

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Toronto, 28th September, 1840.

SIR,

A letter lately received from a respectable resident in Saint Thomas, complains,—“That the peace of the country is often disturbed—that the Sabbath is every week desecrated by the selling of spirits in stores, by hunting, fishing, travelling on business and for pleasure, and manual labor; and that the Taverns are thronged on that day by the idle and dissipated.”

In communicating this statement to you, and through you to the other Magistrates in your District, the Lieutenant Governor is persuaded that it cannot be necessary for him to employ any arguments to convince you, that the decent and religious observance of the Lord's Day is closely connected with the morality, and must, consequently, exercise a powerful influence on the best interests of a people.

Implicitly relying, therefore, on your disposition to promote this important object by a mild and judicious enforcement of the Law, whenever its interposition shall become indispensably requisite to repress any gross and public violation of the Sabbath—and believing that in granting Licenses for keeping Taverns the greatest possible regard should be had to the character of the applicant; His Excellency strongly recommends to the Magistrates a careful supervision of the conduct of the Innkeepers; and a steady refusal of Licenses to such of them as may, in the management of their business, have afforded encouragement to vice and irreligion.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

R. A. TUCKER, *Provincial Secretary.*

*The Worshipful the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions }  
for the London District. }*

*This Copy  
J. B. Astor  
C. P.*