

In other instances, people will go a mile or two to church, and spend the after part of the day with some friends in eating and drinking, and talking about all kinds of subjects, particularly business and politics. Any good received at church is soon forgotten. We would have our readers to remember, that to act thus is not "remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

In many parts of Canada, Sabbath is the great visiting day. We have sometimes been surprised at the number of persons whom we have found at friends' houses on Sabbath days. To say the least, *two* evils are often thus committed: *first*, neglecting public worship; *second*, causing others to do so.

Our space is limited, but we cannot forbear to remark, how that much injury is often done by *visiting the sick* on Sabbath days. Dr. ———, of ———, told the writer that he always dreaded the approach of Monday, as all his patients were sure to be worse on that day than on any other, and he could only account for such a singular phenomenon from the fact that sick-rooms are sure to be crowded on Sabbath. The following incident occurred in one of our circuits. A gentleman was returning home from Sabbath evening service, and seeing a great number of vehicles in the yard of ———, he supposed that Mrs. ——— had died. To his delight, however, he found the lady was not dead, but an unusual number of visitors had called.

Dr. ———, a good Methodist, told the writer that the Sabbath was his busiest day, and that he could not take office as class-leader, as he would be sure to be called from the class-room to attend some patient. Said medical gentleman was called out of church eleven Sabbaths in succession to attend cases of ailment that were said to demand immediate attention.

We ask, why do such things occur? People visit the sick on the Sabbath because it is the most convenient day. They dare not, for decency sake, plough their fields or stand in their stores on Sabbath, but they can visit the sick without any loss of business. How much do they value their friends when they will not sacrifice a few hours' business to visit them? Why do people call for medical aid more on Sabbath days than other days of the week? In many instances, we believe that they do so for the same reason that they visit more frequently on that day; hence we think, that if such sickness was to befall them on Monday, they would hardly deem it as sufficient reason to neglect their business, or call in a member of the healing art.

The Sabbath should be a day of religious enjoyment, not a day of gloom and sadness, nor of eating and drinking, nor visiting. There are many reasons to justify the choice. Therefore we would entreat our readers to use all laudable means to maintain the sanctity of the Sabbath. Let the cattle have rest. Do not compel the poor dumb brutes to toil all the week, and then run with fleetness on the day of rest. A foreigner once said that England was the hell of horses, and we have often thought that the remark is too true of Canada, so far as the Sabbath is concerned. Let our friends resolve, that no unnecessary visits shall be performed on that day, so that young people may not be able to point to the example of their seniors as a reason for their own conduct in seeking pleasure on the Lord's day.

E. B.