soda water was a first rate substitute for champagne! Although every one drank freely, no one (strange to say!) got tipsy, and for once and away we are sure that the ladies will concur that the gentlemen were remarkably well behaved.

In this way about a thousand persons passed a most pleasant evening together, there being an agreeable intermixture of all classes. Indeed, there was nothing exclusive about the entertainment, and all seemed to enjoy themselves equally. The only symptom of rebellion that we saw was once when the band struck up a lively tune, and then it certainly seemed to us that several young ladies and gentlemen made movement as though they meant to dance!

On the whole, nothing could have passed off better, although we fear we have written a very nonsensical account; yet, we can say, with perfect sincerity, that we have scarcely ever passed two or three hours more pleasantly than at the Temperance Soiree.

From the P. E. Island Colonial Herald.

P. E. ISLAND AUXILIARY TO THE NEW BRITISH AND FOREIGN TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—The First Anniversary of this Society was held in the National School, on Monday evening last, the Rev. J. Waddell, President, in the chair.

After adverting to some of the difficulties with which they have had to contend, the Committee take notice, in their Report, of many cheering circumstances connected with the progress of the cause in the world, and within the sphere of their own operations. They advert, with much interest, to the testimony of the Hon. the Chief Justice in their favour, at the opening of the last Court, when, after congratulating the country upon the comparative absence of aggravated crime, he ascribes it, in a great measure, to the prevalence of Temperance operations. "The Committee do not arrogate to themselves, nor to their Society, all the credit that is due to human agency, under God, for this cheering declaration; but having been first in the field, and having long contended, single handed, in the service, they rejoice that their views have been adopted, and extensively and efficiently acted upon by others, who have brought into the field more force and more harmonious and concentrated action, and given an impetus to the work at which every philanthropist must rejoice." They advert with much pleasure to the entertainment in the Central Academy, in June last, provided by several of the Ladies connected with the Society, which they say was conducted with so much taste and skill as to delight all who were present at it, and to realise to the funds, from the proceeds, a very handsome donation—and they do not hesitate to recommend that something of the kind (on a more extensive scale, if possible) be undertaken every year, for the double purpose of bringing the friends of the cause into more immediate concert, and for aiding their funds, which are so much in need of replenishing. Still, they see need for more and vigorous exertion, and are anxious to enlist new recruits in the important service. They have circulated a large number of copies of their Prize Essay, and have still a large stock on hand, for present and future distribution, and they call upon the friends of the cause to aid them in putting them into circulation. They have distributed many tracts and papers, as well as advocated their principles in frequent public meet-

1839. They have opened a correspondence with their Parent Society, in England, and made arrangements for a direct intercourse with kindred Societies in the United States of America, the cradle of Temperance operations, and they solicit the kind co-operation of all who value their country's good, in their efforts to promote that which tends directly, so cheaply and so happily to the domestic and civil, moral and religious interests of the world.

HORRIBLE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOLIC DRINK—At an inquest on an unfortunate wretch, who, while in a state of intoxication, had committed suicide, Mr. Wakley, the coroner, thus bore testimony to the baneful effects of alcohol:—“I have seen so much of the evil effects of gin, that I am inclined to become a teetotaler. Gin causes me to have annually 1000 more inquests than I otherwise should hold. I have reason to believe that from 10,000 to 15,000 persons annually die in this metropolis from the effects of gin drinking, on whom no inquests are held. Since I have been coroner, I have seen so many horrors in consequence of drinking ardent spirits, that I am confident the legislature will, before long, be obliged to interfere with the liquors containing alcohol.”

TEMPERANCE.—Our physical well-being—our moral worth—our social happiness—our political tranquility, all depend upon the control of our appetites and passions, which the ancients designed by the cardinal virtue of Temperance. —*Rurke.*

A man was recently refused admission as a member of the Mechanics Association in Boston, on account of his being a distiller of ardent spirits.

Mr. Upham, Secretary of the United States Navy, has given instructions to the commandants of the several navy yards to supply the crews of the public vessels going on a cruise, with the Bible, one copy to each mess.

