

"If any Man Hear My Words, and Believe not, I Judge him not: for I Came not to Judge the World, but to Save the World."

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## American Sentinel.

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### THEY HAVE BECOME AGGRESSIVE.

A MOST significant sign of the times in connection with the constantly augmenting Sunday law crusade is the active, aggressive action taken of late by Roman Catholic prelates for the legal enforcement of Sunday observance. When the compulsory Sunday observance movement began several years ago, Roman Catholics fought shy of it, but now all this is changed, and they not only openly favor the movement, but are beginning to assume the leadership.

On the evening of April 7, two thousand Roman Catholics of this city were addressed by the "Paulist Fathers" Doyle and Elliott on the subject, "The Preservation of the American Sabbath." Among other significant things, the latter said: "The law given on Sinai was a law, and please God, there will be a Sunday law as long as our Government lasts."

And now comes the announcement in the *Northwestern Chronicle*, a Roman Catholic paper of St. Paul, Minn., of the organization of a Roman Catholic association, called the "Sunday Law Observance League." Priest John Gmeiner, chairman of its press committee, has issued an address "To the W. C. T. U. and all Friends of the American Sabbath," which is signed by "Mrs. A. V. Nicholas, State Superintendent of Sabbath Observance."

This address, which has been sent to the leading papers of Minnesota for publication, begins with a quotation from Crafts' "Sabbath for Man," and continues in a strain not distinguishable from an American Sabbath Union document. It concludes with the following appeal:—

All W. C. T. U.'s and Y.'s, churches, pastors, young people's societies, temperance organizations, Law and Order leagues, and individuals are called upon to help maintain our Sabbath as a day of the Lord for the people, without regard to race, sex, or condition, for a day of rest and worship. To this end let us make Sabbath observance week in Minnesota marked by sermons, public meetings, Sunday-school exercises, distribution of literature, and prayer for the better

enforcement of law against all infringement of the right of Sabbath observance and particularly against that arch-enemy of God and man, the saloon.

Priest Gmeiner accompanies the address, as published in the *Northwestern Chronicle*, of April 5, with a statement of the Protestant organizations that have already indorsed the new Roman Catholic movement. He says: "It has been heartily indorsed and approved by the Methodist Episcopal ministers' meeting at St. Paul, March 25, and by the Baptist Ministerial Conference held about the same time in the same city."

The priest next quotes the indorsement of a leading Presbyterian minister of St. Paul, and closes with a request to "all ministers of St. Paul and throughout the State," "to lay the question of Sunday observance before the members of their congregations at the earliest convenient occasion, so that a decided move in the right direction may be made at once throughout the State." A mass meeting is announced at St. Paul for the 15th inst., at which the editor of the *Northwestern Chronicle* will preside.

Now, all this is most significant. It shows that Roman Catholics are forging to the front in the universal Sunday-law stampede. For years the W. C. T. U., the National Reform Association, and the American Sabbath Union have appealed with indifferent success to Roman Catholics for assistance in the enactment and enforcement of Sunday laws; but now Roman Catholics have assumed the leadership and call upon these same societies to coöperate with them in enforcing the observance of Sunday which they claim has no Bible support, and is therefore a sign of the power of the Roman Catholic Church to ordain feasts and holy days, the observance of which by Protestants they declare "is an homage they pay in spite of themselves to the authority of the [Roman Catholic] Church."

The people who publish the **AMERICAN SENTINEL** have long expected that Roman Catholics and Romanizing Protestants would unite to enforce the Sunday, the mark of papal apostasy upon all. This expectation was based on the "sure word of prophecy," and was published to the world before there was a sign of such a union, and when such a unnatural union was scouted at as impossible. It has come and it behooves the people who knew it would come, and the thousands who knew of this prediction and who have been watching to see whether it would be fulfilled,

to be up and doing while the day lasts, "for soon the night cometh when no man can work;" when the opportunity will be forever past of proclaiming to the world the message: "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God." Rev. 14: 9, 10.

### SIN FROM A ROMAN CATHOLIC STANDPOINT.

THE Roman Church claims the "power to command feasts and holy days," and to "command them *under sin*." That is, the church claims the power to ordain holy days and the manner of their observance, and the power to pronounce any disobedience of these commands to be sin, which, if not repented of, results in the eternal ruin of the disobedient one. With this assumption of the church in view, a few observations regarding the laws of the church regulating Lent, just past, may be interesting and profitable.

The following are the commands of the church regulating the fast of Lent, as promulgated by Cardinal Gibbons:—

1. All the faithful who have completed their twenty-first year, unless exempt by dispensation or some other legitimate cause, are bound to observe the fast of Lent.
2. They are to make one meal only a day, except on Sundays.
3. The meal permitted on fast days is not to be taken till about noon.
4. A small refreshment, commonly called collation, is permitted in the evening.
5. The following persons are exempt from the obligation of fasting: Persons under twenty-one years of age, the sick, nursing women, those who are obliged to do hard labor, and those who, through weakness, cannot fast, without great prejudice to their health.
6. The faithful are reminded that, besides the obligation of fasting imposed by the church, this holy season of Lent should be, in an especial manner, a time of earnest prayer, of sorrow for sin, of seclusion from the world and its amusements, and of generous almsgiving.

Let it be remembered that to disobey these commands of the cardinal is sin. The reader, unacquainted with the rules of the church, will think that these commands are very severe. However, the pope has granted an "indult," that is, an indulgence to the Roman Catholics of the United States, by which they can violate the above commands, without sin, where others in less favored countries, should they disobey them, would be counted sinners. Here is the indulgence:—



## II.

By virtue of an indult to the United States, dated August 3, 1887, the following special dispensations are granted:—

1. The use of flesh meat is permitted at all meals on Sundays, and once a day on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, with the exception of the second and last Saturdays of Lent. But flesh meat and fish are not to be used at the same meal during Lent, even on Sundays.

2. The use of butter, cheese, milk and eggs is also permitted every day in Lent.

3. It is allowed to take in the morning some warm liquid, as tea, coffee, or thin chocolate, made with water, and with this liquid a mouthful of bread.

4. Those for whom the hour of noon may be an inconvenient time for dinner, may invert the order and take their collation in the morning, and their dinner in the evening.

5. The use of hog's lard, or dripping, instead of butter, is authorized in preparing permitted food.

6. Persons exempt from the obligations of fasting are free to take meat more than once on those days when its use is granted by dispensation.

## III.

The Paschal time extends from the first Sunday of Lent till Trinity Sunday, during which time all persons who have attained the proper age are bound to receive worthily the holy communion. The holy season of Lent is a very proper time also for children to make their first confession, which they ought to do generally about the age of seven years. Parents should see to this.

By order of his eminence the cardinal,

W. A. REARDON, Chancellor.

Baltimore, Feb. 15, 1895.

It will be noticed that while it is a sin to eat *flesh* on certain days, it is not sin to eat *fish*. It will be interesting to note further what is included under the term "fish."

The *American Ecclesiastical Review*, a Roman Catholic monthly, "published for the clergy," with the authority of superiors ("*cum approbatione superiorum*"), in its April issue, publishes the following question and answer:—

*Qu.* Does the privilege, which exists in the Southern States, of eating seal-duck on days of abstinence, extend to all parts of the country?

*Resp.* . . . . . Wherever this species of sea-fowl is commonly reckoned in the same category of food as turtles, lobster, frogs, oyster, etc., which though they cannot be called fish, are nevertheless held to be lenten food, there the practice of serving seal-duck is licit. Some regard as included in this category even the meat of beavers, otters, coots, and other semi-marine animals which live almost exclusively in the water and obtain their food there.

From this we learn that, according to the church of Rome, it is a sin to eat *flesh* on certain days, but it is not a sin to eat fish, seal-duck, turtles, lobsters, frogs, oysters, beavers, otters and coots. In other words, the church damns a man who eats beef or mutton, and commends him when he eats turtles, lobsters, frogs, oysters, beavers, otters and coots.

"Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4), but the Roman Catholic Church has thought to change that law which the Lord, by the Psalmist, calls "perfect," and by Paul calls "spiritual," "holy," "just," and "good," and has erected another standard of righteousness, a part of which declares that it is a sin to eat beef and mutton on certain days in certain countries, but righteousness to eat turtles, lobsters, frogs, oysters, beavers, otters and coots.

Oh that Roman Catholics would turn from the burdensome traditions of men to the law of God; from the "vicar of Christ" and "the virgin," to Him who said, "Come unto me."

WHEN the teachings of Christ rule in the hearts of individuals, then behold the peaceable fruits of righteousness; when men assume to have authority from Christ to rule other men by means of the civil law, then behold the unpeaceable and unequal fruits of persecution.—*Midland (Mich.) Republican*.

## THE EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE ADVENTISTS.

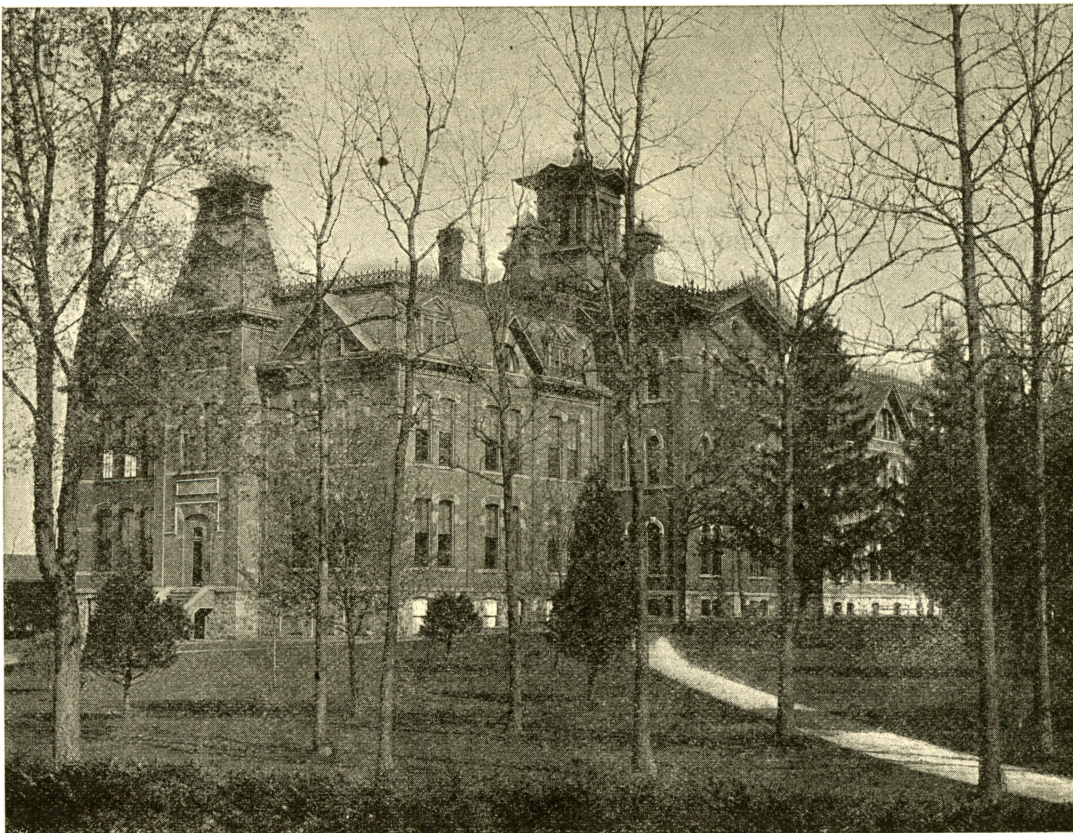
THE closing of the Adventist academy in Rhea County, Tenn., by the persecution at that place, naturally suggests some question as to the extent and nature of the educational work conducted by this people.

The educational facilities of the denomination are summarized by Prof. W. W. Prescott, their educational secretary, in his recent report to the General Conference, as follows:—

Battle Creek College, at Battle Creek, Mich.; Union College, at College View, Neb.; Healdsburg College, at Healdsburg, Cal.; Walla Walla College, at College Place, Wash.; and Claremont College, at Claremont, South Africa. There are four academies, or schools, doing work of academic grade, in this country; at South Lancaster, Mass.; Mt. Vernon, Ohio; Keene, Texas; and Graysville, Tenn.; and one abroad [Frederikshavn, Denmark]. There are also the West Virginia Preparatory School, the Australasian Bible School, a school in Mexico in connection with the Medical Mission; schools for native children upon Pitcairn Island, upon Raiatea of the Society group, in the South Pacific Ocean, upon Bonacca of the Bay Islands in the Caribbean Sea, about fifteen church schools in

Academy was nine; at Union College, thirty-seven; and Battle Creek College, thirty-four. A larger number at Union College is due to the fact that there are German and Scandinavian departments.

The educational work done by the Adventists is by no means superficial. In fact, they aim at thoroughness in all their work. Education is essential to any people who espouse unpopular doctrines. They must be able to defend their positions, and to defend them intelligently, and this they cannot do without education. Of course, their educational work differs somewhat from that of other denominations, for it has reference more to religious training than perhaps that given by any other denomination. Bible truth is taught in all their schools, and almost everyone takes the "Book of books" as one of his studies. However, the sciences are not neglected, and students leaving some of their institutions and entering various colleges in the country, have passed very satisfactory examinations; in fact, some of the Adventist schools have been



SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST COLLEGE, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

this country and abroad, two General Conference Bible schools, and quite a number of local colporters' and conference schools not regularly organized.

At the time of the making of this report, February 17, there were enrolled in the regular schools, not including the local colporters' and conference schools not regularly organized, over three thousand pupils. The total number of instructors and helpers engaged in school work was at the same time one hundred and seventy, approximately. This does not include Bible schools, schools for the education of colporters, or local church schools.

Thus it will be seen that for a denomination numbering only about fifty thousand communicants, the Seventh-day Adventists are doing a large amount of educational work.

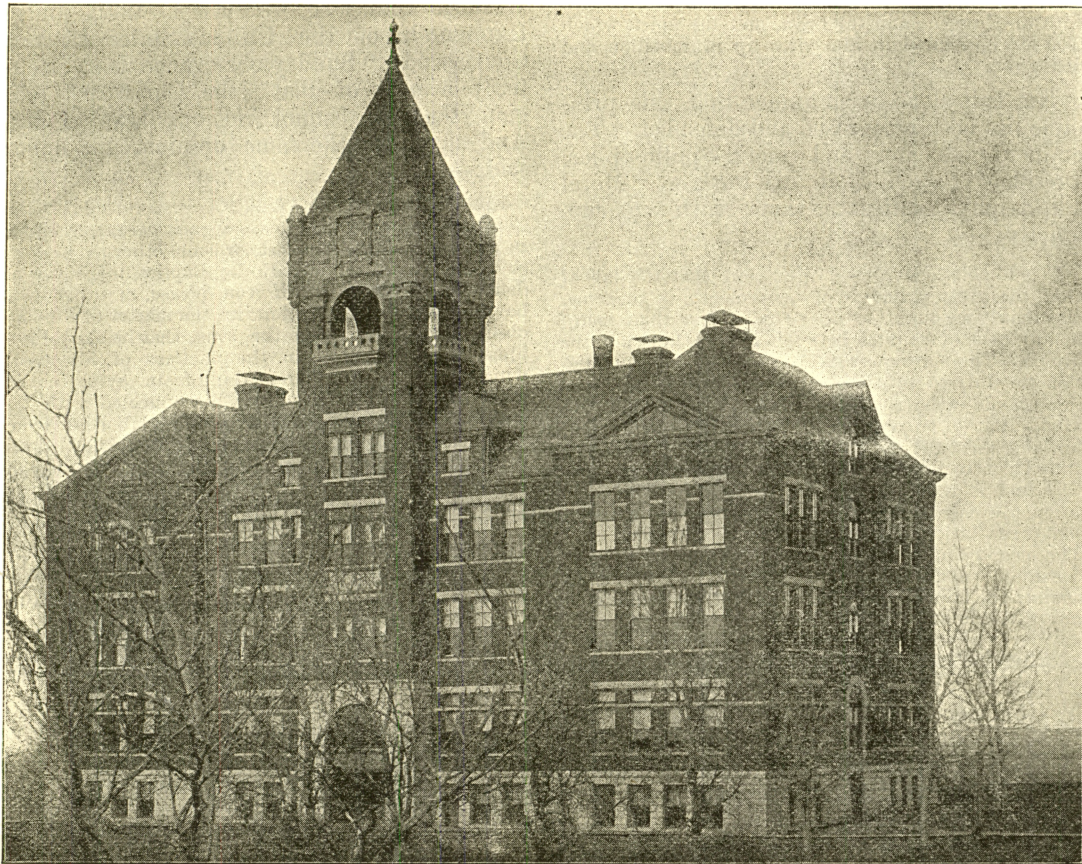
Battle Creek College, Battle Creek, Mich., has an enrollment of six hundred and twenty-eight; Union College, Lincoln, Neb., has an enrollment of four hundred and thirty-six; and Graysville Academy, the school closed by the imprisonment of the principal and his first assistant, is credited with an enrollment of one hundred and five. The number of teachers in the Graysville

