

The Necessity of the Sabbath to the West.

BY "RALPH CONNOR."

The General Secretary had written to Rev. C. W. Gordon, understanding that he was a Commissioner to the Presbyterian General Assembly at St. John, inviting him to give an address at the New Brunswick Lord's Day Alliance Convention, which met in St. John during the meeting of the Assembly. Mr. Gordon was unable to attend either gathering, but sent the following letter. It is a ringing message from a strong man, and we take the liberty of giving our 100,000 readers the benefit of it:

My Dear Shearer:

I am sorry to say that I cannot be at the Assembly this year. I find it impossible to get away. Had I been going it would have given me very great pleasure to have spoken on the subject you set before me, "The Importance of the Lord's Day to the West." I should have put it "necessity"—"the necessity of the Lord's day to a stable, permanent Western Empire."

You know that the great, the overwhelming danger to our West is that of materialism. Our magnificent resources in material things, our extraordinary development, the tremendous energy of our people, inducing keen competition and an intense struggle for material success—these things combine to make the rest of the Sabbath and its spiritual recall an absolute necessity to our highest development as a nation. It is hard for anyone not in the country to realize the tremendous pull that our western life exercises upon the spirit of any man of enterprise. The chances for making wealth are so many and so great. Examples of those who have made wealth are to be seen on every side, hence the temptation almost inconceivable to anyone not on the spot, to forget all things else than the making of a fortune is almost impossible to resist. What a blessing that the Sabbath intervenes between the weeks, making a little pause in the rush of life, and giving a little time to re-adjust the view, bringing eternal things into the present, and doing a little to enable a man to rest himself. If ever a country needed the Sabbath day, it is Western Canada; if ever there was a time when our West needed the Sabbath it is now.

I wish you every success in laying this matter before the Convention. If we are able to save our Sabbath, we have saved so much else in addition, our morality, our business integrity, our homes, our faith: if we lose our Sabbath, we can keep nothing else long.

With very kind regards,

Yours very truly,

CHARLES W. GORDON.

—Lord's Day Advocate.

Results of Examination: 1904.

General Assembly's Teacher Training Course.

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Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of Kirkwall, very acceptably filled the pulpit of the U. P. church, Galt on Sunday week. Rev. Mr. Gillespie, of Mausewood was the preacher last Sunday.

Rev. Mr. McWilliams of St. Mary's conducted preparatory services in Knox church, Woodstock last week.

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