



Tract Society Department.

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SUNDAY-NIGHT LECTURES IN BOSTON.

The orthodox papers of Boston are quite vigorous in denouncing the desecration, so-called, of Sunday evening by "secular lectures."

"Sabbath desecration is becoming fearfully alarming, and especially so because of the contented and practiced by respectable people. It is plain that there is a persistent and vigorous attempt to exclude from the day all idea of holiness, and to regard it and use it as if like any other day in the week."

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day-night lectures, and Sunday street cars in Boston, Sunday recreations and revelry in New York, Sunday business and debauchery in Chicago, Cincinnati, New Orleans and San Francisco, are the early fruits, the 'first picking' of this tree. The rapid growth of no-Sabbathism in the church, gives promise of a 'second picking,' which, soon ripening, will debauch the church and reap the history of France in America. The primary difficulty is not with Boston infidels, nor New York jager-beer men. The reform must begin back of these, in the church. All idea of a 'religious' Sabbath must be abandoned, or else the plain law of the fourth commandment must be accepted as the ground of action. While that law is set aside for inferences and suppositions on which to build something which virtually opposes God, and misleads the people by false issues, the whole nation, infidel and orthodox together, will continue to go on into the morass of no-Sabbathism."

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Your faithfulness will not be in vain. Ever before you the help may come; if not, the light which your obedience sheds will not go out. Men will remember it when the grass has grown over your dust. In the hour of seeming defeat, a single soldier standing firm, often becomes the means of rallying hundreds who are seeking for a leader, and of turning back the tide of battle. So you, lone Sabbath keeper, holding fast your integrity, may become the nucleus around which many may yet gather to keep the commandments of God. May our Father hallow the hour when all those who truly obey His law shall 'see eye to eye,' and be omental in unflinching bonds through faith and obedience. May the blessing of Him who 'was despised and rejected of men' abide with all those who, seeking for light, prove their love by obedience. To such ones, the promises seem doubly precious. How doubts and fears fly when they read, 'If any man open the door, I will come in and sup with him and be with me.' Surely he has with him who Christ thus dwells. Sabbath-keepers, struggling for true Sabbath reform, need to pick out all the sweet promises of God's Word, and 'learn them by heart,' and read upon them. They need to learn how to trust, how to believe with that cleaved faith which can see 'as from the beginning,' or, at least, can know that the end will be glorious, because of the triumph of truth. Keep rowing; anchoring time will come by and by.

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and were subject to other cruel restrictions such as decency and justice for the Sabbath. And it is against such acts as the recognition of the social and civil rights of the Jews that the Pope, and bishops, and priests, indignantly protest.

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then, is laboring faithfully, persistently, even though quietly, to bring about this condition, whether he be layman or preacher, is working intelligently and efficiently for the promulgation of Sabbath truth. He who preaches Christ most faithfully, is doing most for the Sabbath, whether he make the preaching of the fourth commandment a specialty or not. And here it may not be out of place to suggest, that the real friends of the Sabbath, and of the Sabbath Tract Society, cannot afford the insinuation, that those who see the primary importance of this branch of the work, and humbly yet rejoicingly accept the responsibility connected with such apprehension, are less sincere or less earnest in their devotion to the truth, than are those whose position, perceptions, inclinations, lead them into another department of labor in behalf of the common cause. Denominational effort must utterly fail, unless there be hopeful, self-denying, indefatigable labor in the churches. Let the fountains fall, and the streams that are supplied by them must soon disappear. Nor can we afford to consider that any, whose judgment may not lead them to conclude that every suggestion, or plan, or line of financial policy proposed, are not honestly and heartily desirous of the success of a cause that has received their sacrifices. Next to the necessity of being united to Christ, is the need of union with each other. United, we may succeed; divided, we cannot. Practically, he is the greatest enemy of the Sabbath who sows the seeds of personal prejudices and sectional jealousies, or who seeks to carry a point for personal or partisan purposes, in the church, or in the denomination. G. E. T.