highly complimented on the quality of their work by those who have learned of them by coming in contact with students who have entered other and higher institutions of learning.

The Adventists are a practical people, and as far as possible, give a practical education. Most of the students in their colleges and academies have some definite purpose in view, and are studying to fit themselves for some particular sphere of usefulness. Being reared in Christian families, and having Christian aspirations themselves, their students, as a rule, work from a conscientious standpoint, and not simply to be able to pass certain examinations and receive a diploma at the end of their course. They realize that they are fitting themselves for active work in the cause of God, and that their time and even themselves are not their own. Hence a different spirit pervades these institutions from that found in many schools.

The medical missionary work is receiving a good deal of attention from this people. They have at Battle Creek the largest and best equipped medical and surgical sanitarium in





SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST COLLEGE, COLLEGE VIEW, NEB.

the world, and here are educated nurses who receive a thorough training and preparation for active work. Those desiring to take a medical course are encouraged to go to Ann Arbor and enter the regular course there; and many of them subsequently take a post-graduate course at Bellevue, New York. A number of these have already gone to foreign fields and others are preparing to go ere long.

Tennessee and other States may persecute this people, and attempt to drive them from their borders, but they cannot stay the onflowing tide of their work. They are not fanatical, but they are enthusiastic, and have the courage of their convictions. They are willing to suffer reproach, loss of property, loss of liberty, or even loss of life, for the sake of the truth which they profess. No people make their religion a part of their daily lives more than do the Adventists, and prison bars have no terrors for them when they have the consciousness that they are doing God's service.

As related in these columns four weeks ago the academy at Graysville is closed, owing to persecution; but it will not be permitted to remain so. It is the purpose of the denomination to re-open it at the usual time for the beginning of the fall term.

**A MEMORIAL.**

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Tennessee:—

We, the undersigned residents of Rhea County, Tenn., respectfully petition your honorable body to repeal Section 2289 of the Code of said State, prohibiting secular employment on Sunday, for the reason that said Section is in contravention of Section 3 of the Declaration of Rights which declares "That no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and that no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishment or mode of worship."

In support of this, our petition, we beg to

submit the following facts and considerations:—

The American principle of government does not recognize in the majority any authority over the minority except in matters regarding the conduct of man to his fellow-man. Hence, Section 3 of the Declaration of Rights of the State of Tennessee, regards the conscience of the Jew as sacred as that of the Christian, and gives no more authority to adopt a measure affecting the conscience of a solitary individual than that of a whole community.

But Section 2289 of the Code of this State requires all men, whether Jews, Christians, or agnostics, to observe the first day of the week by abstaining on that day from all secular employments; and thus interferes with the conscience of every man: for *it leaves no man free to change his opinion and practice in this regard.* This is especially patent in the case of the Jew and seventh-day Christian, who, after having kept the seventh day according to the fourth commandment of the Decalogue, are required by said Section 2289 to observe Sunday also.

The law, moreover, works a special hardship upon your petitioners, who are Seventh-day Adventists, because we believe that the fourth

commandment requires not only the observance of the seventh day, but that it forbids us to show a like regard for another day. The divine law of the Sabbath separates the seventh day from the other days of the week, and requires all men to respect that distinction. To treat two days alike by refraining from labor and business upon them, is to destroy that distinction which the fourth commandment makes between "the Sabbath of the Lord" (Ex. 20:10) and the "six working days" (Eze. 46:1); and is, therefore, to defeat the object of the divine law. For this, and analogous reasons, your petitioners cannot conscientiously refrain from secular employments, habitually, upon the first day of the week.

But notwithstanding the fact that this is a matter directly affecting the conscience, and that Section 3 of the Declaration of Rights contains a seemingly ample guarantee of freedom of conscience, Seventh-day Adventists have been repeatedly prosecuted in the courts of this State, under the said Section 2289 of the Code, have been mulcted in fines and costs, have been imprisoned in county jails and workhouses, and have even been set to work upon the streets with the chain-gang. At the March term of the Circuit Court in this county, nine of your petitioners were convicted on seventeen indictments under the said law, and in default of payment of costs, were committed to jail for terms of from nineteen to seventy-six days; and to-day Eld. G. W. Colcord (a minister of the gospel), E. S. Abbott, M. C. Sturdevant, William Burchard, and Dwight Plumb, are still in prison for no other offense than exercising the common vocations of life upon the first day of the week, in a civil and orderly manner.

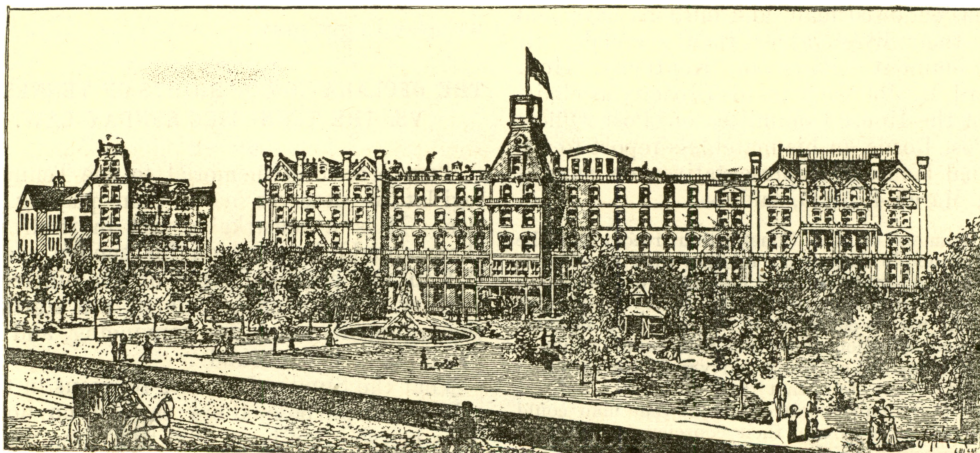
And not only are the individuals named suffering imprisonment at the present moment under the operation of an unjust law, but our academy at Graysville, Rhea County, has been closed by the imprisonment of the principal and his first assistant; the school has been broken up, and the students, to the number of nearly one hundred, have been subjected to serious loss and disappointment.

We have repeatedly plead our rights of conscience in this matter, but our plea has not been regarded by the courts, and we have been told that our remedy is not in the courts, but in the legislature.

