



Crockerton Temperance Society

On New year's Day, the annual meeting of this Society was held at the Independent chapel, Crockerton. At half past five o'clock, tea was provided, to which 75 members and friends sat down. After the tea, a public meeting was held, for the furtherance of the Temperance cause, Mr Joseph Forward taking the chair. There were about 130 persons present. The Chairman, after explaining the nature of the meeting, called upon Mr Forward to address the audience. He spoke of the evils arising from the use of strong drink, and warmly invited all present to join the Society. Addresses were also given by Messrs. Shearn, G Forward, Portingal, Coward, Bell, Whately, Giles, and Bush, the majority of these being working men. They briefly related their experience since abstaining from intoxicating drinks, and some of the speakers advanced strong arguments in favour of teetotalism. Recitations were given by H. Coward and C. Payne, and a dialogue, entitled The Teetotal Clock, by J. Alexander and S. Coward. During the evening, several Temperance songs and melodies were sung by a few friends, accompanied on the piano by Miss Forward. The song "Come home, Father", was nicely sung by a little girl named Portingal. At the close of the meeting, 31 names were added to the pledge book. All present seemed much pleased with the evening's entertainment, which passed off with complete success.

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