

worship men need, and turns that also into a day of merchandise. Do we need any other fact to convince us of the terrible selfishness of the human heart?

"Or take the case of the saloons. What right have they to open their doors in direct contradiction of the town ordinance forbidding it? And yet this ordinance is held by them in such contempt that this very morning as I came to this church I passed more than half a dozen of these sections of hell, wide open to any poor sinning soul that might be enticed in there. Citizens of Milton, where does the responsibility for this violation of law rest? Does it rest with the churches and the preachers to see that the few Sunday laws we have are enforced by them, while the business men and the police lazily dodge the issue and care not how the matter goes, saying it is none of their business?

"Who own these fruit stores and cigar stands and meat markets, and who patronize them? Is it not true that church-members encourage all these places by purchasing of them on the Lord's Day? I have been told by one of these fruit dealers with whom I have talked lately that among his best customers on Sunday are some of the most respected members of this church. It has also been told me that in the summer time the heaviest patronage of the Sunday ice-cream business is from the church-members of Milton. Of what value is it that we place on our ordinance laws forbidding the sale of these things on Sunday, and then violate the statute by buying the very things covered by the law? How far are we responsible by our example for encouraging the breaking of the day on the part of those who would find it unprofitable to keep their business going if we did not purchase of them on this day?

"Take the case of the Sunday paper, as it pours into Milton every Sunday morning on the special newspaper train. I defy any preacher in this town to make much impression on the average man who has come to church saturated through and through with sixty pages of Sunday newspaper, that is, supposing the man who has read that much is in a frame of mind to go to church. But that is not the point. The point is whether the day of rest and worship shall be like every other day; whether we shall let our minds go right on as they have been going, to the choking up of avenues of spiritual growth and religious service.

"Is it right for us to allow in Milton the occurrence of base-ball games and Sunday racing and evening theatres? How far is all this demoralizing to our better life?

"If this thought of Sunday is bigotry or narrowness, then I stand convicted as a bigot living outside of the nineteenth century. But I am not concerned about that. What I am concerned about is Christ's thought of this day. If I understand His spirit right I believe He would say that it is not a right use of this day for the men and women of this generation to buy and sell merchandise, to attend or countenance places or spectacles of amusement, to engage in card parties at their homes, to fill their thoughts full of the ordinary affairs of business or the events of the world. He would say that it is the Christian's duty and privilege in this age to elevate the uses of this day so that everything done and said should tend to lift the race up higher, and make it better acquainted with the nature of God and its own eternal destiny.

"This, dear friends all, has been my message to you this morning. May God forgive whatever has