

perishing for lack of knowledge—without understanding this, that they have a spiritual nature underlying their physical nature which needs above all else fit food to meet the craving of its hunger.

We have heard American preachers cry out against the continental Sabbath. Alas! the continental Sabbath has to a very large extent been Americanized. And we in our land must set watch and keep guard against its stealing in upon us. We must do all that in us lies to protect our Sabbath-day's rest from being encroached upon. Just now in many cities of the United States, Sabbath laws are being enacted, and what is more—enforced. Coney Island has come under the power of such a law, and liquor sellers and such like are crying out that they are going to be ruined by it. If such is really the case, we say advisedly, far better that a few worthless men whose business is the depraving of the people, be ruined, than that thousands upon thousands should be destroyed by them. They are the enemies of their fellowmen, and care nothing for what comes of their traffic so long as their coffers are filled. It is a good deed to ruin all such, so long as they persist in their present evil work. It is simply a work of the devil, and should be treated as such.

In our own country we have many noble christian men working hard for the enactment of better Sabbath laws. Shall we not help them? A corresponding branch of the Lord's Day Alliance should be formed in every town and city, and should keep itself in touch with the central body in Toronto, so that the whole country may act in concert in reference to any proposed step. Unity is strength. Let there be a chain of such branches binding our whole country into a compact unit on this great question. Here christian men must lead, and here too christian men must follow, and fight bravely, that is in reliance upon God, the Lord of Hosts, if there is to be victory. And victory is the salvation of our land.

Hold Fast.

It cannot be denied that, while the summer is the season most suitable for recreation, there is more or less declension in spiritual life and work. Take city churches, for example. Some are closed for a month, Sabbath Schools cease in many cases for two months, great numbers of families leave their beautiful homes, and spend weeks and months, in hotels and cottages, by lake-side, river-side and sea-side, removed in many cases from church services altogether. Many are found, on the Sabbath, sailing and rowing, paddling and wheeling, walking and lounging, making it an ordinary holiday. It would seem as if many looked upon the summer, as a time for recreation, both from occupation and from religion. Then there is the disorganization of church finances. Members of congregations forget to give their contributions to the Treasurer, before leaving for their summer resorts, and in consequence this officer is embarrassed, and the balance is not made up till late in the year. It cannot be denied, moreover, that much is added to the expense of living, by this summer migration. Another feature, and a sad one, of this desertion of homes is the separation of the family and its head. Summer is usually the busiest season of the year, with merchants and mechanics, and they must be in the city. They must get their meals in clubs, or restaurants, and spend the nights in the deserted home, except perhaps on the Sabbath, when they may rejoin the family, unless it be too far away. Then the children, being

without fatherly control, are apt to become restive and disobedient. And thus the religious life of our people, of individuals, families and churches is in danger of being weakened. We do not write this in condemnation of summer recreation, in which we most heartily believe in some form, but we desire, in all faithfulness, to call attention to what we believe to be a spiritual peril, in the hope that it may be averted.

Now let us suggest a thought or two which should be useful and helpful to many. 1. Let families who leave the city go where the head of the house can join them every night. Then the family need not be broken up, nor its head left without the comforts of home life, during the summer. 2. Let those who intend being absent from their church make their contributions to it as regularly as when at home, either by giving beforehand, or weekly. This is serving the Lord, as well as ourselves. 3. Then sanctify all recreations, observe family worship regularly, have Sabbath school in your own house, or room, if there be no hall or church, and have plenty of good books around. Should there be no Church service, let a regular service be conducted in one's house with the family, the father reading a sermon. Little children especially love such a service. 4. Remember the church at home. Pray for those who are there, in Church and Sabbath school, and for the man of God who preaches to them. Let there be no break in our Church work. Let us pray, and look for additions to the Church week by week, of such as shall be saved. Sin abounds; let us pray that grace may much more abound, and that the preaching of the gospel may be exceedingly fruitful, to the glory of God. "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering . . . not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as ye see the day approaching."

Our Third Enlargement.

Although it is but a little over two years, since the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW passed into the hands of the present owners, we have now to announce for the third time an enlargement. Commencing with sixteen pages, the press of advertising and reading matter compelled us within a few months to make it twenty pages. Last autumn we were again compelled to increase to twenty-four pages, still the pressure upon our columns was greater than we could stand and we have again enlarged it by adding to the length of each column. Although the casual observer may not notice any great difference in the size of the REVIEW, the careful reader will observe that the lines added really increase the matter contained in each issue a little over two pages. With this edition the REVIEW can claim to be the largest Church weekly in Canada.

A New Objection. Objecting to a man as unfit for service on a jury because he is a good man, is surely a curious act. Yet just this objection was raised at Syracuse, New York, last week. Fitzsimmons, the pugilist, was on trial for manslaughter in killing his opponent in a fight with gloved fists. When it came to the selection of a jury, the attorneys for Fitzsimmons objected to those men who are church members as being disqualified to sit in the case. Church membership is an indication that a man will keep his oath and will try to act fairly in all things; how can it disqualify a man for jury service?—The court did not sustain the objection.