

soon be carried into effect, no instantaneous compliance with our petitions and just claims, we fear, need be looked for, yet it behoves us not to relax, but rather redouble, our exertions till the end we have in view be accomplished, namely—the complete emancipation of all within the Province from compulsory labor on the Lord's Day. Feeling our own impotency, and trusting in promised grace and strength from on high, let our motto be, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

It must never be forgotten by us, but vividly borne in mind, that by the clear admission of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, as appears distinctly by the following extracts from their Report on the Propriety of Prohibiting Sunday Labor in the Public Departments of the Province, printed by order of the Legislative Assembly in 1853, man, as man, has an undisputed right to the rest of the Sabbath. Thus decidedly speak that Committee, of which the Hon. GEORGE BROWN was chairman: "Abstinence from work during one day in seven is a moral and physical necessity of man's nature—he has a natural right to a seventh day of rest—he cannot dispense with it without injury to mind and body; the whole civilized world has been forced to recognize this necessity, and to set apart the first day of the week to meet it. And not only has man a right to the full enjoyment of Sunday as a day of rest and abstinence from all ordinary labor—he has a right to be protected by the law in the quiet and decorous observance of the day. The law forbids trading on Sunday, closes the banks and public resorts on Sunday, and in various ways secures to the subject the peaceful enjoyment of the day. It is a well recognized principle that to compel men to do ordinary labor on Sunday, except in cases of absolute necessity, is wrong and hurtful. The Committee are respectfully of opinion that this rule can be applied with great force to the open and systematic disregard of the rights of individuals and of society by the Government of this Province in the management of the Post Office Department and the canals. It ought to be the high aim of the Government to set an example to the people under its rule by the careful avoidance of all that is unjust, unseemly, or conducive to immorality. But it is to be feared that the Government, by compelling its servants to labor in these departments on the Lord's Day under the penalty of dismissal, inflicts great injustice on a large number of meritorious individuals and their families, and encourages thoughtless persons in the open disregard of an observance which it should earnestly seek to uphold. With what consistency can the Government enforce the many existing laws for securing the quiet enjoyment of Sunday, when it compels its own servants openly and systematically to desecrate the day in every corner of the land?" The plea of inconvenience or inexpediency was also taken up and considered by this Committee; but even upon that ground, granting its validity in opposition to the paramount claims of justice, (which they did not), they were "far from apprehending that the measure (of the abolition of Sabbath labor in the Public Departments) would entail any serious inconvenience." In conclusion the Committee decided that—"The plea of public convenience for opening canals on the Lord's Day is still less defensible; it is enough to say that the Welland and Lachine canals have been closed for years, without one complaint reaching Government, to show the propriety of closing them