

THE  
**Canadian Union Messenger**

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger."

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**An Appeal to the Lord's Day Alliance**

FORCE, NOT PERSUASION

The person thus under the protection and safeguardianship of the governmental power, "rests" and perhaps (?) "worships" on the Lord's day, not because he has a God-given right to do so, but because he is compelled to do so; not because God commands him to observe the day, but because the State requires him to do it; not because he loves God, but because he fears man; and it is high time for the people to know that all such rest and worship is the sheerest hypocrisy.

A RIGHT IMPLIES FREEDOM OF CHOICE

"The individual, God-given right to rest and worship on the Lord's day or on any other day, can have no existence without the existence at the same time of the individual, and equally God-given right not to rest and worship, if the individual does not choose to take either. What kind of right, forsooth, is it that one is *compelled* to exercise. Does the man who is drafted into the army, or the man who pays his taxes, exercise any right in doing either? A right can have no existence where there is not a freedom of choice. The volunteer exercises a right when he joins the army, because he has the freedom to choose: whether he will go or stay at home; but the man who is drafted into the army exercises no right when he goes, because he has no choice in the matter; he must go. The volunteer may go. In the observance of every religious practice, the Sabbath included, volunteers only are wanted, conscripts never.

THE ALLIANCE STULTIFIES ITSELF

Carry this further. The government exercises a right when it demands the payment of taxes, but the individual does not exercise a right when he pays them; and for the simple reason, if for no other, that he has no right to refuse to pay them. He must pay them. The same reasoning is true with reference to the observance of the Lord's day. If the governmental power has a right to demand Sabbath observance, the individual has no right to refuse to render it, and therefore he has no "individual, God-given right to rest and worship on the Lord's day."

But on the other hand, if the individual has a God-given right to rest and worship on the Lord's day, as he has, and as the officers of the Alliance admit, then the governmental power has no right to demand either rest or worship from him. The Government has no right to exercise a power which has not been delegated to it by the people; and the right to rest and worship on the Lord's day can never be delegated by the individual to the government.

TWO KINDS OF RIGHTS

Rights are of two kinds, natural and artificial. Natural rights are such as are possessed by every one in the world without distinction as to age or sex, race or creed. They are inherent in the individual alone, and consequently cannot be delegated to another. ~~With such rights no Government can~~ justly have anything to do, further than to protect the individual in the exercise of them. One of these rights is "the individual, God-given right to rest and worship on the Lord's day."

Artificial rights are such as are created by the Government. If there were no such thing as government, these rights would not exist. Such rights are possessed only by the favored few. As for instance, the right to vote is granted only to males who have attained to the age of twenty-one years. The right of the Government to demand taxes of the individual is another example of artificial rights; but it is a just claim, for the State is supposed to render an equivalent to the individual in the protection of his person and property. He has the right to demand the services of the police force, or of the entire fire department of the city for his protection, if need be, and they have no right to refuse the demand, because his taxes have been paid to these men for that very purpose. In the payment of his taxes, he exercises no right, but in the demand for their equivalent, he does. A right is a just claim, but there can be no just claim where no equivalent is rendered.

NO EQUIVALENT FOR SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

Now, if the Government has a right to demand Lord's day observance of the individual, he has no right to refuse to render it, but he has the right to an equivalent. But this can never be given, and

therefore the Government, in demanding Lord's day observance, is demanding something for nothing. The Government does not exercise a right in making this demand, but it does perform an act of usurpation of the individual's right. It is simply an act of tyranny on the part of those who demand it, and an act of slavery on the part of those who render such Lord's day observance.

The man who observes the Lord's day because it is right needs no law to compel him to do it; and the man who observes it simply because he is afraid that some man will lay violent hands on him if he does not do it, is in servile bondage to just that extent. What he needs is more love preached to him and less law, for "love is the fulfilling of the law," and "by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight."

#### WHY NOT WORSHIP AS WELL AS REST BY LAW?

One other point. The Alliance calls the right to rest and worship on the Lord's day an individual, God-given right; and it says that the legislature does not create this right. Why, then, should the legislature take the responsibility of enforcing an individual right? Why should not the individual be left to answer to Him from whom the right came as to the manner in which he will exercise that right? As defined by the Alliance, the manner of exercising this right, is in rest and worship. But, for the present at least, nothing is said about worship. But why stop short? Is it not more essential that the individual should worship than that he should rest? What has been gained by compelling people to rest on Sunday unless they are also compelled to worship? Are the people made any better by simply resting,—by having idleness enforced upon them,—without worshipping? If not, then why compel them to rest?

