

or some other extreme military necessity, it is commended to commanding officers that all the work shall be suspended on the Sabbath; that no unnecessary movements shall be made on that day; that the men shall, as far as possible, be permitted to rest from their labours; that they shall attend Divine service after the customary morning inspection, and that officers and men alike use their influence to insure the utmost decorum and quiet on that day. The General commanding regards this as no idle form. One day's rest is necessary for man and animals. More than this, the observance of the holy day of the God of Mercy and of Battles is our sacred duty."

These deeds we received as tokens for good. Our hope however rose high at the intelligence of General Fremont's proclamation, placing the whole State of Missouri under Martial law, confiscating the property of rebels, and proclaiming freedom to their slaves. This action gave great satisfaction to large numbers in the North, and will be hailed with delight by the friends of liberty throughout the world. A joy however destined to pass away, soon as evoked, since it appears that the hand of President Lincoln has dealt a heavy blow to the cause of freedom, by countermanding Fremont's proclamation. The grief and mortification of millions at this will doubtless be intense. All things, however, are in the hands of a supreme Ruler who will guide all events, to the advancement of his own glory and the good of men. The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice.

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### THE FATHERS.

During this present month of September two venerable men have passed away who were among the very few links which have connected this generation with the fathers of Congregationalism in Scotland. It may be more than doubted if such fatherhood was at the outset designed. The Haldanes, Aikman, Ewings, Inneses of that day were members of the Established Church of Scotland. A clergyman of that church, joined by others who were awakened by the Holy Spirit to consider personal duty in relation to the great missionary work of the Church of God, conducted "*The Missionary Magazine*" during the last decade of the eighteenth century, with a view to stir up the Christian people to the claims of the world upon the church. Robert Haldane sold his estate in Scotland that he might proceed to India, accompanied by the minister just mentioned and others, and there preach the Gospel. Thwarted in his plans by the jealous restrictions of Government, he resolved to employ his fortune and to devote himself in propagating the word of life at home.

The opinion had been maintained in the *Magazine*, "that it is the right, nay, the paramount duty of every Christian who knows the Gospel, and is duly qualified, to preach it to his fellow sinners." This doctrine startled the prejudices of those who insist upon formal license by a church judicatory in order to this preaching. But, in accordance with this principle, Mr. James Haldane and Mr. Aikman, both laymen, but well qualified to preach, traversed the greater part of Scotland, publishing the "glad tidings" in barns and sheds, in the streets and at the market crosses, and in the highways, encountering, as might be supposed, the stern opposition of those, whether clerical or lay, who will not tolerate innovation upon established customs.