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to San Francisco is \$136; second-class \$100. From Omaha to San Francisco, first-class passage is \$100. There is also an extra charge of \$16 between Omaha and San Francisco to those taking the palace or hotel cars. The Union and Central Pacific Railroads show no special favors to either of the numerous lines carrying passengers from New York to Omaha. Take whichever line you please and the price is the same. It is not easy to say which has most advantages or disadvantages. Partly for the sake of traveling a route new to us, and partly in view of what we deem its advantages, we propose to take what is called the Pacific Express on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, leaving here at half past 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. The road runs in nearly a straight line to Council Bluffs, 492 miles, crossing the Mississippi River at Clinton, and the Missouri at the Bluffs, at which point, according to the present understanding, one enters 'the West.' On the hotel table at which we are writing lies an octavo volume of 400 pages, entitled 'Chicago—past, present, and future,' in which are set forth, exhaustively, one would suppose, the reasons for thinking that Chicago is to be the great city of the West, if not of the world. It must be pleasant reading for those who enjoy evidences of satisfaction on the part of writers. If ever you come across the book when needing a stimulant to the digestion of a hearty supper, just dip into it, as we have done with amusement and profit. G. E. T.

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ings to herself. Yet people wonder why girls rush from the kitchen to school teaching. If a man should go on a canal or railroad embankment, while he might earn double the wages he gets, with half the outlay of time and labor, we should think him a fool. Yet we expect girls to do what is equivalent to this, and derate them soundly when they refuse. It may be said that domestic service is not worth so much as other employments which pay better. There are other reasons why American girls shun domestic service, one of which is a regard for appearances; what some severe moralists who never 'worked out,' or who want to cover up the memory of having done so by an assumption of pious horror, call pride, and 'foolish and wicked conceit.' I am well aware that many girls spend their days in a sort of genteel laziness, who would be far more useful in somebody's kitchen; but I cannot blame them very much, when I remember the disgrace which attaches to domestic service. Disgrace may be a strong word, but it is the only word that expresses the fact. I know that not one domestic servant in a score is received as an equal in the best circles of our villages and country neighborhoods. Such girls may, and do mingle with those who follow other avocations, but there is an impassable, yet very effectual barrier between them. It should not be thus, but we must deal with things as they are. Young women are not the only sinners in this thing. Young men are far more ready to pay homage to the delicate idol than to the useful maid of all work, no matter how ladylike she may be. This is especially the case since the influx of Irish servants. The moment an American girl goes out to service, she feels that very many persons rate her, socially, with the Irish girl next door. All do not do this, but so long as any do, it will be hard to persuade refined American girls to submit to it. For women are taught to worship appearances from their cradles. It is as much a part of the popular feminine creed, as is the idea of natural and inborn superiority to woman a part of the masculine. Girls are taught to be and do this, and the other, not so much because it is right, as because somebody thinks it the proper thing. It is all wrong, but the fact remains for us to deal with as we can. We cannot mend the matter by scolding the girls, nor make them believe that domestic service is more desirable than any other employment, any more than we can convince young men that canal digging is very nice, respectable employment. American girls do and will leave household drudgery to the Irish, just as American boys leave railroad making to them, and for the same reasons. But there is deeper motive underlying this regard for appearances, and closely connected with it. I refer to the self-respect, and spirit of personal independence, which we claim is the direct result and crowning glory of our institutions. People have never thought much about the effect of our boasted liberty upon women. Men have been busy lading themselves, and their government, that they forget that woman might catch a little of the inspiration which so exhilarates them. Now American men boast, justly, of their personal independence. They call no man 'master.' They submit to no degrading servitude. They claim the right to make their own terms with those whom they serve, and if the employers refuse to accede to those terms, why, there is the Great West waiting for them, and they move on. Now all this makes men—men who are the pride and glory of the nation, and self-empowers of the world. And it is impossible for women to live in such an atmosphere and not breathe it. But while this spirit of independence and self-respect has gradually reformed the service which men render to their employers, until it is a fair mutual compact, the household services which women render, stand very nearly on the old footing. If any change has occurred, it is for the worse instead of the better, owing principally to the difficulties connected with the employment of raw, untrained foreigners, and the ignorant assumptions of the world be aristocrats. There is another difficulty connected with household service. It is a very intricate and delicate machine, requiring the nicest care and adjustment, and the constant personal supervision of the mistress; and to add to the difficulty, women are the most exacting employers in the world. They require the greatest precision, promptitude and activity, so that altogether, household service is more irksome than almost any other in the range of woman's employments. It fetters one's personality, destroys the sense of freedom of action—makes one feel as if 'cribbed, cabled, and confined.' 'What wonder then, that girls turn from it, to employments which give a sense of personal power and freedom. Another reason is found deep down in the holy of holies of woman's nature. A woman instinctively wants a home—she needs one. Give her the slenderest materials, and she will make one. But how many 'hired girls' find a real home with their employers? How many mistresses feel that the servant girl is really a member of the family? How many feel the least interest in her, beyond keeping her at her work? Some do, but the numbers are not large. And how can any girl feel at home