That this is a matter of conscience, was thus admitted by his honor, Judge James G. Parks, at the recent term of the Circuit Court in this county. In pronouncing judgment against the nine defendants already mentioned, his honor said:—

The Supreme Court of this State, whose decisions must be taken as final by the lower courts, has passed upon this decision, and we cannot rightfully reverse its decisions.

If I were to express my private feelings, however,



MEDICAL AND SURGICAL SANITARIUM, BATTLE CREEK, MICH.



I might say that there is nothing I regard with more concern or solicitude than an encroachment of legislative enactment upon the personal rights of the individual in matters of conscience. That there is a limit in these matters beyond which legislation cannot rightfully go, will be conceded by every man.

But here we have a very respectable element of Christian believers who are honest, inoffensive, law-abiding people in all matters not conflicting with their sense of duty, who believe they are under divine command to observe the seventh day as the Sabbath. As a matter of abstract, individual right, can they be required to observe another day also? Their position is not that of a person who claims that as a matter of personal liberty he has the right, if he chooses, to run an open saloon on Sunday, or to do any like act. That is not a matter of conscience—this is. They claim that it is not only their right, but their duty under divine command to observe the seventh day. Calling them "cranks" is no argument and has nothing to do with the question. If there were only one of them he would be entitled not only to his honest belief, but to the exercise of that belief, so long as in so doing he did not interfere with some natural right of his neighbors. A man cannot kill another and excuse himself on the ground that he believed he was carrying out God's will in so doing, because this would deprive his victim of a natural right, viz.: the enjoyment of life. Do the defendants in keeping the seventh day and working on the first, thereby interfere with any natural right of their neighbors? Or is it an artificial right created by human law? Has any power but the divine will the right to establish any one day as the Sabbath? If the day has been appointed by divine edict, but two or more persons honestly and conscientiously differ as to what day was appointed, can the dispute be settled by legislative enactment? And shall one be given rights which are denied the other? Does might make right, and have the majority the right to dictate in matters purely of conscience?

In reporting the trials of the Adventists, the *Dayton Republican*, of March 9, had the following head-lines:—

## PERSECUTION.

### Prosperous Community Broken Up.

#### GRAYSVILLE ADVENTISTS SUFFER FROM A BAD LAW.

THE COUNTY JAIL TO BE RECRUITED WITH SOME OF OUR BEST CITIZENS FOR WORKING ON SUNDAY.

But notwithstanding the fact that we have the sympathy of the court and of the considerate and thinking portion of the community, there are not wanting illiberal persons who seem determined to pursue us with the law; and at the recent term of court there were twenty additional indictments found against us—many of them for the most trivial acts which would pass without remark if done by persons not observing the seventh day.

Our enemies themselves being witnesses, we are law-abiding citizens in all matters not conflicting with our sense of duty to God. Our refusal to obey the Sunday laws of Tennessee does not arise from any disposition to defy the State, or from any willful disregard of civil authority; but is due solely to our conscientious convictions of divine obligation. Nor are we governed in this matter by blind fanaticism. The divine right of dissent is the most precious right with which the Creator has endowed man, and millions have laid down their lives rather than surrender it. That eminent citizen of Kentucky, Hon. Richard M. Johnson, in his capacity as chairman of the House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, in his matchless report to the National House of Representatives, on Sunday mails, March 4, 1830, said:—

The framers of the Constitution recognized the eternal principle that man's relation with his God is above human legislation, and his rights of conscience inalienable. Reasoning was not necessary to establish this truth; we are conscious of it in our own bosoms. It is this conscientiousness which in defiance of human laws, has sustained so many martyrs in tortures and in flames. They felt that their duty to God was superior to human enactments, and that man could exercise no authority over their consciences. *It is an inborn principle which nothing can eradicate.* The bigot, in the pride of his authority, may lose sight of it; but strip him of his power, prescribe a faith to

him which his conscience rejects, threaten him in turn with the dungeon and the fagot, and the spirit which God has implanted in him rises up in rebellion and defies you.

Nor is it alone by statesmen that this principle has been recognized and defended. The eminent educator and moral philosopher, President Fairchild, in his work on "Moral Philosophy," states the same truth thus succinctly:—

It is too obvious to need discussion, that the law of God, the great principle of benevolence, is supreme, and that "we ought to obey God rather than men" in any case of conflict between human law and the divine. There are cases so clear that no one can question the duty to refuse obedience. In all times and in all lands such cases have arisen. In a case of this kind, either of two courses is possible: to disobey the law and resist the government in its attempt to execute it, or to disobey and quietly suffer the penalty. The first is revolutionary, and can be justified only when the case is flagrant and affects such numbers that a revolutionary movement can be sustained. . . . The second course will, in general, commend itself to considerate and conscientious men. It is a testimony against the law as unrighteous and at the same time a recognition of government as a grave interest.

The latter course mentioned by President Fairchild is the one which has been pursued by Christians in every age. The apostles refused obedience to civil authority when civil law required of them obedience which they could not conscientiously render; and thousands of martyrs have laid down their lives rather than yield to any earthly authority in matters of conscience. Our own country has not been without witnesses to this principle. The Baptists and Quakers of New England and Virginia, suffered fines, imprisonment, whipping, and some of them even death itself, rather than prove disloyal to conscience.

We are not asking special favors, or the patronage of public authority; we seek only the rights which we ought to enjoy under Section 3 of the Declaration of Rights. We do not ask toleration merely, but, in the language of Hon. Richard M. Johnson, we declare that "what others call religious toleration, we call religious rights. They are not exercised in virtue of governmental indulgence, but as rights of which government cannot deprive any portion of citizens however small. Despotism may invade these rights, but justice still confirms them."

We do not ask simply for a clause exempting us from the penalties of the law, but for the repeal of the law; because simply to ask an exemption would be to admit the right of the State to legislate upon such questions, and to consent to the idea that the legislature might properly require of others that which we are not willing it should exact from us.

We believe that properly interpreted, the Declaration of Rights of the State of Tennessee would afford equal protection to all; and that justice to all, and a due regard for inalienable rights demand the repeal of Section 2289 of the code of the State; and for this we accordingly pray.

#### THE DECLARATION OF RIGHTS OF TENNESSEE VS. THE TENNESSEE SUNDAY LAW.

The preceding memorial to the Tennessee legislature deserves more than passing notice. It is a remarkable fact in itself that there should be occasion for such a memorial in the closing decade of the nineteenth century. The facts set forth are startling, the arguments used are convincing, and the principle stated is sound.

That the Sunday laws are religious in their origin and purpose there can be no doubt. This has so often been admitted even by the defenders of the Sunday laws that it is idle to question it. In deciding the King case in

Western Tennessee, August 1, 1891, Judge Hammond, of the United States District Court, said: "Sunday observance is so essentially a part of that [the Christian] religion that we cannot rid our laws of it." And again, in the same opinion, his honor said:—

Freedom of religious belief is guaranteed by the Constitution; not in the sense argued here, that King, as a Seventh-day Adventist, or some other as a Jew, or yet another as a Seventh-day Baptist, might set at defiance the prejudices, if you please, of other sects having control of legislation in the matter of Sunday observances, but only in the sense that he should not himself be disturbed in the practices of his creed; which is quite a different thing from saying that in the course of his daily labor, disconnected with his religion, just as much as other people's labor is disconnected with religion, labor not being an acknowledged principle or tenet of religion by him, nor generally or anywhere, he might disregard laws made in aid, if you choose to say so, of the religion of other sects.

His honor erred in stating that Mr. King's daily labor was disconnected from his religion; because Mr. King belonged to a class of religionists who believe that whether they eat or drink, or whatsoever they do, they should do all to the glory of God, and that the fourth commandment not only requires Sabbath rest, but forbids a like treatment of any other day.

The vital point, however, in this quotation from Judge Hammond's opinion, is his recognition of the fact that Sunday is a religious institution, and that it has a place in our laws for religious reasons. His honor, Judge Parks, admitted the same truth in his opinion in the recent cases in Rhea County, Tenn. He said:—

Sunday is, and for a long time has been, recognized by nearly all Christian denominations as the Sabbath, and it is for this reason, no doubt, that the law which protects that day has been acquiesced in as constitutional.

