

# THE HOMILETIC REVIEW.

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## REVIEW SECTION.

### I.—THE CONNECTING LINKS BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE, OR MARRIAGE, SUNDAY, PUBLIC SCHOOL.

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A TOTAL separation of Church and State is an impossibility, unless we cease to be a Christian people.

There are three interests and institutions which belong to both Church and State, and must be maintained and regulated by both. These are Monogamy in marriage, the weekly Day of Rest, and the Public School. Here the American government and national sentiment have so far decidedly protected the principles and institutions of Christianity as essential elements in our conception of civilized society.

I. MONOGAMY, according to the unanimous sentiment of all Christian nations, is the only normal and legitimate form of marriage. It has been maintained by Congress, with the approval of the nation, in its prohibitory legislation against the new Mohammedanism in Utah, and the Supreme Court of the United States, the highest tribunal of our laws, has sanctioned the prohibition of polygamy as constitutional. The Mormons have to submit, or to emigrate to more congenial climes. All the States uphold monogamy; but some of them unfortunately are very loose on the subject of divorce, and a reform of legislation in conformity to the law of Christ is highly necessary for the safety and prosperity of the family. It is to the honor of the Roman Catholic church in our country that she upholds the sanctity of the marriage tie.

II. The CHRISTIAN SABBATH or weekly day of rest is likewise protected by legislation, and justly so, because it has a civil as well as a religious side; it is necessary and profitable for the body as well as for the soul; it is of special benefit to the laboring classes and guards them against the tyranny of capital. The Sabbath ante-dates the Mosaic legislation and is, like the family, founded in the original constitution of man, for whose temporal and spiritual benefit it was instituted by the God of creation.

The Federal Constitution, in deference to the national sentiment, incidentally recognizes Sunday by the clause (Art I, Sect. 7): "If any