

Sabbath steamboat traffic produces much dissatisfaction, being persisted in in spite of protests and remonstrances of Christian people, who are greatly aggrieved thereby.

Another source of annoyance and crime is Sabbath shop-keeping. A joint committee of the Presbyterian Churches in Glasgow was formed to check this increasing evil. They call upon elders, missionaries and others to deal persuasively with those who keep open shops to give up this sin of unnecessary trading on the Lord's Day ; to impress upon parents the duty of teaching their children to keep holy the Sabbath Day, and to avoid making purchases thereon, etc. "All known to be engaged in the letting of shops and houses have been requested to make it a condition in all future transactions that no Sabbath traffic will be permitted on the premises." Some agents have consented to do this. Drinking in steamboats on the Lord's Day, Sabbath cab-hiring, and post-office work are all complained of and deprecated.

But let it not be supposed that there are no lights to relieve this gloomy picture. We are happy to say that the following incidents referred to in the Report are of a livelier hue. A number of working men in Dundee had a club for reading newspapers, etc. A motion was made to open it on the Lord's Day. It was lost by a vote of 300 to 14.

Again, in a candidature of persons for seats in Parliament, at the general election, testing questions were put by constituents as to views on Sabbath observance, to which there were some satisfactory replies.

Moreover, the Committee rendered efficient aid to the Lord's Day Observance Society of London in obtaining signatures to the memorial against the opening of museums, etc., on the Lord's Day. The success of these efforts has been referred to under a former head.

Your Committee cordially sympathize with the Committee of the Sabbath Alliance of Scotland in the sentiments and aspirations expressed in the following language in their last Annual Report. "The Committee feel that it would be wrong to give way to despondency or slacken in their exertions, for the cause is the Lord's, and He will assuredly defend and prosper it. And they cannot but feel that it would be specially dishonoring to Him to cherish feelings of despondency at such a time as the present, when a mighty wave of revival is sweeping over all Scotland and promising to swell more and more, till it reaches extensive portions of England also. It has occasionally been intimated in their Reports that their only hope of seeing Scotland return to her former love to and observance of the Sabbath was in a general outpouring of the spirit of God ; for the natural consequence of a man's being awakened to a sense of his need of the Saviour, and brought to put his trust in Him, is to beget within Him a deep regard for His word, His House, and His Day. And it is a well-known fact connected with every revival of pure and undefiled religion that one of the first outward manifestations of it has been a delight in "the day which the Lord hath made."

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

On the authority of the Rev. Dr. Begg, who recently returned from a tour in the East, it seems that in Bombay a number of native shops were shut on the Sabbath through the influence of Missionaries. In Egypt great consistency was found. Friday is the Mohammedan day of rest. On it the museums are closed by order of government. The reverse he found in regard to Englishmen. Their vessels were being loaded on their