THE HERMIT OF NIAGARA.—In the year 1839, a well-dressed stranger entered the village of Niagara, on foot. He was apparently a young man, and had with him a flute, a portfolio and a book, which constituted the whole of his baggage. At first he took lodgings at a small Inn on the American side of the river, and afterward removed to a small cottage about fifty rods below the great fall. He became gradually very secluded in his habits, and in the end withdrew almost entirely from intercourse with men. He conversed enough, however, with those who approached him to show that he was a man of accomplished mind; he used several of the modern languages with fluency and grace; he was learned in the profound principles of science and art; he sketched and painted with accuracy and taste, and performed with an unusual degree of skill on various musical instruments. Having travelled over the greater part of Europe and the East, he was a lover of the sublime and beautiful in natural scenery. There were times when he would hold no communication with men except by means of a slate; he would go with his beard unshaven for several months together; his head without covering, and his body clothed in a coarse woollen blanket, he would seek the deepest solitudes of the desert; and often at midnight he might

be seen bathing in a small eddy just above the great cataract, or hanging by his hands and feet from a piece of timber projecting from the Trepian bridge, as it is called, some distance over the torrent. In the wildest and most tempestuous days, he would pass with a quick movement over the most dangerous places of the neighbourhood.

On the 10th of June, 1830, he was observed by the ferryman who plies below the falls, bathing in a favourite resort. It was the last time he was seen. His clothes were found where he had laid them, near the water, and a few days after, his body was taken from the river, below Fort Niagara. When an examination was made into his hut, his dog, who had so often borne him company in his secluded rambles, was found faithfully guarding the door. The cat was mewling quietly in his bed, flutes, violins, guitars and music books, were distributed carelessly about the room; but not a note or scrap of paper was discovered to give information of his history or his name.

It has since been ascertained that he called himself Francis Abbott, of England, and that he sprung from a very respectable Quaker family, residing in the neighbourhood of Plymouth. The reasons for his extraordinary separation from Society and his friends have never transpired. Whether he had become disgusted with the ways of civilized man, whether he was touched in the intellect, or had suffered a grievous disappointment in love, which is the interpretation given to his conduct by all the young gentlemen and ladies who visited this place—will remain, no doubt, unknown.

EFFECTS OF SINGING ON HEALTH.—‘A fact,’ says an American physician, ‘has been suggested to me by my profession, which is, that the exercise of the breast, by singing, contributes very much to defend them from those diseases to which the climate and other causes expose them.’ A music academy has furnished me with an observation still more in favour of this opinion. He informs me that he had known several persons strongly disposed to consumption, restored to health by the exercise of the lungs in singing. But why cite medical or other authorities on a point so plain? It appears self-evident that exercises in vocal music, when not carried to an unreasonable excess, must expand the chest, and thereby strengthen the lungs and vital organs.

The amount of exercise derived from the practice of singing is much greater than would be imagined by those not versed in it; and the fatigue incident to prolonged exertion in singing, is as positive as that which follows sawing wood or riding on horseback. During a residence of nine or ten months in Germany some years ago, we were much struck with the fact, that diseases of the lungs of all sorts are far less common there than with us. Is there any difference in the situation or habits of the people, to which this result may be ascribed with so much probability, as the different customs of the two nations with regard to vocal music.—*N. A. Review.*

GOOD COUNSEL.—No young man can hope to rise in society, or act worthily his part in life, without a moral character. The basis of such character is virtuous fixed principle; or a deep fixed sense of moral obligation, sustained and invigorated by the fear and love of God. The youth who possesses such a character can be trusted. Integrity,

truth, benevolence, justice, are not with him words without meaning; he knows and feels their sacred import, and aims in the tenor of his life, to exemplify the virtues they express.—Such a man has decision of character; he knows what is right; and is firm in doing it.—Such a man has independence of character; he thinks and acts for himself, and is not to be made a tool of to serve the purposes of party.—Such a man has true worth of character; and his life is a blessing to himself, to his family, to society, and to the world.

