

The question forces itself upon us here, and will not let us rest, till we give some answer to it. Are we to be content, with sending in earnest petitions year after year to Parliament, and receiving formal and polite replies to these petitions, but getting no substantial redress of the grievances and hardships faithfully portrayed and set forth in them? This will not, ought not, to satisfy us. We must have something more worthy of the government, and of the people whose trustees they are than this.

THE CURE.

The remedy which we most respectfully beg leave to recommend to the Government, for the removal of the inveterate and malignant malady of Sabbath desecration, is the following, viz.:—That a member of the Government, with the concurrence of his colleagues, influenced by the highest motives of deference and respect for the fourth commandment, (as the commandment given to man by the Almighty for His own glory and the good of his creatures,) with a sincere desire to promote the highest and best interests of the Dominion; should move the adoption of an address to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that he would be pleased to order the cessation of all secular labor in every department and office of Government, without exception, on the Lord's Day.

We believe that such a dignified, honorable course, in conformity with the law of God, and the municipal law of England and Ontario, would endear the Government to the people of Canada, and promote the happiness and prosperity of the country more, than any other that could be devised or adopted, because it would be virtually an act of humiliation and sorrow for past breaches of the fourth commandment, and of homage to God, as our Supreme Ruler and Governor, well pleasing to him. Besides, from the adaptation of the Sabbath to man's physical, moral, and intellectual constitution and wants; the dutiful observance of it, thus secured, as far as it could be by Governmental enactment, and effectually carried out, would naturally, and with God's blessing, necessarily, lead to these desirable results. In corroboration of these views it may be of use to mention here, that the select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, appointed by it to report on the propriety of prohibiting Sunday labor in the public departments of the Province, in 1853, adopted the following resolutions as the basis of their report.

1st. That in the opinion of the Committee, abstinence from labor on the Lord's Day is necessary to the moral and physical well being of mankind.

2nd. That the liberty of abstaining from labor on the Lord's Day is a natural right of man; and that any law or practice which compels him to labor on that day, is wrong and hurtful, and ought to be abolished.

3rd. That it is the high duty of every Government to set an example to the people under its rule, by the careful avoidance of all that is unjust or conducive to immorality; and that the compelling of its servants to labor on the Lord's Day, under the penalty of dismissal, being unjust, hurtful to public morals and uncalled for by any public necessity—such practice ought not to exist."

But lest our humble suggestion should not be received and acted on, we are glad we have another method in reserve. This we now proceed to lay before you.

When we were reflecting upon recent acts of Sabbath desecration of increasing virulence and daring some months ago, it was vividly brought to our recollection, that we had in our possession a letter received from the