

"I will let people know that there will be no church in this townsite and then we'll see how many lots you will sell." The owner of the lots had a swift repentance, and offered as many as were required free. He had got hold of the idea and had suddenly learned the business value of the Church. Real estate would not be high in Sodom and Gomorrah that morning when Lot was escaping and the storm of ruin was rising over the cities that had dispensed with religion. That this is true is the business world's compliment and tribute to the Church. A few years ago when I was on a deputation to a legislature asking for a Lord's Day Act, one witty man who opposed it told a story to illustrate his statement, to the effect that the ministers wished to close up everything but the church so that people would have nowhere else to go. But another replied that he knew a certain district in the Western States where everything else was wide open and the church closed, and that the very man who had just spoken would not remain there with his family. So also the tourist who landed on a once cannibal island and in conversation with the old chief ridiculed the Church and the Bible underwent sudden conversion when he was told that but for the Church and the Bible his head would have been broken on a stone and his body,