Such authorities might be greatly multiplied, but it is unnecessary. The reasons given are not in keeping with American principles of government. "There is not a shadow of right in the general Government," says James Madison, "to intermeddle with religion. Its least interference with it would be a most flagrant usurpation." This language is just as true of the government of Tennessee, whose Declaration of Rights declares "That no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience." It was certainly the purpose of the framers of the constitution of Tennessee to guarantee absolute freedom of conscience; and the language of the Declaration of Rights is even plainer and more comprehensive than is that of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

If it be objected that a man cannot be permitted to do everything that his conscience may lead him to do, it is sufficient to reply in the words of Thomas Jefferson: "Our legislators are not sufficiently apprised of the rightful limits of their power, that their true office is to declare and enforce our natural rights and duties, and to take none of them from us."

The State need not ask what any man's conscience is, but simply guard the rights of the individual. It is no concern of the State what the individual does so long as in so doing he does not infringe the rights of his fellow-man. Judge Parks stated this principle thus clearly in his opinion already referred to: "A man cannot kill another and excuse himself on the ground that he believed he was carrying out God's will in so doing, because this would deprive his victim of a natural right, viz.: the enjoyment of life. Do the defendants, in keeping the seventh day and working on the

<sup>1</sup> Elliott's Debate on the Federal Constitution, Vol. III, p. 330.

<sup>2</sup> Works of Thomas Jefferson, Vol. VII, p. 3.



first, thereby interfere with any natural right of their neighbors? or is it an artificial right created by human law?" There can be but one answer given to the judge's question, viz.: It is an artificial right. Private work on Sunday by one man does not interfere with the right of another man not to work. So that the only reason for enforced Sunday observance, by the individual, is a religious reason, as Judge Parks and Judge Hammond, in common with many other jurists, admit.

But it was clearly the purpose of the framers of the Declaration of Rights of Tennessee to forever prohibit the legalization of any religious institution or the enforcement of any religious practice. "Among all the religious persecutions with which almost every page of modern history is stained, no victim ever suffered but for violation of what government denominated the law of God."<sup>3</sup> It was doubtless to prevent similar evils that the framers of the Declaration of Rights of Tennessee wisely prohibited the legislature from intermeddling with questions affecting the conscience.

But the memorial presented to the legislature by the Adventists of Rhea County goes farther than to merely assert *their* rights of conscience in this matter. It takes the ground that Sunday laws interfere with the rights of conscience of every man. The constitution of Tennessee was evidently not designed to guarantee toleration merely, but to establish religious liberty. It was evidently the purpose of the framers of that instrument to afford equal protection to *all* citizens of the State, whether Jews, Christians, or agnostics. "The protection of the constitution extends to every individual or to none. It is the individual that is intended to be protected. The principle is the same whether the many or the few are concerned. The constitution did not mean to inquire how many or how few would profess or not profess this or that particular religion. If there be but a single individual in the State who professes a particular faith, he is as much within the protection of the constitution as if he agreed with the great majority of his fellow-citizens. . . .

Under the constitution of this State the legislature cannot pass any act, the legitimate effect of which is *forcibly* to establish any merely religious truth, or to enforce any merely religious observances. The legislature has no power over such a subject. When, therefore, the citizen is sought to be compelled by the legislature to do any affirmative religious act, or to refrain from doing anything, because it violates simply a religious principle or observance, the act is unconstitutional."<sup>4</sup>

This language, though used concerning the constitution of California, is just as appropriate to the constitution of Tennessee. The Declaration of Rights of the latter State seeks to provide for absolute religious equality; but the Sunday law of the State clearly does give preference to a religious institution, giving it the patronage of public authority. It gives those religious denominations that observe Sunday a decided advantage over all others, and imposes a heavy burden upon observers of another day. Thus it infringes the rights alike, of the seventh-day Christian, of the Jew, and of the man who professes no religion. Nor does it stop here, for, as is clearly set forth in the memorial, it interferes with the right of every man, for it leaves no man free to change his opinion and practice in regard to Sunday work. The memorial ought to receive candid consideration at the hands of the legislature and of the people of Tennessee.

<sup>3</sup> Report of United States Senate Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, communicated to the Senate, January 19, 1829; Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, Chairman.

<sup>4</sup> The Supreme Court of California, April term, 1858, *ex parte Newman*.

### THEY DEFEND THE PERSECUTION.

THE *Examiner and National Baptist*, of this city, has entered courageous, consistent and persistent protest against the persecution of seventh-day observers. However, it is no more than would be expected from the denomination of Roger Williams. The surprise is, that there can be found a Baptist paper that justifies these persecutions. Yet the writer has before him *six* Baptist papers, four from this country and two from Canada, that attempt to defend these violations of the principle of religious liberty. Some of our readers would doubtless be interested to read some of them. The following from the *Texas Baptist Standard*, of March 28, is a representative of these defenses, both as to the spirit manifested and arguments(?) adduced:—

The *Standard* has received a copy of the county paper of Rhea County, Tenn., in which there is a lengthy account of the trial and imprisonment of a number of Seventh-day Adventists, who were indicted and convicted for violating the Tennessee Sunday law. Some of our Baptist exchanges have wasted considerable breath in trying to work up sympathy for this kind of lawlessness, but as yet the *Standard* has not been able to enter into their views of the case. It may be a matter of conscience for a Seventh-day Adventist to keep Saturday, but it is certainly not a matter of conscience for him to become a lawbreaker. Our opinion is that these Adventists knowingly premeditate the breaking of the Sunday law in order to be arrested and put in jail, so that they may be able to raise the cry of persecution. It used to be a matter of conscience with an orthodox Mormon to have anywhere from two to two dozen wives, but the National Government seems to have taken the view that a man's conscience in such a case had gone wrong, and that the man who carries such a conscience around with him, is a good deal more at home in jail or in the penitentiary than anywhere else. It might be a matter of conscience with some men to whip their wives. And there are a great many men who never suffer a twinge of conscience on account of any violation of the moral code. It is a matter of conscience with the saloon keeper to sell whiskey on Sunday, because there are a great many toppers who drink more on Sunday than any other day. From these obvious facts, it would follow that lawlessness should not be tolerated simply because it happens to be done under the guise of religion or on the plea of liberty of conscience. As the *Standard* sees, it is just as much harm for Seventh-day Adventists to violate the laws governing the Christian Sabbath as it is for the saloon-keeper. To take the position that the Seventh-day Adventists have the right to secularize the Lord's day, and turn it into a day of work, is to concede all that they claim on the Sabbath question. If they feel in conscience bound to work on Sunday they need not flaunt it in the faces of Christians who believe in keeping the Lord's day holy unto him.

In reply to all this we submit the following from the *Examiner and National Baptist*:—

"We did not expect any Baptist would defend the prosecution of otherwise inoffensive Christians for labor on the first day of the week that disturbs nobody else. . . . It would have been easy, by the use of similar arguments, for those who persecuted Baptists in the past, to have justified their conduct and policy."

### AMEN!

THE *Evangel and Sabbath Outlook*, of March 21, encourages the persecuted Seventh-day Adventists of Rhea County, Tenn., with the following words:—

We say to these Sabbath-keepers, let the officers have your bodies for prison cells and chains, but sell neither truth nor loyalty to God's Sabbath.

To this the *Cottage Pulpit*, of Nashville, Tenn., responds thus:—

Amen! to that sentiment, brother of the *Evangel*. And may it spread over this State and Union and find a lodgment and take root and grow and bear fruit in the hearts of true patriots everywhere, until the dark spirit of religious bigotry and blindness shall be driven from the field it has invaded under cover of these old "Blue Law" statutes in the codes of this and other States.