Aim then, my friends, to attain this character, aim at virtue and moral excellence. This is the first, the indispensable qualification of a good citizen, it imparts life and character to all institutions and interests in society. It is, indeed, 'the dew and rain that nourisheth; the fig tree by which we are shaded and refreshed.'—*Hawes.*

EFFECTS OF A NEWSPAPER ON INDIANS.—The following extract is from Mr. Catlin's recent work on the American Indians:

"The sensation I produced amongst the Minatarees, while at Upper Missouri, by taking from amongst my paint a picture of an old number of the New York Commercial Advertiser, edited by my kind and tried friend, Col. Stone, was extraordinary. The Minataress thought that I was mad, when they saw me for hours together with my eyes fixed upon its pages. They had different and various conjectures about it, the most current of which was, that I was looking at it to cure my sore eyes, and they called it the "medicine cloth for sore eyes." I at length put an end to this and several equally ignorant conjectures, by reading passages in it, which were interpreted to them, and the object of the paper, fully explained after which it was looked upon as a much greater mystery than before, and several liberal offers were made me for it, which I was obliged to refuse, having already a beautifully garnished robe from the hands of a young son of Esculapius, who told me that if he could employ a good interpreter to explain every thing in it, he could travel about amongst the Minatarees, Mandans, and Sioux, exhibit it after I was gone getting rich with presents, and adding greatly to his list of medicines, as it would make him a great Medicine Man. I left with the poor fellow his painted robe and the newspaper; and just before I departed I saw him unfold it to show some of his friends, when he took from around it eight or ten folds of birch bark and deer skins, all of which was carefully enclosed in a sack made of the skin of a pole-cat, and undoubtedly destined to become, and to be called, his mystery or medicine bag."

DUKE OF ATHOL.—The estate of the present Duke of Athol, Mr Colton informs us, 'is immense, running in one direction more than seventy miles. On his estate there are more than thirty-six miles of private road for a carriage, and more than sixty miles of well made walks, which are being extended every year. These roads and paths being made for pleasure, are laid through the most picturesque and romantic scenery; along the river's bank, up the glen, cut in the steep sides of the mountains and over their tops, and along the margin of the precipitous cliffs—now into the forest gloom—now opening on a boundless prospect, or

some sweet vale—now bursting on a waterfall, and next along the side of a murmuring brook. The father of the present Duke began in his lifetime one of the most magnificent palaces in the kingdom. It is said that in the estimates of the cost of the edifice, the single item of raising the walls and putting on the roof, together with the materials, would have been one hundred thousand pounds about five hundred thousand dollars.'—*For more than thirty years he has been in a lunatic asylum of London.*

THE FAMILY OF SIR WALTER SCOTT.—How vain are often our most cherished hopes and ambition! Sir Walter Scott expected and toiled to have found a family which he hoped would rival any of those of the border chiefs in the olden times. It seems now certain that the direct succession will not continue beyond the present generation. His eldest son has no family, the second has died in a foreign country without issue, and both his daughters are dead. Misfortune and death have lowered the crest of Aboltsford, and the halls which Sir Walter took such pride in rearing will scarcely ever again be trod by one of his children. The only survivor is now in India.

THE COURTESIES OF WAR.—In the midst of the firing a white flag being seen hoisted in the town, hostile proceedings were immediately suspended, and on a boat proceeding to the shore, the Indian mail, which had arrived by way of Bagdad, was handed to the officer with Suleiman Pacha's compliments to the Admiral. The latter, on his part, immediately forwarded a warm letter of thanks to the Pacha and accompanied it with a packet, which had been seized in an Egyptian vessel directed to Suleiman. Fire was then at once resumed.—(*Hunter's Expedition to Syria.*)

DERISION.—Insult not misery, neither deride infirmity, nor ridicule deformity; the first shows humanity; the second folly; and the third, pride. He that made him miserable, made thee happy to lament him; He that made him weak, made thee strong to support him: He that made him deformed if he has made thee otherwise, do not show thy ingratitude to thy great Creator by despising any of His creatures.

TEMPERANCE.—Near Jonesborough, Tenn., a few days since, a Total Abstinence Society was formed, and 331 persons, male and female, signed the pledge—among whom were some of the most intemperate citizens of the place, and one of them a dealer in ardent spirits; he signed the pledge—gave up his stock of liquors to the citizens for a fair value and set fire to the whole on the public square.

It was a good reply of Plato, to one who murmured at his reproving him for a small matter: Custom, says he is small matter. A custom or habit of life does frequently alter the natural inclination either to good or evil.

Vicious habits are so great a stain to human nature, and so odious in themselves, that every person, actuated by right reason, would avoid them, though he was sure they would be always concealed both from God and man, and had no future punishment entailed upon them.

If you will have a constant vigorous health, a perpetual spring of youth, use temperance.

THE VISITOR.

HALIFAX, N. S.

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1842.

