

P E T I T I O N .

To the General Assembly of Maryland :

To all practical minds the advantages of a modification of the existing "Sunday Law" must be obvious. To the masses or working classes of the community the benefits to be derived are incalculable. The workingman's holiday is Sunday. 'Tis indeed his day of rest, relaxation from toil, his few hours for enjoyment and repose; but since the introduction into our State of the "*Connecticut Blue Laws*," his few privileges have been cut off. In making laws are we to think only of the comfort and convenience of the privileged classes? Is the happiness and comfort of the working classes—the real bone and sinew of the country—to be entirely lost sight of? Is the voice of one-third of the people sufficiently potent to reduce the other two-thirds to the position of the Russian serf, or the miserable and unfortunate creatures employed in the manufactories and coal mines of England, or the crushed and down-trodden peasantry of Ireland? God forbid it. And *we*, the friends of the working classes, contend for a modification of the *very* stringent "Sunday Law" so recently enacted, and also the running of the street cars on Sunday. So far the results of the "Sunday Law" have proven inimical or subversive to "law and order." Let us now try an opposite course, a little more license, a little more indulgence. We have parks, gardens and places of resort generally, which during the week are visited by the privileged few, who have them of their own, or can afford to hire carriages. On Sunday *too*, these privileged few are whirled along to church in their luxuriously appointed establishments, animadverting upon and deploring with upturned eyes the dreadful wickedness of the "*common people*;" little imagining or dreaming how much of this real and seeming depravity is chargeable to themselves in their utter disregard for the comfort of the working classes. True, these godly and holy people go round and distribute tracts, and ask why the children do not come to Sunday School, &c. Let us