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APPENDIX.

The following letter from Rev. T. Bone, Colporteur on the Welland Canal, (in reply to one addressed to him by the Secretary, and received while the Report is in the press), is published now, as it contains ample evidence of blessed results—social, moral, and religious—from his labors amongst sailors, lock-tenders, and others on that canal on the Lord's Day, in striking contrast to the miserable state of things on other canals where the Sabbath is sadly desecrated. It should encourage and stimulate ministers of the Gospel, all "who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity," and all who desire to promote the highest interests of their fellow-men, to use their most strenuous efforts, by petitions to Parliament, and in every legitimate way, to obtain the closing of all the canals of the Dominion, and the entire rest of the Sabbath for all sailors and others employed on them, to which rest all men have an equal and indefeasible right by Divine charter. Friendly editors are respectfully and earnestly requested to make known the facts widely.

Toronto, March 29th, 1870.

DR. MAIR, Dear Sir—I have taken particular pains to make inquiries from men engaged in various departments of our lake trade, as to their views on the Sabbath question—from the workmen who feel it to be a privilege to be on the Welland Canal on the Lord's Day, as it affords them rest of body, time to read, or go to a place of worship; from captains who have tried both working and not working on the Lord's Day, and their uniform testimony is, that the Sabbath-labor does not forward them ultimately—i.e., were they to continue passing through the canal on the Lord's Day as on other days, they would not make any more trips through the season, besides losing the temporal, moral, and spiritual benefit flowing from Sabbath observance; from lock-tenders, who state that when the canal was open on Sabbath there was a great deal more intemperance, profanity and disturbance of the public peace; then, a female would scarcely be safe to walk alone on the foot-path on Sabbath; now, they may be seen walking along quietly to Church, or Sabbath School, none making them afraid. Also, the moral character of the lock-tenders has very much improved since the canal was closed; yea, some are exemplary Christian men. One, for example, takes an active part in our Bethel services, and I believe would rather leave his situation than work on Sabbath. So that if our canals were opened on the Lord's Day, it would at once open the floodgates of vice, demoralize all engaged in the business, besides annoying those who sacredly keep the Lord's Day, and open a new source of temptation to the young to desecrate the Sabbath.

I never heard any merchant, miller, ship-owner or ship-master, complain of the hardship of having the canal closed; on the contrary, I have talked with some of our merchants who are largely interested in shipping, who have expressed their decided opposition to having the canal opened on Sabbath. Of course there are some who, like "the unjust judge, neither fear God nor regard man," who would wish to have it opened, as there are many who would like to do away with the restriction of locks and keys, that they might more easily rob people of their money.

BETHEL SERVICES.—We hold one regular service every Lord's Day afternoon, at 3 o'clock, during the period of navigation. The service is conducted as in the churches. After the sermon, we sometimes have a prayer meeting. The audience varies according to the number of vessels then in the neighborhood, and is not confined to sailors; persons residing near attend, the number averaging from 25 to 30. Besides service in the Bethel chapel, we have frequent Bible readings on board in the fore-castle. The number of vessels and pro-pellers last year was 1270; the number of tracts distributed, 33,000 or 100,000 pages; books, 1,423, including various instructive magazines; Bibles sold, 40; New Testaments, 23. Total 63. Given gratuitously—Bibles, Testaments, and portions of the Bible—290. The books are chiefly those of the Religious Tract Society, London. Eight persons have given hopeful evidence of conversion to God since May, 1868.

My visits are very highly prized. I meet with great kindness. The testimony of old lake sailors is, that there is a very marked improvement in the morals of those engaged on our inland waters.

With kind regard, yours affectionately,

T. BONE.

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