If it is claimed that people are made better by enforced Sunday rest without worship, or such rest with worship for that matter, it follows that the Alliance is seeking to justify the people by the deeds of the law. But the Bible says,—“Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you is justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.” Which horn of this dilemma will the Alliance hang itself on?

But if it is simply the physical welfare of the individual which is sought, the Alliance would better direct its energies in some other channel; for there are multitudes of evil habits which are much more injurious to the physical welfare of the individual than the neglect to take a weekly day of rest; as for example, neglect to take an adequate amount of daily rest in sleep, neglect of personal cleanliness, improper diet, etc., *ad infinitum*.

#### A RELIGIOUS VIEW ONLY

The Alliance professes to take no particular religious view respecting the Sabbath; yet every position taken to carry forward its so-called Sabbath reform, every argument presented, every reason given, has been from the religious point of view. The Alliance can take no other view of the subject which will stand the test of logical criticism. Nothing but a religious reason has been, or can be, given by the Alliance, or by any one else, for the compulsory observance of Sunday. The very position which the Alliance disclaims, is the only position which it has taken, and the only position it can take.

#### ENEMIES OF SABBATH REFORM

The greatest enemy to any religious reform is the man who tries to effect it by law. Law only serves to dam up the current without drying up the source; but when the force of public opinion becomes strong enough, as it surely will become, sooner or later, it will burst forth with most destructive fury, carrying everything to the opposite extreme. The only true and lasting reforms which this world has ever seen are those which have been wrought out by men who have dared to oppose the mightiest powers of earth, instead of forming an alliance to seek their aid. True reformers are those whose footsteps have been traced in blood; men who have given up everything, even life itself, rather than sacrifice a principle; men whose sole reliance was in the persuasive power of love, and whose only weapons were spiritual ones. Such men have gone forth conquering and to conquer. Though covered with obloquy and contempt during their lives, and though dying ignominiously at the stake or upon the guillotine, future generations who have reaped the fruits of their sufferings, have recognized that they were reformers indeed. While men who have demanded civil laws under the pretext of sanitary regulations, as did the bishops of the fourteenth century and later, thus bringing upon the world the long night of ignorance and superstition, have been the veriest enemies to the cause of Christianity. So now, the worst enemies of true Sabbath reform in these days, are the men who, in the same way, would make a living, acting IMAGE to that frightful power which is represented in Scripture as being drunken with the blood of the saints.

*Concluded.*

#### The Missionary Campaign

THE Campaign is on, but all are not in it. With the variety of books, papers, and tracts which we now have, all can take part in this important work.

Please notice the following from Vol. 8 of the Testimonies: "God calls upon every church to enter His service. Truth that is not *lived*, that is not *imparted to others*, loses its life-giving power, its healing virtue. Every one must learn to work, and to stand in his place as an armor-bearer. Every addition to the church should be one more agency for the carrying out of the great plan of redemption. The entire church, acting as one, blending in perfect union, is to be a living, active missionary agency, moved and controlled by the Holy Spirit.

"It is not alone by men in high positions of responsibility, not alone by men holding positions on boards or committees, not alone by managers of our sanitariums and publishing houses, that the work is to be done which will cause the earth to be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. This work can be accomplished only by *the whole church* acting their part under the guidance and in the power of Christ."

Please note how only this work can be accomplished, and then ask yourself the question: "Shall the work be done?" You may not be able to teach, preach, or visit, like Paul; but no one should be a doubting Thomas, or a questioning Peter. "Follow thou me," said the Master. Fall in line and fill up the ranks, and share in the blessings of faithful service. Many are waiting for those message-filled tracts, papers, and books, and we shall be held responsible for longer delay.

Let none wait longer, but let all arise to the opportunity, and unite in active service with the body, marching on to victory. If you cannot do everything, do something. Commence now if you have not already entered.

Send your orders for supplies to B. B. Nofsger, Box 178, Toronto Junction, Ont.

W. H. THURSTON.

### Paganism

MEN in this enlightened age, and in a land of gospel privileges, ought to be free from the influences of paganism. Not free from these influences by law, but free from them because the gospel of Christ, coupled with perfect liberty to profess that gospel, has made him free.