We have copied some interesting notices of a Temperance Soirée, held at Montreal; the number which attended, the elegance of the decorations, the interest and harmony of the proceedings, make the occasion one worthy of particular notice, especially as the first Temperance Party on a great scale, which we have seen described in connection with the British Provinces.

The past week has been one of unusual interest in Halifax, as respects Temperance movements. We have copied in another part of to-days Visitor, the Secretary's report of proceedings at a Convention, and Simultaneous Meeting, held on Tuesday last: that great quality, union of sentiment and action, marked both occasions. Judge Marshall presided at the Convention. Several Letters were read from Country Societies, and interesting conversations ensued. A vote of thanks passed to the Chairman, who expressed his pleasure at seeing the zeal and unanimity which marked exertions in the cause, and his readiness to contribute time and means in behalf of the advance of religion and morality.

In the evening, the Garrison Chapel was crowded to overflowing, and much inconvenience was felt by many in consequence of the inadequacy of the building to contain all who wished to attend. Beamish Murdoch, Esq., took the Chair. The platform was occupied by several gentlemen, expected to take part in the proceedings,—ladies filled the side pews,—a dense mass of military sat along the centre, and in a line above them, were arranged several of the small red flags used in field exercises. These, simple yet expressive emblems of the military profession, had a good effect, and formed objects of reference to several of the speakers. There was a band of men, whose fidelity and firmness was proverbial, seated under banners raised in the cause of morality; sternness of resolution in maintaining their pledge, union with their fellow citizens, a noble avowal of the principles they had adopted,—seemed all indicated by that line of flags which, conspicuously but not ostentatiously, marked the centre of the meeting. Beside the flag supporters, military men in large groups occupied positions in the sides, and galleries of the building, and evinced the most excellent behaviour throughout the proceedings. The only breaches of order were from the over-pressure of apart of the audience, and some noisy and not decorous modes of expressing assent, in which the younger part of the Meeting indulged. On this being reprov'd in a gentle manner by the Rev. Mr. Crawley, who appealed to the boys as friends of Temperance, a very creditable acquiescence in his wish was immediately a part.

A choir of Singers gave the zest of fine harmony to the proceedings, and added much to the attraction of the occasion.

The assemblage was addressed by Judge Marshall, Rev. Mr. Crawley, Mr. McDonald, Rev. Mr. Dewolf, the Attorney General, Hon. Mr. Dewolf, Rev. Mr. Nowlan, Rev. J. Ross, and several others. The Speeches were brief, energetic, and highly interesting, and received deep

attention. We regret that our time and limits will not allow of a more particular notice,—we may make some comments on a few striking points in our next.

A vote of thanks passed to Mr. McGrigor, who has most kindly given the use of the building to the Society on a variety of occasions.

The meeting occupied about four hours,—the military men receiving leave to attend, after the usual hour of being confined to Barracks. At about 11 o'clock the proceedings closed. The night was unusually fine and bright; the groups of Military, in conspicuous uniform, hastening homeward, in orderly groups, at that time of night,—and amid hundreds of fellow citizens who wore a plainer garb, had a pleasing effect,—particularly when the occasion was recollected, and the contrast afforded to habits of former times.

On request of the Committee of the Halifax Temperance Society, several Reverend gentlemen addressed their respective congregations on the subject of Temperance, last Sunday; thus acknowledging the importance of Temperance as an auxiliary to religion; and testifying, by precept and example, to the wisdom of establishing associations for the suppression of vice and the furtherance of virtue.

The Lecture on the South Sea Islands, delivered by Mr. Brown, Secretary Hal. Tem. Soc., on Friday evening 18th inst., has been highly spoken of, as very creditable to the talents and principles of that zealous friend to the Temperance reform.

TEMPERANCE.—A Sermon was preached in the Granville street Chapel on Sunday evening last, by the Rev. E. A. Crawley, A. M., in reference to this important subject, from 1st Cor. ix. 25. "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." The preacher depicted in a forcible manner the numerous evils resulting from the use of intoxicating drinks, and in the latter part of his discourse, portrayed with a distinctness and energy, that must have carried conviction to every mind, the awful weight of responsibility that attaches to all who engage in the sale of liquors, whether in a less or greater quantity.—*Christian Messenger.*

The Treasurer of the Halifax Temperance Society acknowledges, with much pleasure, the receipt of Three Pounds, for the Temperance Mission Fund, from Wm. B. Turnbull, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer of the Clements Temperance Society.

