

endeavoring to have a stop put to one of the sources of their misery, the desecration of the Lord's Sabbath, by the running of excursion trains during it. "Your Committee," our cotemporary adds, "cannot but mourn over two most lamentable features of this exciting controversy, namely, that the laws and the worship of God, and the spiritual welfare of man, both in this life and that which is to come, were practically ignored, as if man were like the beasts that perish, and might take for his motto, 'Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die.' Still, now that the storm of violence and excitement thus called forth has died away, your Committee can point to this, perhaps the most solemn and united protest of the United Christian Church in this country, as still standing, as it will long stand, at once an enduring witness against the covetousness of men who seek to make money by trading on the Sabbath Day, and a breakwater to prevent the waves of mammon and pleasure encroaching upon the Sabbath yet further."

CLOSING PUBLIC HOUSES ON THE LORD'S DAY.

Time will not allow us to do more than merely refer to the noble stand which has been made by the Churches and the community at large, to obtain the passing of a Bill for the closing of public houses on the Lord's Day, similar to that which has proved so beneficial in Scotland, under the appellation of Forbes-Mackenzie's Act, and not less so in our own Province under the kindly operation of the excellent Act introduced and carried through Parliament, under the auspices of our philanthropic townsman, the Hon. ALEX. CAMPBELL, by which the sale of intoxicating drinks is prohibited on the Sabbath. Respecting Mr. SOMES' Bill, which was not pushed to a third reading in the British Parliament, we have the following striking remarks from the eloquent pen of the Rev. Dr. GUTHRIE, in a letter addressed to J. A. WADE, Esq., of Hull:—

"We now see more clearly than ever the connection on the one hand between public houses and prisons, and the connection on the other hand between sober Lord's days and sober week days; and that though Acts of Parliament cannot endow men with virtue, make idle fathers industrious, or cruel mothers kind, they can do much, by removing temptations, to abate the drunkenness which destroys the peace of families, wastes hard-won wages, fills our prisons with criminals, our workhouses with paupers, and our ragged schools with the victims of parental cruelty and neglect.

"I have set the facts of the case before you, and surely Englishmen have too much practical good sense to allow themselves, with such facts before them, to be led blindfold on a course of opposition to Mr. SOMES' Bill by men in masks—anonymous writers in certain newspapers. I hope the good and true men of England will rise to secure through that Bill the advantages for their country which the Forbes-Mackenzie Act has conferred on Scotland, and which the facts I have stated prove that it has conferred on Scotland. It is lamentable to think of the millions of money that are spent, and of the thousands of lives that are sacrificed, year by year, at the shrines of intemperance; and when I think of the ruin it works both on the bodies and souls of its victims, the misery it entails on broken-hearted wives, and poor, innocent, helpless children, I cannot refrain from praying that God will bless the noble cause in which you are engaged, and rousing England in her might and to her