

WE were somewhat amused while looking over some old laws to find the following: "Let all judges, and all city people, and all tradesmen rest upon the venerable day of the sun, but let those dwelling in the country freely and with full liberty attend to the culture of their fields; since it frequently happens that no other day is so fit for the sowing of grains, or the planting of vines; hence the favorable time should not be allowed to pass, lest the provision of Heaven be lost."—*Constantine, 321 A. D.* We say we were amused, but why should we be? How will our customs after fifteen centuries of progress compare with this old law of Constantine's? Might not the enforcement of a law similar to the first clause of this one of ancient date protect our Sunday, the quiet and rest of which is being attacked on all sides by the running of railroad trains, the printing and distributing of newspapers, and many other methods of pleasure which many are so anxious to excuse by calling them necessities of our advanced civilization. Necessities they may be in one case out of ten; but it has always appeared unjust to us that ten men should be compelled to work upon our acknowledged day of rest, in order that one may be benefited. Heathen as well as Christian nations have found it necessary to establish certain periods or days of rest for the best advancement of their people.

Now with our advantages, and the past experience of all nations to warn us, should we not guard our Sunday with laws built so high, and upon such a foundation that the liquor dealers, the money-makers and pleasure-seekers

would neither be able to break them down nor evade them, thereby avoiding the calamity which has befallen France, which is becoming "a nation without a Sunday."

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THERE has been a petition handed to the Faculty asking that a rule be adopted which will excuse all students who have a term grade of eighty per cent. in any subject, from the usual term examination in that subject. We hope this petition may meet with favor. Several of our foremost institutions have tried such a scheme, and find it satisfactory, we understand. We do not see that it is necessary for an instructor to examine a student to ascertain whether he or she has any knowledge of a subject when the same student has been compelled to attend recitations during the whole term, and to the student such a scheme would give a coveted goal. In order to avoid the worrying ordeal of an examination the student would be incited to put forth greater effort during the term, and not depend on "cramming" for an examination, or worse yet on "ponying" his way through the examination.

Should the student be too honest to do either of the above vices, which we are sorry to say is very seldom the case, then we would ask who is likely to know more of a subject—the one who has an average term grade of eighty, or the one who has a term grade of seventy-five and an examination grade of eighty-five? Certainly the former, for he is graded on all the work passed over, while the latter makes his grade on something which happens to be easy for him.