A Temperance Meeting will be held in the old Baptist Meeting House, on Tuesday evening next, at seven o'clock.

A Meeting of the Members of the Temperance Harmonic Association will be held in the Old Baptist Chapel on Thursday Evening next, at eight o'clock.

B. W. COCHRAN, Sec'y.

The above mentioned Society has made some progress towards organization. Much is hoped respecting the choir. The prevalence of good feeling, and mutual yielding of opinion on minor points, are of great consequence.

CONVENTION OF DELEGATES.

The Temperance Delegates met in Convention on Tuesday, 23d inst., in the Garrison Chapel. The chair was filled by Judge Marshall—and Mr. W. M. Brown was appointed Secretary.

Seventeen Societies were represented by Delegates, and letters from many others were read by the Secretary, all expressing an earnest desire for the success of the cause, and for a successful accomplishment of the plans resolved upon by the Convention; regretting also that from the shortness of the notice and want of funds they could not send their Representatives to this Assembly.

The following Resolutions were then considered, some of which elicited very interesting discussions.

Moved by W. M. Brown, seconded by Rev. Professor Crawley, and

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide a medal, bearing suitable Devices and Inscriptions, for the Temperance Societies throughout the Province; to be worn by every Member at the meetings of the Societies and on other proper occasions.

That the Rev. Professor Crawley, Rev. Mr. Knowlan, Judge Marshall, B. Murdoch, Esq. and W. M. Brown be a Committee to select the suitable Devices and Inscriptions, and to procure the said Medals.

Moved by W. M. Brown, seconded by Rev. Jas. Ross, (West River, Pictou,) and

Resolved, That this Convention observes with much pleasure that County Conventions are sustained in some parts of the Province, tending greatly to the advancement of the cause—and they earnestly recommend the adoption of these in all the Counties in the Province to be held as often as may be convenient.

Moved by Rev. Jas. Ross, seconded by Mr. W. Faulkner (Lower Stewiacke) and

Resolved, That a respectful Memorial be presented to his Excellency Lord Viscount Falkland, signed by the Members of all the Temperance Societies, and other persons in the Province; calling his attention to the fact of Magistrates being engaged in the traffic in spirits—showing the number of persons so engaged, and the great disadvantages to Society generally by such persons holding said office; humbly soliciting that all Dealers in Intoxicating Liquors, wholesale or retail, be hereafter excluded from the Commission of the Peace.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Dewolf, seconded by Mr. McKenzie (New Glasgow), and

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to carry the foregoing Resolution into effect.

Resolved, That Judge Marshall, B. Murdoch, Esq. J. S. Thompson, and W. M. Brown, be that Committee.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Dewolf, seconded by Mr. J. McNeil, and

Resolved, That the Convention consider the *Saturday Evening Visitor*, (a Temperance Paper published weekly in this city and sent to the country at 5s. Ψ annum, post paid) a most valuable auxiliary, conveying information on Temperance—and consider it the duty of Societies, and individual Members of Societies, to give it a liberal support.

Moved by Mr. A. Fraser (Pictou), seconded by Mr. Wm. Faulkner, and

Resolved, That from the information received by letters from many Societies, and expressed by the Delegates, the Convention is convinced that great benefits have resulted from the Temperance Missions; it is therefore earnestly recommended to the several Societies, to adopt measures whereby they may realize an annual sum—to be pledged towards the support of two Agents and Lecturers; and make known as early as possible, the arrangements they enter into for the accomplishment of this desirable object and the amount they will furnish to the Halifax Temperance Society.

Moved by Mr. W. Faulkner, seconded by Rev. Mr. Ross, and

Resolved, That the Thanks of this Convention is due and now be tendered to Judge Marshall for his zeal and ability in the chair in conducting the business of this Convention.

The Judge then expressed that he had found much pleasure in witnessing the zeal and harmony which was so conspicuous in the discussions of the Assembly, over which they had allowed him the honour to preside—and stated his perfect willingness to give his time and means for the advancement of any Institutions which by their success would cause an increase of pure Religion and sound Morality among the sons and daughters of the human family.

The Members then separated, well pleased with the result of their meeting, and convinced that this Convention, though not numerously attended, will greatly tend to the further advancement of the cause of Temperance; to the happiness of the people of the Province and to the Praise and Glory of Him, who careth for and ruleth over all men.