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where she knows that her faults and peculiarities form the staple of conversation between her mistress and her friends? For it is a shameful fact that this is the case in many families, and many a girl's character is injured for life by such wicked tattling. This practice is the more reprehensible in that it affects a class who are more defenseless, and more directly dependent on their personal character for success than almost any other. In this thing women are far greater sinners than men. No man who values the good opinion of his friends, or has a spark of self-respect would defend his clerks or farm hands as his wife does her servants. If he should, he would, perhaps, be talked to account in a manner more emphatic than agreeable. If women could realize the contemptible selfishness and utter vulgarity of this fault-finding, I think they would stop it. I know they would have better servants, for even the rawest and stupidest Irish woman has self-respect enough to resent such treatment. If American girls could find real homes by going out to service, I believe many more would be willing to try it. While they cannot, I do not blame them much for shunning it. In this love of home, and feeling of independence, we find the key to the perplexing fact, that many women prefer to starve on needlework, rather than become house servants. The needlewoman has a home. It may be a miserable, pinched affair, but it is home, and while in it, she is her own mistress. It may be foolish for her to prefer it to comfortable dependence, but it is perfectly natural. There remains but one more 'reason,' which is found in the 'razzoo' and pernicious idea, entertained by many who oppose all movements for the elevation of woman, that it is unnecessary, if not wrong, for a woman to earn her living. This idea is based on another, no less false and dangerous than itself, which is that woman was, like the beasts and birds, &c., created solely for man's benefit and pleasure, and that, therefore, she neither can nor ought to have any interests, occupations, aspirations, duties or obligations independent of him. They assume that woman was created for man to support, and that therefore she ought not to seek a support independent of him. Let this assertion may seem to lack proof, I will cite my readers to a learned article from the pen of the president of an influential institution, which was copied into the Recorder some months ago. He condemns all independent employment for women, because it will make them 'independent of marriage,' the only means of earning a living which he deems proper for woman-kind. I sincerely wish that the learned president might be forced to get such a living by marriage, as some women do. I think he would conclude that a little independent exertion would be proper in his case, at least. It is difficult to realize, at once, the utter and radical degradation which this idea, well carried out, would bring upon woman. It poisons the springs of her nature, in some degree now, but the danger is less than it might be if women generally were willing to accept it in full. Marriage as a means of support is a mere mockery of marriage, and is debasing to all concerned. Yet many girls sit idly at home, wasting the powers of body and mind which God has given them, waiting for somebody to marry and support them. What can be more vulgar and puerile. Yet these silly girls are not so blame-worthy as are those leaders of thought, who countenance them in the course. For one, I hail with gladness the agitation which wakes girls from their stilly sentimentalisms, which enervate both body and soul, and sets them to thinking of something besides the 'Coming Man.' I rejoice in the energy and determination of the women who 'blaze the way' for those who loiter behind. It may not be soft, and pretty, and sentimental work, but it is needed work. And I especially rejoice that women are waking up to the fact that work is what they need; what God gave them bodies and brains for, and for the performance of which he will hold them responsible. Let us hope that the prejudices and obstacles which hedge them in will be overcome, and that, in the good time coming, even domestic service will be shorn of its objectionable features, and become one of the *bona fide* arts of social life. Geo.

