

one-seventh of our time in regular order be set apart for sabbatical uses.

Candidly we must admit that circumstances may render it necessary to work on the Sabbath day. If our house takes fire on the Sabbath we ought to put it out if we can. If our child or our neighbor's is sick it is our duty with loving hearts and kind hands to render the ministrations needed. So Christ taught. But the alarming fact is, society has become so worldly, such lovers of pleasure, so intent on amassing wealth, so corrupt and irreverent, that this liberty is interpreted to mean we may do whatever is for our pleasure or profit. So the farmer justifies himself for sleeping Sunday because he is too tired to attend church; the visit and 'Sunday dinner' are planned because there is not time for them during the week; and for similar reasons the 'Sunday excursion' has its patrons and our 'Sunday letters' are written.

As society now is, the most potent force to bring about a proper observance of the Lord's day is a correct example seasoned by the spirit of Christ. This is forcibly illustrated by the example of one of a large company of conductors who were on an excursion to a Southern city. They arrived in the city Saturday night. Arrangements had been made to take an attractive trip the next day. In the morning this gentleman was noticed to be arranging his attire with more than usual care. A friend said to him, 'Of course you are going with us on the excursion.' 'No,' he replied, 'I am going to church; that is my habit on Sunday.' Another questioner was answered substantially in the same way. Soon comment and discussion followed. When this conscientious man, who had the courage of his convictions, started for the place of worship there were one hundred and fifty men to join him. In his inoffensive yet decisive way he honored the Lord's day and rendered it a great blessing to others. So every Christian in a Christlike way should give the people to understand that he keeps the Sabbath day.

Our observing the Sabbath is not religion, but religion soon ceases to exist where the Sabbath is not observed. The Rev. Dr. James Brand says, 'I hold the following propositions to be absolutely true: (1) You cannot have a Christian civilization with Christ and his precepts left out; (2) you cannot have Christ in our civilization without the Christian church; and (3) you cannot maintain the Christian church without the Christian Sunday. There is precisely the same reason for maintaining the Christian observance of the Sabbath on patriotic grounds that there is for the preaching of the gospel itself.'

It is said that the Christians in Corea, when Sabbath comes, place in a conspicuous position over their houses their little Coean white flags. These banners show just where Christians live who honor the Lord's day. It is a beautiful custom. That wonderful man, Gen. Gordon, often called 'Chinese Gordon,' at the morning hour of his private devotions placed a white flag just outside his tent. Everyone in his army knew he was not to be disturbed until it was removed and taken in. So the child of God should let all know wherever he tents that the Sabbath is the Lord's day and should be kept holy.

Brakes are used to keep the train from moving too fast and to bring it to a standstill when desired. So the Sabbath is designed to keep the world from moving too fast in its worldly and selfish tendencies, and bring it to a standstill one day in seven, that it may listen attentively to what God has to say, and render to him the worship that is his due.

While the general desecration of the Sabbath is appalling, there is much to encourage us to do our duty. Certainly the signal victory achieved in England in removing the Sunday newspapers should greatly cheer us on in our endeavors to secure the proper observance and sanctity of the Christian Sabbath.

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## What a Few Ministers are Saying.

REV. DR. POTTS,

Department of Education of the Methodist Church, Toronto.

I am sure that the influence of the 'Witness' in the future, as in the past, shall be emphatically on the side of temperance, morality, and religion.

REV. J. McG. MACKAY.

New Glasgow, N.S.

The hope of the Dominion rises as the readers of the 'Witness' multiply.

THE REV. JOSEPH H. BROWNELL,

Little Shemogue, N.B.

May the 'Witness' continue to stand for purity in the national life, for a healthy public conscience and an upright Christian life.

REV. G. R. LANG.

Minister Presbyterian Church, Olds, Alta.

The 'Witness' is a powerful influence on the side of all that is good. It is a daily visitor in my own home out here in the far west.

REV. PROFESSOR JOHN MACKAY.

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The Montreal 'Witness' has won the admiration of the world.

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REV. ROBERT JOHNSTON, D.D.

I know of no single agency that has done more than the 'Witness' has done in developing the things that are most worth living for in our Canadian life; in this respect it has made the nation its debtor.

REV. C. W. GORDON.

(Ralph Connor, of 'Sky Pilot' fame). Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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ant. And even within the crown, upheld by a spring like the rest, was a ring of diamonds which fitted the finger of the princess herself.

Oh, how many a promise there is within a promise in the Scripture, the silver round the gold, the gold round the jewels; yet how few of God's children ever finds their way far enough among the springs to discover the crown of his rejoicing or the ring of his covenant of peace!—Mr. D. L. Moody.