

# THE SABBATH OBSERVER.

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No. 4.

“THE SABBATH WAS MADE FOR MAN.”

OCTOBER, 1853.

### ENCOURAGEMENTS REGARDING THE SABBATH.

“I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed” is a prophetic intimation that will only receive its complete fulfilment when the kingdom of Immanuel shall be ultimately and triumphantly established on the ruins of the kingdom of Satan.—And so will it be in reference to the Sabbath Institute. Not until the weekly Sabbath has been swallowed up in the everlasting Sabbath will there be a cessation of the warfare between the Sabbatarians and the Anti-Sabbatarians;—between those who love and those who hate this holy institute. If, as we have often and again stated, the Sabbath constitutes the grand bulwark against ungodliness on the one hand, and immorality on the other, then it is clear that the emissaries of Satan will be ever on the alert to seize every opportunity to undermine and destroy, And if this Institute is to be preserved at all, in its integrity and sacredness, the friends of truth and righteousness must be ever on the watch-tower to observe and ward off the first sallies of the enemy.—And let them but remember whose day it is, and whose glory is so deeply involved in its right observance, and they have no reason to fear.

Since our last publication there has been much to encourage and cheer in connection with Sabbath observance; whilst there has been much to call forth redoubled watchfulness, and energy, and zeal, on the part of our friends. We beg to call the special attention of our readers to the communication of Mr. A. P. Stew-

art which appears in our columns, with the remarks of the Editor of the *London Medical Journal* thereon. The testimony lifted by G40 of the most eminent of the professional and scientific gentlemen of the London Medical School, against the opening of places of amusement and revelry on the Lord's day, and that entirely on the ground of the physiological view of the question, is no small matter. The evidence of the celebrated Dr. Farre before the Committee of the House of Commons on Sabbath observance, effected an immense amount of good, especially amongst those who do not view with the respect they ought the theological argument. And so, we believe, will it be with this important movement. It is at least fitted to shut the mouths of such men as Messrs. Hume, Roebuck, and even Sir James Graham.

We have equal satisfaction in directing the attention of our readers to the following extract from the *Church Witness*, of St. John, N. B., one of the ablest Colonial Protestant Newspapers of the day.—We rejoice in having such a powerful advocate of Sabbath observance in the adjoining Province. Could nothing be done in New Brunswick in connection with the postal arrangements, so as to prevent any secular labour in that department of the public service on the Sabbath? It would strengthen much the position of the friends of the cause both in Canada and Nova Scotia.

From the St. John, N.B., Church Witness.

Amongst the absorbing topics of the day, it is of the utmost moment that the all important question of Sabbath observance should not be lost sight of. Whatever events may be in the distance, whatever changes may occur, it

should be distinctly remembered that our highest welfare, individual, social, and national, is intimately and indissolubly connected with the sanctification of one day in seven. It is righteousness that exalteth an individual as well as a nation, and the existence of this righteousness is usually shown in both cases by a careful observance of the Sabbath day. To both is the Scriptural declaration, “My Sabbath shall be a sign between me and you,” a true index to their moral and religious condition. Nothing indeed so surely marks the character of a true christian as his observance of the Sabbath. He loves it, rejoices in it, uses it with his whole soul and heart, for gaining fresh strength on his heavenward course. He remembers that it is the Lord's day—a day which He has blessed and hallowed and commanded to keep holy—a day, moreover, which was made for man—particularly for his benefit—set apart from all common uses and employments, that he might have an opportunity of worshipping his Maker and learning his will, and that he and his household, his children, his servants, and even his cattle, might cease from their daily toil. And when thus properly sanctified and kept in a religious manner, this holy institution becomes the greatest blessing to mankind. It is mercifully calculated to promote, and it does promote, both our spiritual and temporal happiness and comfort. On the other hand again, if on the holy day of the Lord we honor him not, but pollute his Sabbath by doing our own ways, and finding our own pleasures, and speaking our own words; if instead of training up our children in the way they should go, we then cause them to go astray through our neglect or bad example, can we expect the Divine blessing to rest on ourselves or on them? No, surely not. Neither nations nor individuals have ever prospered by disregarding God's holy day; but on the contrary, we confidently assert, have invariably suffered under His displeasure. Because ye have forgotten and polluted my Sabbaths, therefore has this affliction come upon you, is the language of Scripture: and again, because ye call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable, therefore, “I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father.” Believing this most heartily and firmly, we rejoiced to meet with the following paragraph in a late number of the *Record*, in reference to Sabbath observance in England, and we