If the legislature of Tennessee now in session at the

Capitol would do its duty, it would not adjourn until it has wiped off the stain of this Rhea County disgrace from the escutcheon of our good commonwealth. If the members of the two houses of this legislature would do an act of lasting benefit to the State and honor to themselves, individually and collectively, they have only to apply the knife to the religious persecuting section in our revised code, and hurl it out!

To the utterances of both the *Sabbath Outlook* and the *Cottage Pulpit*, the SENTINEL says Amen!

### THE POPE'S LOVE FOR AMERICA.

[The following editorial kindly translated from *Die Rundschau* (Chicago) of February 6, and sent us for publication, by Rev. Oscar Goelz, of Gretna, La., displays unusual courage and perception.]

THAT Leo XIII. fondly cherished within his papal heart these United States, we knew long ago. Especially in the past three years have we been hearing much of it. In 1892, there came this bit of news from Rome: "What the church has done in the past for other nations, she will now do for the United States." In the following year this papal design materialized. Satolli came to this country as the pope's delegate, announcing the purpose of his mission in an address to the Catholic Congress assembled at Chicago in the month of September, in these pertinent words: "Bring your country into immediate contact with that great secret of blessedness—Christ and his church." A month later Professor O'Gorman of the Washington University, in a paper read before the World's Congress of Religions, made claim to this country for the pope "by right of discovery and possession," and because of "its religious character and Christian principles." Shortly after occurred Cardinal Gibbons' jubilee celebration. On this occasion Archbishop Ireland proclaimed the union of the Catholic Church and the United States at the banqueting hall, by congratulating those assembled there on the privilege they enjoyed of seeing this union "typified" in the arrangements before their eyes, in that "the Vice-president of the United States comes here and takes his seat alongside the cardinal." Then on the 22nd of September, 1894, Bishop Keane, Rector of the Catholic University at Washington, brought this item of news from Rome: "The policy of the pope is . . . the union of the church with the great democratic powers of the future, that is, America and France. This is his hope, and unto its fulfillment tend all his remarkable endeavors." And shortly afterward we were apprized of the pope's intention to declare America a Catholic country, and that he thought the United States "the most promising field for the church in the whole world."

The latest papal encyclical to the American bishops, the contents of which was made public the beginning of last week, breathes the same spirit of love for the United States. And this circumstance makes it noticeable also to non-Catholics. For this fact, the pope's bestowing his special favor on our country, is a very serious sign of the times, and all having at heart the welfare of our nation and wishing its liberty to be retained inviolate, would do well to closely observe this sign of the times and take to heart the lesson such observation teaches.

Referring to the Columbus celebration in his encyclical, the pope pays a high tribute to the American people for the powerful progress achieved. Naturally his special favor centers in the Catholics, giving expression to his joy, over the fact that under the free institutions of our Republic, unfettered and unbiased by any legislation whatever, his church has de-



veloped gloriously. Yet it is far from the purpose of the pope to indorse these free institutions themselves. On the contrary, "it would," he says, "be very erroneous to draw the conclusion that in America is to be sought the type of the most desirable status of the church; or that it would be universally lawful or expedient for the State and Church to be, as in America, dissevered and divorced. The church would bring forth more abundant fruits if, in addition to liberty, she enjoyed the favor of the laws and the patronage of the public authority."

We ought to mark well these words of Leo XIII. They are the key to the correct understanding of the whole remaining portion of his message, and clearly and plainly betray the pope's actual intentions toward our country. He certainly does approve of this, that his church enjoys the greatest liberty under our free institutions, but he is not at all satisfied with this state of affairs; he demands more. Naturally the complete and fundamental separation of Church and State existing in the United States is an abomination to him and a thorn in his eyes. The lawfulness of such a status is what he denies in emphatic terms. He only submits to it because he must, and because it is expedient for him to make the best of, and put up with, the existing condition of affairs. His ideal is still the union of Church and State, or rather the superiority of the former, that is, his sect, over the latter. The laws of the State are to favor his church, and, naturally, his exclusively; and the public authorities are to patronize her and be subservient to her. Such would be, in the eyes of the pope, the normal status, and to bring about this status is the aim and object of his endeavors.

All else he elaborates on in his encyclical and lays near the hearts of his people, is to serve the final purpose of hastening and materializing the Catholicity of these United States.

There is no necessity for still further following the tracks of the encyclical. What the pope urges the Catholic citizens of this country to consider, what he has to say about labor organizations, his admonitions to Catholic newspaper writers,—all this is in itself of no value to us and does not influence our way of thinking and acting. They are of interest and importance to us, only in so far as these utterances too are colored throughout with the same wish and mind of the pope we have just portrayed, and his design to bring our whole American nation in subservience to him. And for this reason the latest papal encyclical is a significant sign of the times, whereby we again may learn to understand that the greatest enemy of our nation and its liberty is, and will remain until the end of time, the popedom at Rome, an institution of the devil.

**DANGEROUS LEGISLATION.**

It has generally been conceded that the State has the authority to declare legal holidays. This winter the State of Minnesota has added another to the list, in declaring that the birth day of Lincoln is to be a legal holiday. And as long as legislative bodies are content to leave the matter with the simple declaration that such and such days are to be legal holidays, and then leave everybody free to observe them or not, it will make very little difference to the average citizen. But should they attempt by legislative enactment to prescribe how these days shall be observed, and make certain acts, in themselves legitimate, misdemeanors because done on these days, they would then invade the inalienable rights of the people. And if they should go

so far as to formulate a round of solemn, sacred acts of religious worship, imposing penalties of fines and imprisonments for certain acts of amusements, sports, and pastimes, they would then enter the realm of conscience, the realm of religion, which would not only be an invasion of the civil rights of the people, but it would be an attempted usurpation of the divine prerogatives of the mind; an exalting of the State above the religious convictions of the individual, a gross usurpation of authority.

Now all this is just what is being attempted in the legislature of Minnesota. Attempted, I say; at least a bill has been introduced by Representative Downs, to compel the decorous observance of Memorial Day until five o'clock in the afternoon. The first seventeen hours of the day are to be set apart for "sacred, solemn, and patriotic exercises;" while those who would engage in such sports as racing with horses, boats, or bicycles, or play any games, or attend any game of baseball or football, or other sports, on that day, before five o'clock in the afternoon, will be subject to a fine of from \$10 to \$100, or from ten to thirty days' imprisonment, or both.

In commenting on this measure, the Pioneer Press of St. Paul, asks the question, "Is Minnesota to have a set of Blue Laws?" It pronounces the measure "The grossest proposal to interfere with personal liberty that has been heard of in the State;" and adds that the presentation of such a measure is evidence of how far these paternalistic ideas have "carried us back toward the days of tyranny of opinion and the fettering of the individual." These are sound words and should serve to arouse the thoughtful reader, and lead the people to be more jealous of their rights lest they expire in a convulsion. Those who are acquainted with the history of the downfall of the republic of Rome, do not need to be told that we are living over again the history of that republic. H. F. PHELPS.

St. Paul, Minn.

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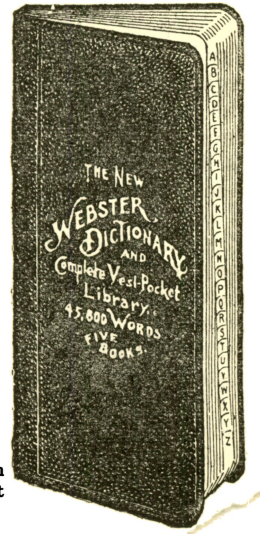
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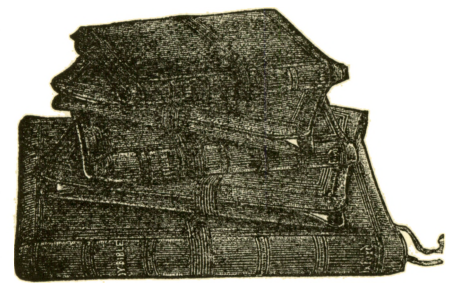
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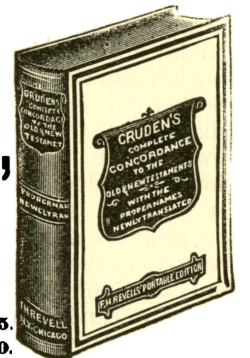
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## BISHOP AND PRIEST REVILING EACH OTHER.

