

put to creation. God ceased to create, and then he rested. Man, too, must have his resting day, and it is no arbitrary appointment. It is a merciful and wise dispensation, and obedient compliance with it promotes health and lengthens life. Men cannot live long who are cheated of the resting-day. All history confirms this statement.

The Lord's day is the worship day as well as the rest day. We obey the original command by cessation from work, and we honour the Lord Jesus by employing the day of rest in his service. Happy are they who are "in the spirit on the Lord's day!"

All the day belongs to the Lord. The Papist may go to mass in the morning and to the theatre at night. The mere professor may spend his hour or two in the place of worship, and give the remainder of the day to feasting or pleasure-taking, or to talk about politics or self,—but the true christian will devote the whole day to the Lord, in getting good or in doing good. It is emphatically "THE LORD'S DAY," and the servant of the Saviour will occupy the hours as he would do if he saw the Lord overlooking him. And He is overlooking us.

In European countries, where the partial observance of the Lord's day prevails, New Testament religion is at a very low ebb. Formality stupifies some, scepticism infatuates and ruins more, and vice has free course.—Matthew Henry remarked, pithily and truly, that "the stream of religion will run deeper or shallower, according as the sabbath banks are kept up or neglected."

The committee advocates no rigid prescriptions. Christianity is a cheerful religion. But cheerfulness may be spiritual and holy. Christian pleasure must be consistent with Christian principles and prospects. Dr. Doddridge's epigram meets the case:—

"Live while you live, the epicure would say,
And seize the pleasures of the present day:
'Live while you live,' the sacred preacher cries,
And give to God each moment as it flies.
Lord in my views let both united be,
I live in pleasure when I live to thee."

Let our motto be, *The Lord's day for Christ!* The thinking—the reading—the talking—the acting—all the day—all the employment, for Christ!

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. CRAMP, Chairman.

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FOREIGN MISSIONS.

A Friend, Mt. Thom, Pictou Co. 5.00
Sheet Harbour Cong. 8.63

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