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other Evangelical churches in Canada, for petitioning Parliament at its next session for the abolition of the labour and traffic, now so extensively prosecuted on most of the Canals in the Province, on the Lord's day.

The Committee would recommend to your Reverend Court to petition the Legislature in accordance with the suggestion contained in said communication; and also to instruct the several Kirk-Sessions and Presbyteries of the Church, to direct their attention to this very important matter, and forward petitions to the several branches of the Legislature, and otherwise take such steps to promote the object in view, as to them may seem advisable.

In conclusion, feeling that in the Scriptural Observance of the Sabbath, are combined, in a peculiar manner, the glory of God and the best interests of men, temporal and eternal, the Committee submit that the respect paid to the Sabbath throughout the Province may be regarded as a fair indication of the respect generally rendered to the several other commandments of God, contained in both tables of the law.

Where Sabbath desecration prevails, evidence is thereby afforded that the glory of God is disregarded, the divine authority of his word despised, and those means of grace neglected which the necessities of man's physical and moral nature most urgently require, and which, by the wise and gracious appointment of God, conduce most powerfully to the welfare of men in all their relationships to time and to eternity—to the advancement of religion in connection with the church of Christ, and to the peace and material prosperity of the country and the world at large.

With these convictions, and feeling that Sabbath desecration prevails at present throughout the Province, to a great extent, the Committee would respectfully urge upon the attention of your Reverend Court the importance of exercising its influence and authority in behalf of the Scriptural observance of the Sabbath, so as to avert from the Church and from the country the evils that result and the dangers that may be apprehended, from the continuance or farther progress of this sin, and so to secure the blessings promised by God to those who remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. BAIN.

Convener.

APPENDIX J.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools, in accordance with the instructions of the Synod, have sought to obtain statistical and other information in connection with this subject.

In the beginning of January last, the Committee addressed a circular to every minister and missionary connected with the Synod, and to various other friends of Sabbath Schools.

In answer to this circular, replies have been received from 47 Sabbath Schools. The number of scholars attending these schools is 3,712 who are taught by 409 teachers (184 male and 225 female.) There are in addition 202 attending Bible classes. An increase of 215 on the attendance of the previous year is reported.

Nearly all the schools have libraries—a very important and beneficial part of the machinery of Sabbath Schools. It is gratifying to know that a large proportion of the library books consist of publications