THE *Converted Catholic* has given considerable space to the quarrels between Roman Catholic Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, N. Y., and Father Louis A. Lambert, one of the priests of his diocese, late editor of the *Catholic Times* of Philadelphia, and for the present editor of the New York *Freeman's Journal*. In the exchange of characteristic Roman Catholic ecclesiastical civilities, priest Lambert in his paper called his bishop "a political place hunter," "a disappointed office-seeker," and declared him "jealous of the success of some of his fellow-bishops." He instanced cases of the bishop's cruelty to his priests, who, for some reason, or none, as Father Lambert insinuated, were suspended, unjustly deprived of their rights and turned out to starve by this "charitable" bishop. Now, in turn, the bishop, in a recently started Roman Catholic weekly, called by the ominous name of *The Vatican*, published in Albany, N. Y., pays his respects to Lambert. In the leading editorial of that paper for March 16, 1895, Father Lambert is said to be guilty of "shameless and mendacious invention, to have encouraged a most malevolent and unchristian spirit." He is called a "clerical plotter," a "conspirator against truth and honesty," an "artful dodger," and other such complimentary names. We would commend to the consideration of the bishop and priest the words of Peter's First Epistle 8, 9: "Love as brethren, be courteous. Not rendering evil for evil, nor railing for railing; but contrariwise blessing.

But evidently Peter's counsel is thrown away upon the Roman Catholic bishops and priests of our generation. The echoes of the scandalous revelations by Dr. Ducey have not died away when here comes the learned Lambert of "Ingersoll" fame and the "holy bishop" of Rochester reviling each other like fishwives. "Come out of her, my people."—*The Converted Catholic*, for April.

## OUR TENNESSEE LETTER.

MATTERS at Graysville are running along about as usual. It is a quiet neighborhood and withal an agricultural community, and most people are quite busy with their spring work. The non-resident students who were attending the academy have all left for their homes. There is still some discussion about the imprisonment of the Adventists, and as to the people opinion is somewhat divided about the propriety of prosecuting under the Sunday law. The better class of citizens, the reading and thinking people, are pretty generally agreed that this is religious persecution, and that it is a shame that inoffensive citizens should be arrested and imprisoned for no other offense than doing upon Sunday, work which would be held to be entirely commendable on any other day. The Adventists themselves are pursuing the even tenor of their way as though nothing had happened.

The sheriff came to-day with warrants to arrest the following members of the Graysville Seventh-day Adventist Church:—

L. S. Abbott,	2 cases (now in jail).
H. C. Leach,	"
Lewis Abbott,	"
N. E. England,	1 case.
Byrd Terry,	"
Dwight Plumb,	" (now in jail).
W. J. Kerr,	" (was in jail).
Monroe Morgan,	"
E. R. Gillett,	"
Columbus Moyers,	"
Wallace Ridgway,	"
J. M. Hall,	"
Oscar England,	"
W. S. Burchard,	" (now in jail).

All who were found gave bonds to appear at the next term of court for trial, but there is no thought of leaving to avoid the processes of the court, and no revengeful expressions are heard concerning those who persecute them.

The fate of the petition for the release of the imprisoned Adventists, so generously signed by officials and private citizens and addressed to the County Court (a body composed of the justices of the peace of the county), is thus given in the *Dayton Republican*, of April 5:—

## Wouldn't Do It.

## THE COUNTY COURT REFUSES TO LIBERATE THE ADVENTISTS—A TIE VOTE.

Monday evening the petitions asking for the release of the Adventists in jail were presented to the County Court.

Squire McPherson said if they were released now it would encourage them and more offenses would be committed and more arrests follow.

Hon. John A. Denton said that it would be money saved to the county to now release them; that they had received enough punishment; that in all other respects they were law-abiding, Christian people.

A resolution had been passed in January, 1893, by the County Court that no one should be released from jail unless recommended by the judge or justice before whom tried. Squire Hicks moved that this record be expunged. After considerable talk he withdrew his motion at McPherson's request and court adjourned.

Tuesday morning Squire Hicks again renewed his motion to expunge the record. McPherson moved to table it, and a vote being taken, it was laid on the table by 15 to 11.

In the afternoon Squire Hicks moved to suspend the resolution referred to for the present term of court. McPherson moved to table, which was lost by 14 to 11, and Hicks' motion being put was carried by 13 to 12.

A motion to release the Adventists was made by Squire Merritt. McPherson moved to table it, and the vote being taken it was announced as tabled by 12 to 11.

Court adjourned Tuesday evening. Wednesday afternoon it was found that the last vote was a tie—12 to 12, this discovery being made on looking over the vote on the tally sheet. Chairman *pro tem*, Benson, who took the ayes and noes down as cast, was in the clerk's office when the discovery was made, and verified this by going carefully over each justice's name and how he had voted. Mr. Benson said it was an error of his head and not the heart; that he had called McPherson to help count the vote and they had both made it 12 to 11. It is not known how Chairman Crawford would have voted on a tie vote.

The vote as cast was—

For releasing—A. M. Broyles, Keylon, Smith, Fugate, A. P. Hayes, Eli Hayes, Hicks, Mowry, Morgan, Merritt, Clouse, Baldwin—12.

Against releasing—Waterhouse, Wyrick, Trentham, Gillespie, D. E. Broyles, Benson, King, Dodd, Lillard, Monday, Torbett, McPherson—12.

Not voting—Knight, Romines, Green.

Absent—Henry.

A significant incident happened, a few days since, on one of the streets of Graysville when two Adventists met. One was a deacon of the church, and, stopping, he said to the other: "Wright Raines (the man who prosecuted them) and his family are suffering for the necessities of life. What ought we to do in this case?" The other responded: "What does the Bible say?" Simultaneously the words from the Saviour fell from the lips of both: "If thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink." The one who first raised the question said: "Yes, that's right; but if we give him anything he'll perhaps think that we are trying to buy his favor." But the other said: "How can that be, since the trials are over, and Mr. Raines is not the prosecutor in the cases to be tried in the next term of court?" It was therefore agreed that the Scripture injunction should be followed.

The Adventists bring their religion into their daily lives to a great extent. Prayer and praise is to be daily heard in every Adventist family, and in their meetings there is a marked spirit of devotion. They are Bible Christians, and true Protestants, for the Bible is their only rule of faith and practice, and a

"thus saith the Lord" is with them the end of controversy. An officer of the court said to the writer only a few days ago: "These Adventists are the best people in Rhea County, and the county would be better off if we had a thousand of them." And yet several of them are confined in the Rhea County jail, and others are under indictment and will doubtless be imprisoned next July. But they do not repine, and will not swerve from what they regard to be their duty to God.

But this is not saying that it is easy for these people to suffer persecution. They are human, and have the feelings to which human flesh is heir. Their hearts are just as tender and their affections as warm, as the hearts and affections of other people, and when the father and husband is taken away and locked up in jail, it is a cruel blow to the wife and children; but there is no repining on the part of those who are left at home. The women are not heard, as was Job's wife, begging their husbands to curse God and die; but, on the contrary, they encourage their husbands to faithfulness, and say: "We are ready to go too when our time comes." It is possible to imprison whole families, or even entire communities, of such people, *but it is not possible to turn them from their allegiance to God and to his law.* They can go to prison—or to death if need be—but *they cannot deny their faith.*

## CONDENSED NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

GOVERNOR MCKINLEY has refused to dismiss Police Lieutenant Hehan, of Cincinnati, whose dismissal was demanded by the ministers of Cincinnati because he refused to arrest theatrical performers until the conclusion of the performance.

