

to resist with all their might every encroachment on the Lord's day. Toronto has seemed to go against us in our efforts to preserve a quiet Sabbath: though the true voice of Toronto, we think, was smothered. In any case we make our appeal to the whole people of Ontario. I love Toronto, I speak highly of its moral and religious character as compared with other cities; but does not every one know that the elements hostile to the Sabbath and all of sacredness that it represents, are more strongly represented in our cities than in the country at large? (Hear, hear.) It is not for Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines, or any city or locality to determine what the Lord's day should be in Canada. Viewing the day as a public institution it is for the people at large to speak upon that subject. That localities and corporations should have special legislation relaxing the character of the day is entirely wrong. The day is of inestimable value to every class, and has the sanction of divine authority. It is of utmost importance that our province and country should appreciate the issue which is at stake. It is not to laws in support of the Sabbath that we chiefly trust for regulating the sentiments of the community. But legislation has its own place and value. We seek no legislation to compel men to worship, or to perform any sacred duty. God cannot be honored by any service except it springs from the heart. But that the rest and quiet of the Lord's day, as a public institution, should be protected by law is surely necessary and right. Is not this the judgment of the people of Ontario? Will Ontario permit avarice and irreligion to rob it of its Sabbath?