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and universal approbation of the answer sent by General Trochu to any they wish to resist to the last. The *Militaire*, *Zeitschrift*, of Berlin, publishes a table showing the fate of the relics of the three regiments of the former regular army of France. The whole of the Corps, eight infantry regiments, of three battalions each, with one battalion of Chasseurs, are prisoners. Of the hundred infantry regiments all are prisoners but six. Four of these, which were formerly in Algeria, being now with the Army of the Loire, and two, which were at Rome, being in Paris. The whole of the three battalions of the three regiments of the former regular army of France, three regiments of three battalions each, are captives; so are the twenty battalions of the *Chasseurs* of Taros, a body formerly of the same strength as the *Chasseurs*. The only other troops unaccounted for are three single battalions of light infantry, specially raised for Algerian service, and supposed to be still in the colony. The foreign Legion formed for the same purpose, and said also to be there at last accounts. A dispatch from Versailles, dated Dec. 17th, says that the delay in the bombardment of Paris was caused partly by a quarrel between General Bismarck and Von Roon. The latter wished to use army horses to bring up guns, while the former insisted that the same purpose should be done by the use of mules, and 400 horses are now coming from Germany to drug the siege guns from the railway termini. The food is fast giving out, and the German camps, and some of the troops have been without meat for three days. A dispatch from Berlin, says that the proposed bombardment of Paris has again been postponed because such a course at present would be detrimental to military operations. The subject of the war and the interests of the army at this juncture are paramount considerations. It is unquestionably at the right moment the commander of the investing army will take such action as will fully insure immediate and future success. A dispatch from Havre, says that an artillery horse sent to Captain Wells of the United States at Shenandoah, for the accidental shot received by that vessel a few days ago from a French iron clad which was using her guns to intimidate General Briand, the French commander at Havre, who had ordered a portion of the squadron to Cherbou. This 'cruel war' has not spared the fine arts. There will be few pictures painted in France in 1870, few contributions added to the musical compositions, few books written; the studio of the sculptor will be closed, the schools of design neglected, the poetical, the imaginative, forgotten. Having insured itself against a waste of provisions in Paris, of which there are enough fresh on hand to last until February, the government will again have fresh meat rationed to the inhabitants. The other provisions are sufficient to last for six months. The French Government has dismissed General Sol from the service. The charge against him was the hastily abandoned Tours, leaving behind him guns and other material of war, though no enemy appeared near the city. It is rumored that another scold has been made from Paris. The French came out from behind their fortifications in an immense force, and have already completely invested Versailles. A dispatch from London says that the German batteries commanded by General von Manteuffel, have been ordered to leave the Strasburg Cathedral. The German merchants are calling Count Bismarck's attention to the desirability of possessing the French East Indian colony of Saigon as a naval station. Bismarck is to be raised to a dukedom. It is said that the Count proposes to name his dukedom after the King, and urges him to accept that of Duke of Strasburg. With the surrender of Montmédy sixty-one cannon and 3,000 prisoners fell into the hands of the besiegers, and 236 German prisoners were released. The Strasburg fortifications have been repaired and are now placed in a complete state of defense. Sixty per cent. of the wounded and sick Prussians have rejoined the service. It is said that 300,000 French are drilling at Bourdeaux. CONGRESS. MONDAY, Dec. 12. In the Senate, bills were introduced to provide for a relief fund for Government employes, and authorizing the President to adopt measures of retaliation for the Canadian tariff. Resolutions were introduced to establish American steamship lines, granting Universal Amnesty, and appoint Commissioners on the San Domingo annexation measure; the House bill abolishing the Franking Privilege was again postponed. In the House, bills were introduced to establish ocean steamship lines, and appoint Commissioners on the San Domingo annexation measure; bills were passed by the Senate and House, abolishing the Internal Revenue system and the offices of Admiral and Vice-Admiral in the Navy; Mr. Rainey, the colored member from South Carolina, was admitted to a seat. TUESDAY, Dec. 13. In the Senate, the credentials of the Georgia Senators were presented and referred to a long discussion took place on the question of the admission of Kentucky to the Union. Mr. McCree, of Kentucky, presented a resolution for the transfer of the Arlington City to the heirs of Gen. R. E. Lee, the Senate refusing the consent—54 to 4; Mr. Sprague offered resolutions, which were passed, authorizing an investigation into the charges against him and others, the charges against the Rebels during the rebellion. In the House, Mr. Hill's resolution in relation to the laws authorizing the Franking Privilege, with an amendment permitting newspaper editors to be exempted from the payment of postage to pass free, was passed 103 to 64. A bill was presented to establish the Steamship Company of the Orient. We hear a report from the French that the army of the Loire was successful in its late engagements with the army of Prince Frederick Charles, taking many prisoners and inflicting heavy losses on the Germans. Then follows the German report that the French were victoriously repulsed in their late attack upon the former. But the general tenor of the dispatches places the advantages gained on the side of the Germans. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS. The advance of the Prussian army on Havre has been abandoned, and it is reported retreating toward Ronen. A telegram from Berlin dated December 14th, states that Paris is now entirely without gas. Many of the garrison endeavor to desert under cover of the darkness, to prevent which detachments of French soldiers are placed outside the walls, who stop and turn back all persons endeavoring to leave. It is reported that in Paris there is a general demand for more soldiers.

"It is perhaps useless to plead with orthodox now. It still has hope that Sunday can be saved by talk and legislation. It will not yet fairly meet the true issue, and examine the first principles of which Sabbath reform rests. There is little hope that its eyes will be opened until the whole structure which it has built begins to fall."

"We hope and pray that it may awake in time to save from the ruins what there is of truth, and find hearts to obey the law of God, which says, 'The Seventh day is the Sabbath.'"

"From the same paper we learn that 'Rev. J. D. Falton, D. D., discussed with characteristic eloquence to a large congregation at Tremont Temple, on Thanksgiving day, from the text, 'Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord.'"