THE Protestant ministers of Helena, Ark., invoked the aid of the law to stop a musical entertainment given by the Gilmore Band. The managers evaded the law by giving free entertainments. Collections were taken and the amount thus raised was donated to the poor of the city.

THE election held at Bridgeport, Conn., April 2, was enlivened by women and religion. It is reported that in order to elect a Protestant school board, for which women are allowed to vote, the Protestants undertook to secretly urge the Protestant women of the churches to vote. The Roman Catholic priests got wind of the movement and instructed Catholic women to do the same; and since that church is the perfection of organization and discipline, it was able to vote its women to a woman, and consequently, completely overwhelm the opposition. However, the Catholic women, owing to a blunder in voting, failed to carry the election. They will be better instructed next time.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 2.—Judge Clark has overruled the demurrer interposed by Rev. J. C. Campbell in the suit charging him with slandering Miss Tessa L. Kelso, the librarian of the Los Angeles Public Library.

The basis of the action was a prayer offered by the defendant before his congregation in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he said: "O Lord, vouchsafe thy saving grace to the librarian of the Los Angeles City Library and cleanse her of all sin and make her a woman worthy of her office."

Rev. Campbell, in his demurrer, took the position that his statement was privileged. The court held that a slander can be perpetrated in the form of a prayer as readily as in any other form of speech.—*New York World.*





NEW YORK, APRIL 18, 1895.

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THE press is running day and night to fill orders for our last extra; and just before going to press the Colorado Tract Society telegraphed an order for ten thousand copies.

THE Associated Press announced on the 11th inst. that Governor Turney had pardoned the five Seventh-day Adventists imprisoned at Dayton, Tenn., March 8. All honor to Governor Turney. The governor would now do credit to himself should he send a message to the Tennessee Legislature now in session recommending the repeal of the Sunday law under which they were imprisoned. The pardons were granted on the recommendation of the trial-judge, Judge J. G. Parks, who shares with the governor the honors of the noble act.

UNDER the circumstances, it is safe to say that this action of the officials of Tennessee is without a parallel in our history. Here were five men duly convicted of the violation of the law of the State and committed to prison upon refusal to pay the costs duly assessed; not only so, but they had respectfully but firmly declared in court that they could not obey the law, and yet they were pardoned by the governor upon the recommendation of the trial-judge. This can only be regarded as a confession that the law is unjust and that it ought to be repealed.

THE legislature of Massachusetts has enacted a most rigid Sunday law. It declares that no entertainment shall be given on Sunday at which an admission fee is charged, and makes any person attending such prohibited entertainment liable to a fine of five dollars. Another portion of the law reads thus:—

Whoever, on the Lord's day, keeps open his shop, warehouse or workhouse, or does any manual labor, business or work, except works of necessity and charity, or takes part in any sport, game, or play, except a sacred concert, shall be punished by a fine of \$50 for each offense, and the owner of any hall in which said law is violated is liable to a fine of \$500.

It will be noticed that the church theater is exempted,—“any sport, game, or play, except a sacred concert.”

FOR some time the Polish Roman Catholic Church, of Omaha, Neb., has been the scene of disgraceful fights between factions in the church. The latest developments are the burning of the church and the arrest of a priest as the probable incendiary. It is alleged that the church was saturated in the second story with kerosene. By a court decision the priest's faction would have been compelled to vacate the church in two days, and the evidence, it is said, clearly proves that the

priest and his faction decided to burn the church rather than abandon it to the other faction. And yet the Roman Catholic Church declares that she is the only power that can control the mobs of the world.

OUR intelligent Delaware correspondent, Rev. O. G. Buddington, a few months since, referred to the fact that in the State of Delaware an appropriation of five dollars has been made by the courts to each Sunday-school. The Baptists have declined it on principle, and have appealed to the legislature for the repeal of the law. Other denominations have united in this appeal, excepting the Roman Catholics and Episcopalians.—*The Examiner*, April 11.

THE latest news from the prosecuted Seventh-day Adventists of London is that the authorities have seized their goods to the value of \$90, which they will sell to collect fine and costs, amounting to \$30.

The following brief statement accompanying the above facts, as issued by the persecuted Adventists, will explain their attitude toward the prosecution:—

It is not from stubbornness or any disrespect to the authorities that the fines have not been paid. If they had been imposed for any ordinary infraction of the law, they would have been paid at once. But the fourth commandment forbids us to recognize Sunday as in any way whatever different from the succeeding five days of the week. To do so would be sin. Consequently, to pay a fine for violation of a human enactment that bids us recognize Sunday as a day of rest, would be to put ourselves on the side of that human law, in opposition to the commandments of God. If property is forcibly taken to satisfy fines, those who take it are alone responsible; but we cannot by any act whatever become partakers in the sin of the government in setting itself above the authority of the Creator.

IN 1892 the Supreme Court of the United States declared that “this is a Christian nation,” and cited as one proof the “Sabbath laws” of the various States. The leaders of the Sunday-law crusade immediately seized upon this decision as furnishing the highest possible authority for Sunday legislation. Armed with this decision the Sunday-law leaders besieged Congress to enact a law closing the World's Fair on Sunday, not so much for the purpose of shutting the Fair on Sunday as for the purpose of committing Congress to the creation of a precedent for Federal legislation favorable to Sunday sacredness. They succeeded, and Sunday sacredness was declared established.

But startling to relate, the Congress of the United States desecrated in 1895 what it had hallowed in 1892. It continued in session the greater part of Sunday, March 3, and engaged in work just as secular as that done by the imprisoned Adventists in Rhea County, Tenn. But still more startling to the apostle of compulsory Sunday observance comes the information that the United States Supreme Court, the creator of this “Christian nation,” held a session on Sunday, April 7, and performed work just as secular as was ever performed by an Adventist anywhere. Thus it would appear that the creators of the “Christian

nation” and the “Christian Sabbath” have destroyed what they created. This fatal fact is becoming apparent to the Sunday-law advocates, and they have already declared their intention of turning the desecrators out and putting in their places men who will recreate what their predecessors destroyed. Now all this trouble could be avoided by accepting the Sabbath blessed and sanctified by the “Lord of the Sabbath,” and which does not depend for its perpetuity on legislative or judicial action.

IN harmony with what appears to be concerted action on the part of the papacy in the United States to push the enforcement of Sunday laws, the *Catholic Review*, of March 31, publishes a defense of compulsory Sunday observance, in which occurs the following:—

In every one of the original States, including, of course, New York, the common law of England in force at the time of the separation was declared to be reenacted, with some exceptions bearing upon political sovereignty, land tenure, and the like, necessary to effectuate the separation and its new conditions. But the common law of England presupposed the Christian religion and that remained to the State of New York and is still in force.

With this for a basis the article concludes that “the courts will be bound to uphold Sunday as a day of worship and of rest from unnecessary labor.” This is the same position which has always been taken by those professed Protestants who were so anxious to secure the power of the State in support of their dogma of Sunday sacredness. Rome has a number of dogmas which she will yet build on this same foundation with the same reasoning to the consternation of these unwise Protestants.

GOV. TURNEY of Tennessee has pardoned all those Seventh-day Adventists who were imprisoned by the courts of his State some months ago for working on Sunday. There were nine of these convicts for conscience' sake in jail at one time, but the sentences of some of them had expired before Gov. Turney acted. They all belong to a colony of about three hundred located in Rhea County. One of them is a minister, and all are men of good character, whose only violation of the law was this one of observing Saturday and working on Sunday. Their prosecution was a bit of bigotry, of which the best people in Tennessee have long been ashamed. But there is something which remains to be done. That is, to change the laws of Tennessee in accordance with justice.—*Springfield (Mass.) Daily Republican*, April 13.

#### A CORRECTION.

THE first twenty-five thousand copies of the SENTINEL, of April 11, speaks of ex-Governor James D. Porter, of Tennessee, as “now United States Circuit Judge.” This is a mistake. He was nominated by Mr. Cleveland but not confirmed. The copies printed later correctly state that Mr. Porter is now United States Minister to Chili.

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