

# Facts about Sabbath Observance, FROM THE BUSINESS WORLD.

BY G. T. MOORE.

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WHILE so much prominence is being given to the Sabbath question a few incidents of a practical nature may well be considered.

A prominent merchant, speaking recently of the prospects of a young man who had commenced business on his own account, said in effect :

"This young man's father was in early life studying for the ministry, and conducting a photograph gallery in order to secure money for his expenses. His business venture was a success until he concluded that, because other photographers kept open on Sun-

day, he must do so too, especially as he would so much the sooner be able to give his entire time to his studies and to what he believed was his life-work. He not only did not become a preacher, but his business was soon a failure, and he was afterward unsuccessful in everything he undertook." The business man continued: "His son is a consistent member of the church, has proved himself true to principle, and his uncle and I are so well persuaded of his future success that we have furnished him with the capital needed."

Some years ago a friend of the writer was engaged in manufacturing on a large scale. He not only had no regard for the Sabbath, but was a strong opponent of its observance. His mill was run not only night and day, but seven days in the week, and if shut down for repairs, it was on a week-day, if possible.

But one Saturday evening he instructed his son, who was his foreman, to have the mill closed down at midnight, to remain closed for twenty-four hours. Noticing the surprise which the members of his family could not help expressing in their faces, he remarked, "There is no sentiment in this. I have been considering the matter for some time, and I find that when the mill runs on Sunday something happens through the week which costs as much as or more than I make on Sunday. This is purely a matter of profit and loss."

The mill was never run again on Sunday.

In 1862, during the sieges of New Madrid, Island No. 10, and Corinth, no attention was paid to Sunday observance. In fact, it appeared as if Sunday was selected for any important movement, and was a day more than usually busy. When Gen. Rosecrans

and write to the loved ones at home. Testament-reading took the place of card-playing. The men carried the better order of things through the week. Even the army wagons seemed to join the procession of improvement, the men taking greater pride in the care and appearance of all their belongings.

Since that experience there has never been a question in my mind but that man and beast alike require the rest which the Sabbath implies.

Some time ago a gentleman related the experience of his brother, a member of a company of gold prospectors who drove across the continent from St. Louis in the early days of the gold excitement. For safety they went in large companies, with many wagons and teams. The first Saturday night out, this man's company voted to rest on

"In reply to an article in your last issue entitled 'What ails Mr. Hammon?' I would like to say that there is, as good mechanics well know, such a thing as fatigue of metals. Steel-cutting tools, for instance, will from continual use become almost worthless; but after a rest from service will recover and be as good as ever."

It is claimed that barbers are obliged to give their razors resting-spells, else the edges become rough.

It will be remembered by some that after the great railroad strike of 1872, when so much of the Pennsylvania R. R. Co.'s rolling-stock was destroyed, it became necessary to put the remainder to daily use. It was then published that the cost to that company for repairs to locomotives and cars had never before been so great per mile run. The Rev. Samuel W. Duffield, for several years settled



as a pastor in Altoona, where the principal shops and offices of that company are located, confirmed this report as coming from the officers of the company. Many of the scientific and skilled employ  s of the road were attendants at his church, and in conversations with him they held to the theory that for fully profitable use metals require at least one day's rest out of seven. They explained it by saying that with steady use the grain of metal, which naturally crosses, works in one direction, is weakened thereby, and wears faster, or if for cutting purposes, takes on a rough edge.

If the rest of the Sabbath is so necessary to animal life and to metals, how much more to man! It seems strange that they who demand Sunday transportation and Sunday amusements for themselves forget how many men and animals they deprive of

Sunday rest and Sunday comfort, and to how many they make the Sabbath the hardest day of the seven.

"When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat?" Amos 8:5.

"Deliver us, gracious God, from this sin of covetousness—from being weary of thy Sabbaths, which are ordained to preserve in our hearts the knowledge of thee and of thy Son, Jesus Christ."

## SABBATH REST.

FRESH glides the brook and blows the gale,

Yet yonder halts the quiet mill !

The whirring wheel, the rushing sail,

How motionless and still !

Six days of toil, poor child of Cain,

Thy strength the slave of Want may be ;

The seventh thy limbs escape the chain,

For God hath made thee free !

Ah, tender was the law that gave

This holy respite to the breast,

To breathe the gale, to watch the wave,

And know the wheel may rest !

Six days may rank divide the poor,

O Dives, from thy banquet-hall ;

The seventh the Father opes the door

And holds His feast for all !

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