

that the end of government is to provide that men should derive the highest amount of profit from their labour. That would fit a state of society where men are mere working automata or earning machines, destitute of moral obligations, with everything here and nothing hereafter ; but even on this low principle we can find a footing for Sabbath observance ; for it has been proved by the logic of experience, by the experiments of history, that if men would make the highest amount of profit from their labour they must " remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," even if everything is here and nothing is hereafter. Work can be done better, men can be made stronger, a higher morality can be evolved ; longer lives, healthier frames, quicker powers, greater wealth can be produced, and higher dividends can be earned, if men work only six-sevenths of their time than if they work the whole seven-seventh thereof ; and if Government can provide for this, and even if they provide for no more, very much is accomplished.

The French Revolutionists found God's fractions were right and theirs were wrong. They enacted a Sabbath every tenth day and it would not work. The tenth was the unreasonable fraction devised by the Goddess of Reason, and the seventh was the fraction created by the wise decree of the God of the Universe. The same mighty power taught the bees to make their cells hexagonal because thereby the greatest volume could be contained in the least amount of surrounding surface. The mathematicians proved that. The bees obey and never rebel. God's arithmetic, his theory of numbers, is always right. Another department of divinely prescribed duty shows that God's will is involved in tenths as well as in sevenths. But this is a world of not only mortal brawn and perishable brain, but of never-dying soul. Bentham's principle to increase to the utmost the pleasures and to decrease to the utmost the pains which men derive from each other, is, in very truth, low enough in the face of the experience and mysteries of higher things. But even on this narrow line (I will not call it plane) the principle of Sabbath observance can find a lodgment ; for the true and abiding pleasures of mankind are increased, and the pains and troubles of life are decreased, by periodic restfulness, even if that restfulness be an enforced one. The constructor of a machine, a