"The Sabbath and the family go together. Where there is no Sabbath the domestic relations are not held sacred, and where the domestic relations are not held sacred there is no Sabbath."

"This, and more, did Mr. Falton urge in favor, not of God's Sabbath, but of man's Sunday. In the course of his remarks, he says: 'Let us be brave as Christian men and women.'"

"That sounds well, and it were well that it should be; but bravery against the law of God is not the best kind, and earnestness is not conducive to success when every blow rings out words of self-commendation."

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approval of the... General Trochu... the people all... the last...

ment in the Customs service... the bill to provide a relief... the bill to provide a relief...

In the Senate, a joint resolution... was passed allowing the details of... the bill to provide a relief...

In the Senate, the resignation of... Mr. Drake was announced... the bill to provide a relief...

The STUDY OF ENGLISH AT HARVARD... The Overseers of Harvard... the bill to provide a relief...

THE FIRST PROHIBITORY LAW... Rev. F. Moore, in the American... the bill to provide a relief...

ADJOINING KITEERY IS THE ANCIENT... town of York, about seven miles... the bill to provide a relief...

THE GALAXY FOR JANUARY IS A... splendid number, and is the initial... the bill to provide a relief...

the Dolieper Liman. It is stated... that for some years back every... the bill to provide a relief...

"HITS" IN RELIGIOUS PAPERS... The Watchman and Reflector says... the bill to provide a relief...

SUNDAY IN BOSTON.—One of the... regular institutions of Boston is... the bill to provide a relief...

PLAINFIELD, N. J.—The new edifice... of the 1st Methodist church of... the bill to provide a relief...

ANOTHER ATLANTIC CABLE IS TO... be laid in August next, by the... the bill to provide a relief...

GOOD REASON FOR JOINING A... CHURCH.—The Evangelist of San... the bill to provide a relief...

A PROPHECY FULFILLED.—The... London correspondent of the Chicago... the bill to provide a relief...

NOTICING BY REFERENCE TO A... prediction made by an ancient French... the bill to provide a relief...

THE REMARKS.—The Jewish Times... after referring to the majority of... the bill to provide a relief...

SURFACE EDUCATION.—Gan Shriv... inspector of the West Point... the bill to provide a relief...

more for a fund for disabled pastors... and their families. The profits of... the bill to provide a relief...

WHAT IS A REGULAR BAPTIST... CHURCH?—The question is answered... the bill to provide a relief...

SUMMARY OF NEWS.—The United States... frigate Guerrier and the... the bill to provide a relief...

On Saturday, Dec. 10th, citizens... of Santa Barbara county, California... the bill to provide a relief...

THE PHILADELPHIA MEDICAL AND... Surgical Review does not "know... the bill to provide a relief...

ALASKA SABLES ARE THE FIRST... fruits of the gold rush... the bill to provide a relief...

THE PROSPECTUS HAS APPEARED IN... London of a company to carry out... the bill to provide a relief...

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTAINING... 9,085 words, was sent to Baltimore... the bill to provide a relief...

THE CHURCHES OF NEVADA.—There... are sixteen church buildings... the bill to provide a relief...

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.—The English... journals are exhibiting great alarm... the bill to provide a relief...

A man in Lewiston, Mo., came to... Boston the day before Thanksgiving... the bill to provide a relief...

Some idea of the railway travel... into and out of London may be had... the bill to provide a relief...

A divorce case in Ireland has elicited... the fact that the lady was in the... the bill to provide a relief...

Clinton Parkhurst, a country editor... in Iowa, has retired from journalism... the bill to provide a relief...

THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT NOW... prints 4,000 copies of the public... the bill to provide a relief...

BURGARS TOOK A HOLE FOUR FEET... long and six inches wide from Brown... the bill to provide a relief...

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amption, Ohio, to Jackson, Ohio, to... Wellington, Iowa, with the... the bill to provide a relief...

Some admirable person, who does... not desire to be seen of men, is... the bill to provide a relief...

Clinton Parkhurst, a country editor... in Iowa, has retired from journalism... the bill to provide a relief...

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THE RUSSIAN NAVY.—The English... journals are exhibiting great alarm... the bill to provide a relief...

through struggle and suffering, at the... cost of multitudes of lives... the bill to provide a relief...

Some admirable person, who does... not desire to be seen of men, is... the bill to provide a relief...

Clinton Parkhurst, a country editor... in Iowa, has retired from journalism... the bill to provide a relief...

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