

FORMS OF SABBATH DESECRATION PREVALENT.

BY REV. JAMES M'CAUL, B.A.

THE marked feature of our age is unresting activity. The race lives intensely. To keep pace with current events, a man must know almost intuitively—must think swiftly—must act promptly else he will soon be written a laggard, and be vastly outdistanced in the keen competition that prevails in everything and on every hand. Hence, as men make haste to win wealth, there is a powerful inducement to sacrifice the interests of others—and even their own best interests—in gratifying this ambition. Perhaps in no direction is this more keenly felt than in the insatiable greed that seizes some to get gold—to secure it at any cost—to gain it at any sacrifice.

It may fairly be questioned, I think, whether ever there was a period in the world's history when this characteristic held such dominant sway over the minds of men as it does in the present day. Against this spirit of our age, this temper of our time, the Church of God is solemnly bound to lift up her clarion voice. And this for two reasons. Because, firstly, she is commissioned to safeguard in every possible way the best interests of men, and, secondly, she is jealously to conserve the honor and glory of God. That both these are perilled by men yielding to the spirit of the age hardly needs proof.

On the one hand the tension and strain to which the human frame is subjected, in this ceaseless rush and nervous action of mind and body, will account for the number of lamentable suicides that continually shock society. It well explains the sudden break up and death of not a few overwrought and overstrained business and professional men. Here also is to be found one at least of the motives, that prompt men to violate the Sabbath law of a seventh day's rest after a six day's toil, the greed