W. M. BROWN, Sec'y. to the Convention.

SIMULTANEOUS MEETING.

The last Tuesday of February being the day appointed for Simultaneous Meetings of Temperance Societies, the Halifax Society met in the evening, at seven o'clock, in the Garrison Chapel.

A rush was made as soon as the doors were opened, and the house became crowded almost immediately; and upon Beamish Murdoch, Esq. taking the chair, the doors were locked to prevent further admission.

The Rev. Professor Crawley opened the meeting with prayer—then followed the National Anthem—and the following resolutions were received and passed by universal acclamation.

Moved by Judge Marshall seconded by W. M. Brown, and

Resolved, That the revival and extension which have taken place in the cause of Temperance in Nova Scotia within a short period, afford grounds for sanguine expectation as to its ultimate success and unbounded usefulness in promoting the welfare of society and the happiness of the people; and that we have abundant cause to offer our thanks and gratitude to the Almighty for thus seasonably prospering our efforts after a long period in which the hopes of Temperance men were depressed and the moral horizon heavily overclouded in our country.

Moved by Rev. Professor Crawley, seconded by Mr. H. Creed and

Resolved, That we consider the Temperance reformatory a valuable auxiliary to the progress of our holy religion, by delivering men from the shackles of vice which their evil

habits and idle customs have fastened on them, and restoring them to moral consciousness, to a sense of their accountability to God and man for their actions, and by reviewing in the human heart the sensibilities which the all wise Creator implanted there, but which either are deadened or perverted by a stupifying and debasing practice in the use of strong drink.

Resolved, That the real doctrines of the friends of Temperance are entirely in accordance with sound evangelical and apostolical truth and conformable to the precepts and spirit of the holy scriptures, nor is there any deprivation of Christian liberty in the practice or pledges of the societies in the Province.

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Knowlan, seconded by the Rev. James Ross, of West River, Pictou, and

Resolved, That we hail with sincere delight and gratulation the great moral miracle exhibited in the bringing in of millions of our fellow subjects to the Temperance ranks in Ireland, in which the Rev. Theobald Mathew has been blessed with being made so conspicuously instrumental as the Apostle of Temperance.

Resolved, That the large societies originated among the members of the Roman Catholic Church in this Province are calculated to have the best effects, not only with regard to persons of that persuasion but also by the influence of their excellent example upon all others, and we desire most earnestly that success may crown their well directed efforts in the goodly cause.

Moved by Mr. John McDonald, seconded by Rev. Mr. Crocombe and

Resolved, That in the present advancing and promising aspect of the Temperance cause, the countenance and active co-operation of the Clergy of every denomination in the Province is more than ever to be desired and is evidently an indispensable requisite to the full development of this beneficial reform; and therefore that while we openly avow our gratitude to the Rev. gentlemen who have already acted in concert with us and promoted our views, we trust that all others will now see that the time has arrived when they can no longer with propriety withhold their personal aid from a cause in which the affections of the most pious and virtuous of their flocks are generally engaged, but that they will take the earliest occasions that may offer to enlist themselves as champions and supporters of Temperance Reform in order that by the united efforts of Clergy and Laity the desired change may be brought about.

Moved by the Rev. Charles Dewolf, and seconded by Rev. Mr. Narraway, of Shubenacadie, and

Resolved, That the aid and favor of the female sex in general be still warmly solicited for the Temperance Societies; to them much of what has been effected is attributable, and by their gentle influence they may yet do much more to humanize and reclaim the erring sons of men from the dangerous habits that lead to or form the intemperate.

Moved by Mr. W. M. Brown, seconded by Mr. C. B. Naylor, and

Resolved, That the Temperance Societies are deeply indebted to the Proprietors and Conductors of the Periodical Press in Nova Scotia, for their unremitting kindness and benevolence in lending the powers of the mighty moral engine they superintend and controul, towards the advance-

ment of Temperance principles and sentiments, and that the Editors and Conductors of the Press generally be respectfully requested to continue their favourable action in behalf of the cause.

Resolved also, That it is the duty of the friends of Temperance to encourage in every way the circulation of the Temperance Paper, entitled, The Saturday Evening Visitor.

