

prohibiting the running of Sunday street cars has deprived not only those generally designated the "working classes," but a large majority of those engaged in business and professional callings of the most innocent and wholesome recreation that could be offered to the wearied frame and the over-strained mind. Overlooking altogether the divine admonition that "the Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath," the advocates of strict Sunday observance make the day of rest to many people a day of enforced weariness by debarring them from the fresh air and green fields and quiet, restful spots where every influence tends to strengthen, soothe and elevate mind and body. One of the most inspiring and ennobling sentiments is a love of nature and an appreciation of the beautiful and picturesque. Yet owing to a strange misconception of the spirit and tenor of Gospel teachings, tens of thousands are growing up in this city with this purifying instinct stifled and undeveloped for lack of opportunity to cultivate it. "The groves were God's first temples." He who lives near to the heart of Nature is not far from the kingdom of Heaven. If anyone possesses a spark of religious sentiment, a grain of faith in something higher and better than mere material pleasures and sordid aims, it will surely be called forth and strengthened by a day spent in the open air where all sights and sounds speak of rest and peace and harmony, rather than amid the dust and gloom and squalor of the crowded street. A free access to the lovely and fascinating scenes where solitude unbroken now prevails on the first day of the week, would make the people better morally and physically, would bring the color of health to many a pale and sickly cheek, recruit many a toll-worn frame and bring cheer and repose and gladness to many an overburdened mind. It is no extravagant use of language to say that in counteracting the deadening, depressing influence of the quarters in which many are unhappily forced to live and toil, it would be in the true sense of the word a religious movement and that the Sabbath would then literally become, as its Divine Founder intended, a real "day of rest."