

with the conditions, they need not; when the worker has only the alternative of employment on terms adverse to his wishes and his soul's well-being, or of poverty. For them no Sabbath comes as a sweet-day of rest. In their circumstances it is almost inevitable that the good impressions, and habits formed in earlier days should fade and lose their power. They have not the ordinary means for maintaining or renewing these impressions and habits. On the contrary they are brought into close contact with men of most worthless character, and temptations of many a kind. On the day they would have been with their families and in the sanctuary, if they had not been prevented.

*People of Canada!* On behalf of those who must wait and toil from day to day, and never enjoy an unbroken Sabbath, or else be deprived of situations on which they depend for maintenance;—on behalf of those by whom the loss of the Sabbath is regarded as no loss at all;—on behalf of your families and the rising generation; for our country's good; for the sake of the Lord Jesus and those who love his cause; and for the sake of those who care for none of these things, for whom He yet cares, whose salvation He seeks,—we entreat you to do all that you can do to strengthen the hands of those who are trying to procure for all, the possession and enjoyment of the Sabbath—one whole day in seven consecrated to devotion and release from secular engagements and toils.

The Provincial Parliament is about to meet. 1. You can petition the Governor General and the two branches of the Legislature for the authoritative abolition of Sunday labor in the Post Office department. 2. That all the canal locks shall remain closed from Saturday at midnight until Sunday at midnight. 3. That railway and steamboat companies shall be prevented from running trains and sailing their vessels on Sunday. Any intelligent man can draft a petition, which by the recent order must not be printed, but written fairly out from beginning to end, and with a very little trouble the whole neighbourhood may be induced to sign it.

Or a letter signed by as many as can be conveniently reached, might be addressed to the member of the county, town, or city, urging him to bring in, or support a law for the prohibition of Sunday labour, on terms like those enunciated.

And further—and until the contemplated reform has been effected, much good might be done by the formation of Sabbath Reformation Societies in every neighbourhood, and especially in the cities and large towns. In almost every village of the Province a branch or auxiliary of the Bible Society has been formed, while, as far as we know, the Kingston Sabbath Reformation Society, and the one at Toronto are the only assistants of their kind in the country. And yet, while undervaluing neither God's blessed word, nor the associations whose object is to circulate it, in the actual state of things, there is far more need for associated effort to promote the observance of the Sabbath than to cheapen and distribute Bibles.

Finally—Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.—Bless God for its institution and preservation. Let it be distinguished from the ordinary day in all your household arrangements. Prepare for it by doing all that may

be done before to lessen even necessary working in your house. Honor it by diligent observance of holy duties in your families and in the sanctuary. Seek to make it, and it will become not a weariness, but a delightful day, a blink of heaven's sunshine gleaming through the clouds that overshadow us here, and a foretaste and pledge of the "Sabbath that remains for the people of God."

For "The Kingston Sabbath Reformation Society."

P. GRAY, President.

J. MAIR, Secretary.

Kingston, March 15, 1861.

### Missionary Intelligence.

Beyond what we have noticed in our general review of the progress of religion, there is not very much at present to record. We subjoin whatever of interest we have been able to collect. We regret to observe that by last accounts, Dr. Duff's health is not at all strong.

**CHINA.**—MISSION OF ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The Rev. W. Grant, writes that it was recently his happy privilege to admit five new members at the last dispensation of the Lord's supper at Bay Pay. They have joined themselves to the Lord's people in the midst of no little persecution. One of the Elders lately ordained over the native church, had been removed by death. At Pechuia, several persons were manifesting an unusual degree of interest. Amidst these encouraging tokens, opposition was manifesting itself. At Swatow and Sat-hau-pow, hopeful appearances have rather disappointed the Missionaries. The Missionaries are longing for the raising up of an earnest native agency.

**TURKEY.**—MISSION OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA SCOTIA.—*The Home and Foreign Record* of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, contains a letter from the Rev. Petros Constantines, their Missionary at Constantinople. There are openings for Missionary effort, but Mr. Constantines, earnestly pleads for teachers; colporteurs, books, &c. as necessary means for carrying on the work. In consequence of the state of his health, he purposes to visit North America during the summer.

**SYRIAN MISSIONS.**—Notwithstanding the calamitous condition of the population in Syria, the Mission cause is not altogether prostrated. Mr. Ford, an American Missionary at Sidon says: "To all human appearance the political prospect is dark enough, but we look to God alone, and our trust in Him, enables us not only to pursue our work calmly from day to day, but also, to form plans for its future prosecution and for early occupation of any of the doors we see opening before us." He

mentions that at several places the attendance on the means of grace is on the increase.

**PERSIA.**—NESTORIAN MISSION.—The American Board have scattered over the mountains a native force of forty-eight preachers. There are about 1,400 attending boys' schools, and 500 the female schools. More than 300 Nestorians were recognized as church members, and several members have been gathered in.

**INDIA.**—In several parts of India, the work of Missions is advancing. At Sealkote, there has been a revival, chiefly under the influence of the established church of Scotland. About twelve of the officers of the army have been converted. Among these was a captain who had previously been an infidel, and during nineteen years had not been more than twice in church.—Once converted, this officer devoted all his influence to the conversion of others.

**JAPAN.**—THE FIRST PROTESTANT COMMUNION.—The chaplain of the American embassy gives the following account of the first Protestant Christian sacramental or communion season:

The interest of the day, and of the week of concert of prayer in Japan, reached its culmination in the evening, when the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered in the same room—the parlor it might be called—in Mr. Brown's house, where the concert had been held the evening before. It was so ordered that the same number of communicants were present as when He who instituted it himself presided over it. The still and solemn evening served to give it additional interest, if that is possible on any occasion, and especially when it was remembered that this was the first time the sacrament had ever been administered in Protestant form in the empire of Japan! The Catholics claimed, at one time, no less than one million eight hundred thousand converts, where not a single trace of Christianity, in any form is now to be found! In such a place was celebrated the first Protestant communion, January 15, 1860, three hundred years after the arrival of Xavier, and a century and a half after the expulsion of Christianity, and its extinction. Different was the Protestant mission in its origin, and will be in its appliances; and different may it be in its duration and results.

**MORAVIAN MISSIONS.**—This people, so distinguished for their self-sacrificing foreign missionary labours, it appears from their last year's report, are truly blessed in their work. The missionaries number 312, and reach about 73,000 souls. These stations are in most destitute heathen lands, such as North America, Greenland, Labrador, Jamaica, Thibet, South Africa, Australia &c. According to their report the past year, their contributions for the support of their missionaries amounted to \$300,000. The whole membership of this denomination is said not to exceed 20,000; this would give them an annual average of \$15 per member, an aggregate of free donations to spread the gospel in foreign and