Moved by Revd. Mr. Narraway, seconded by Revd. Mr. Dewolf,

Resolved, That the success which has hitherto attended the Temperance Mission, encourages us to continue our efforts to send forth Lecturers to all parts of the Province, and that it is the especial duty of the Societies to contribute to the best of their ability to the Mission Funds.

Moved by Mr. J. McNeil, seconded by Judge Marshall,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Meeting are justly due to His Excellency Lord Viscount Falkland, for granting his patronage to the Temperance Mission.

Moved by Hon. Mr. Dewolf, seconded by Mr. C. B. Naylor,

Resolved, That the great accession the cause has received of Members from the Regiments in Garrison in Halifax is highly gratifying, and that the countenance of the Commanding Officers, and others in authority, which has facilitated this result, deserves our distinct expression of gratitude.

Moved by Hon. J. W. Johnston, seconded by Mr. R. Creed,

Resolved, That while we depreciate any coercive interference on the part of law-givers or magistrates in attempting to advance the cause of Temperance, and believe that men may be persuaded, while they resist compulsion, to change their customs or habits, that there are yet many modes in which wise legislation and government may be brought to bear favourably upon our cause, in removing obstacles that have been created in a less enlightened period.

Moved by Mr. Lawrence, seconded by W. M. Brown,

Resolved, That in a Maritime Province like Nova Scotia, the seafaring men who belong or resort to its shores, merit great attention, and that the Societies should everywhere direct their exertions especially to promote their reform.

Moved by Revd. Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. McKenzie, and

Resolved, That it is the duty of every true and rational friend of the Temperance cause, to suppress rather than to promote any contention and division by which the efforts of the supporters of Temperance may be disunited and consequently weakened, and that all should bear in mind that, in union is strength, in division is weakness.

The speeches were varied in their tenor and highly interesting, and four hours passed without uneasiness being exhibited by any present. The choir performed admirably, and flags were erected in the body of the church, under which were ranged in good order, and with seeming pleasure to themselves, about 100 military members of the Institution,—numbers of them were also scattered through the building. There was a large attendance of Ladies; and this meeting certainly surpassed all former Temperance meetings in the city—in the number and quality of the speeches, and the attentive and very orderly conduct of the whole audience.

W. M. Brown, Sec'y. H. T. S.

NATURAL HISTORY.

SCENE OFF THE CAPE.—The sea-birds held their holiday in the stormy gale. The lordly and graceful albatross, whose motion is a very melody, swept screaming by upon the blast. The smaller Cape pigeons followed as fast, passing and repassing across the vessel's track. At last one of them spies a fragment on the waters, which has been thrown overboard; a moment it hovers above, then plunges down. But the other birds have seen it too; and all, pouncing on the spot, move their wings confusedly, and seem to run along the waters with a rapid and eager motion. Now is there discord wild amongst them. A screaming and diving, swimming and running, mingled with a chattering noise. No sooner does one gain the morsel, than another tears it from him. Who will be the victor here? The albatross; for he sweeps triumphantly over all, swoops down, and with a scream, allures off the timid little multitude; whilst high above his head he holds his arched wings; and now in pride and beauty he sits upon the waters, and, drifting fast astern, gradually fades in the twilight.

What wonder that a sailor is superstitious! Separated in early youth from his home; ere he has forgotten the ghost stories of his childhood, and whilst the young and simple heart still loves to dwell upon the marvellous, he is placed in such scenes as these; in the dark night, amidst the din of waves and storms, he hears wild shrieks upon the air, and by him float huge forms, dim and mysterious, from which fancy is prone to build strange phantoms; and oft from aged sailors he gathers legends and wondrous tales suited to his calling; whilst the narrator's mysterious tone and earnest voice and manner attest how firmly he himself believes the story.

SAGACITY OF THE DOG.—A Correspondent at Cuddebackville, gives the following instance of the sagacity and attachment of the dog, which occurred a few days since in Delaware County, N. Y. :—

“A boy in sliding down hill was carried into the river, and conveyed by the current some distance below into a deep eddy. The eddy was frozen over with a thick body of ice. A number of neighbours collected and searched several days for the body, until, I think, the third day; being about to give up the search, one of them (Gen. Gregory) observed that a dog, belonging to the same family with the boy, had been almost constantly on the ice, and was always seen to lie down in a particular spot, and suggested it might be best to cut an opening in that place. It was done, and in a depth of four feet of water the body was found. Now, when we consider the depth of water, and the thickness and nature of the ice, (18 inches and very opaque,) the question naturally presents itself, by what sense did the dog discover the body of the child? It would be difficult to believe that any odour emanating from the body in that situation, could pass directly upwards through a current of four feet of water and eighteen inches of ice. The opacity of the latter would forbid the idea that it could have been discovered through the ice; and I can only conceive that the knowledge derived from some sense in these animals of which we have little conception.”

