

May her decision influence the other cities, and may their united voices be brought to bear upon the Ontario Government to follow the footsteps of its younger sister, the Manitoba Government.

By some it is considered beyond the province of the Government to exceed what might be termed ethical legislation in regulating conduct and education. But is this not a very limited idea of its duty? As our Queen says, the permanent solidity of her empire is dependent upon the Bible. By its authority and principles she has sworn to govern her people. As a Christian community the whole fabric of our Constitution is based upon our recognition of God, as the Sovereign of the universe. From the Governor General downwards to the lowest office of State or police, each official is required before entering on his duties, "to be sworn in" for their faithful discharge. Yea, in a court of law, its procedure, and the rights and claims of parties are established by oath. But a witness who does not recognize God and a future judgment, is inadmissible. Surely, then, it is the interest, as well as the duty of the Legislature to educate the people to a proper sense of their responsibility to God, by maintaining the outward observance at least of His Standard Law, the Decalogue, from open violation, a Standard Law recognized as of Divine authority by all classes of Christians.

While we protect the Second Table in the interests of society by penal laws for transgression, the proper maintaining of the first is essential as the power and authority for their adjudication.

The idea that the march of civilization is tending to disenfranchise man from narrow-minded restraints, is not applicable to the Law of God. It is essential freedom. Its source and end is love.

Our advancing intellects should urge us the more to clear the way for a fuller development of its protective and beneficial influence.

TORONTO, 20th Oct., 1895.

Since writing the above, another judgment of the Court at Hamilton has been given, declaring that running the street cars on Sunday is not an infringement of our civil law. This affects not the question, whether running them is contrary to the Fourth Commandment of the Decalogue. It is only to be regretted that the laws of a Christian country are not sufficient to protect from any breach a plain, unambiguous law of God. Every effort should be made to change them.