There may, indeed, be quite a difference of opinion as to what constitutes paganism, but we had supposed that to be a pagan, one must adopt the customs and practices of pagans.

A letter recently written to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Syracuse, N. Y., by the Hon. Andrew D. White, President of Cornell University, and for some years minister to Germany from the United

States Government, will illustrate this point, and at the same time it will serve to show how powerfully the tide is turning in favor of Sunday legislation among men of influence, both Catholic and Protestant.

The circumstance under which Dr. White wrote to Bishop Ludden was this: The Bishop had announced that he would deny the rights of Christian burial to those who die by accident, on the Lord's day, violating its duties and obligations in questionable amusements, etc.

In his letter the Protestant Doctor endorsed this action of the Catholic Bishop, and protested against what he calls "a complete paganizing of American life as regards the first day of the week."

The Doctor is right. Some time ago the *North British Review* called Sunday "the wild solar holiday of all pagan times." And this action of the American people in using the day for the purpose for which it was first designed by the pagans, is perfectly logical. How else could they use it? It is not a holy day, it is simply a holiday; and the people have found this out, and are using it accordingly.

To be sure Roman Catholic Bishops, and Protestant Doctors of Divinity and of Laws, have been trying, for these many years to make it appear that this pagan holiday is a Christian holy day, but they have miserably failed; and now that they are reaping the fruit of their sowing, they are taking alarm lest the pagan holiday shall be paganized.

There is, indeed, just cause for "alarm;" but it is not for that reason. It is that Catholics and Protestants will yet join hands in enforcing the observance of this pagan institution upon those who would observe the true Sabbath of the Lord.

### Lornedale Academy

DR. A. R. SATERLEE of the Buffalo Sanitarium paid us a visit this week. His son Richard, who had been sick for a few days, accompanied him home.

BROTHER H. D. CARR was called to visit his father and sister, who are quite sick. A letter from him since he went away informs us that he will return in a few days.

ONE of our students sold and delivered for cash last week nearly twenty dollar's worth of books. Besides this he took orders for about eight dollar's worth of books to be delivered at some future time. And in addition to all this, he delivered for cash about seven dollar's worth of books on orders previously taken. This makes about thirty-four dollar's worth of books sold and delivered in one week besides keeping up his regular school work. This demonstrates that students can sell books.

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**FROM THE FIELD**

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MONTREAL, OCT. 19, 1905.

TO THE MESSENGER,—

We are thankful that those who proclaim "this gospel of the kingdom" have the assurance, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

In Vol. 8 of the Testimonies we read: "In the cities of America there are people of almost every language. These need the light that God has given his church. The Lord lives and reigns. Soon he will arise in majesty to shake terribly the earth. A special message is now to be borne, a message that will pierce the spiritual darkness and convict and convert souls. 'Haste thee, flee for thy life,' is the call to be given to those dwelling in sin. *We must now be terribly in earnest.*" The Lord's word to us at this time is,—Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. . . The Gentiles shall come to thy light. . . Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they come to thee; thy sons shall come from far. Isa. 60: 1-5.

If we do our duty and co-operate with each other and with divine agencies, the message will go with power, and the cities will be lightened with its glory. They will be warned of the coming trumpet blast of doom, when men will cry for the rocks and mountains to fall upon them, and the lofty buildings of the cities will be laid in ruins.

We shall see the honest of heart called out of Babylon to witness for the truth in the closing work. Only a few days ago a minister came to me—one who had been an English Church clergyman, but who had of late been doing mission work with the

Salvation Army. He speaks nine languages. He told me that he had investigated the Sabbath question, and had been keeping the Sabbath for three weeks past; that he wished to throw his lot in with us as a people, and was ready to go to work in behalf of the truth. May the Lord help this brother to become a faithful worker in this needy field.

We shall be glad to hear from any of our people who are interested in the work at Montreal, and from those who would like to solicit means for the church building fund. Any donation would be received with grateful rejoicing. Montreal needs a place of public worship. Let us come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty in the city of Montreal.

GEO. H. SKINNER.

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**The Messenger**

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It is important that every Seventh-day Adventist in Canada should read the MESSENGER. It keeps you posted in regard to the work in all parts of the Canadian Union Conference, and thus you keep pace with the work and the times.

TO OUR MINISTERS

Will you kindly assist in keeping up the MESSENGER list? Many of the subscriptions have expired, and others will expire soon. It is desirable to have these renewed at once. Important events are transpiring just now about which all should be informed.