THE FAMOUS RACER ECLIPSE.—Such is said to have been the bad temper of Eclipse, that at one time it was thought impossible to bring him to the post. On this account he was placed in the hands of a rough rider in the neighbourhood of Epsom, and who being likewise a notorious poncher, worked him almost off his legs; riding him about the country on business during the day, and frequently keeping him out all night on poaching excursions. This treatment, although it quieted him enough to enable him to race, still never entirely subdued his indomitable spirit; and accordingly Fitzpatrick and Oakley, who rode him in almost all his races, never attempted to hold him, contenting themselves with sitting quietly upon the saddle.—All the best six year old horses of the year having entered against Eclipse for the King's Plate at Newmarket, O'Kelly offered to take ten to one he posted them, which being betted to an

immense amount, and the captain called upon to declare, he pronounced—“Eclipse I and nothing else,” for the rider of Eclipse having received private instructions to go off at score, double distanced the whole with the greatest ease, leaving himself without a competitor. And we believe that this was the last time any horse was seen to start against him, as he afterwards walked over the different courses for the King's Plates of the year without a single opponent.

CIRCISSIAN HORSES.—The Cubardian race is the most esteemed, and come of them would not disgrace a field day in Leicestershire. Ten pounds is the price paid here for a good horse, three to six for an ordinary one. The horses are, on the whole, a hardy and docile race, well adapted to the service in which they are employed, involving frequently, in forays and excursions, great privation and fatigue. The Circassians treat them with care, and even with affection; and though they are rarely seen to caress their children, they will kiss and fondle their horses; nor are they less solicitous about their winter stock than that of their families. They have all, to distinguish their pedigree, some marks on the haunches, a sabre, a horse-shoe, &c., and the proprietor of many a sorry hack exults himself by pointing to this evidence of its latent good qualities.—*Longworth's Year among the Circassians.*

INSTINCT OR REASON.—Mr. Colquhoun in his sporting volume “The Moor and the Loch,” gives the following instance of the sagacity of a favourite retriever:—“Having a couple of long shots across a pretty broad stream, I stopped a mallard with each barrel; but both were only wounded. I sent him across for the birds: he first attempted to bring both, but one always fluttered out of his mouth: he then laid down one, intending to bring the other, but whenever he attempted to cross to me, the bird left fluttered into the water: he immediately returned, laid down the first on the shore, and recovered the other: the first one fluttered away, but he instantly secured it, and, standing over them both, seemed to cogitate for a moment; then, on any other occasion he never ruffles a feather, deliberately killed one, brought over the other, and then returned for the dead bird.” This recital satisfactorily solves the question as to the reasoning faculties of the animal. Mere instinct would not account for such sagacity.—*Edinburgh Review.*

At the farm-stand of Mr. Douglas, of Kirkaldy, a hen lately took up her abode with a young pig. The hen, after sitting the usual period, walked out with the pig (she having as she seemed to assume, hatched him,) and she now goes about, cluck, clucking, with her four footed brood, and feeds him in the usual way a hen does her chickens. He lies at night with his head under her wing (being two or three times as big as herself,) and if any person attempts to touch him, she flies at them furiously. Sometimes, when going about the doors with her, he takes it in his head to waltz a dance, when she seems a little astonished, and runs backwards and forwards after him, trying to check his daffin, but in vain until it suits himself. He proves a most unruly and ungrateful fellow; for, notwithstanding all her care and attention, he goes off and leaves her sometimes, at which she appears to be very uneasy. She feeds out of the same trough with him, and when she gets a particularly good piece, she tick, ticks, until he comes and takes it from her.

CHINESE APHORISMS.—He who toils with pain will eat with pleasure.—No duns outside, no disease within.—Fortune is a domestic jewel.—Something is learned every time a book is opened.—To stop the hand is to stop the mouth.—Who aims at excellence will go above mediocrity: who aims at mediocrity will fall short of it.

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