

be by far the most important assembly of our Church since the reformation. May the Holy Spirit bless their deliberations, and bring them in health, peace and safety to their homes again!

A LETTER TO A YOUNG PERSON, ON BECOMING A MEMBER
OF A CHURCH CHOIR.

[CONCLUDED.]

Permit, me, now, to say, that I wish you to continue in the Choir, as you will contribute to the worship of Almighty God in its most delightful part, besides being a material assistance to myself in performing the service. Do not say, "If there be such danger, I will not incur its risk, but remain where I am;" for you will observe that the foregoing remarks have been directed against the *abuse*, not the use of church music. Every holy privilege is liable to the same objection, being either a *blessing* or a *curse*; and in this, the highest privilege, you will guard sufficiently against misimprovement by attending to the following suggestions:

1. The Church has appointed the minister *director* of the Choir, the members of which are his "assistants." Now, sustain him in this relation, and whether as to the ordering of proper *tunes*, or their becoming *execution*, give him your cordial support, avoiding any combinations, directly or indirectly, to thwart his wishes. If others leave, do *you* remain firm.

2. In rehearsals, avoid that levity which frequently changes the most solemn subjects into a laugh, and to which is attributable irreverence in public worship; for it is to be feared that in rehearsals there is often preparation of misconduct which appears on Sundays, and misbehaved persons are doing on that day only what they did before.

3. Be in your place before the service begins, and remain until it is over. Your wants being the same as others, observe the same postures, and audibly respond "with a pure heart and humble voice." Rehearsals being intended to make you familiar with the tones, and thus have every thing in readiness, there will be no necessity for the preparation of various books during service, or for conversation on the subject. If any should wish to converse, *discourage* it; there can be no conversation without *replies*. After the congregation is dismissed, avoid that loud greeting and laughing which so contrasts with the solemnities in which you have just engaged.

4. Remember that you are engaged in worshipping that Almighty Being, before whom cherubim, and seraphim, with profound humility, "continually cry, 'Holy! holy! holy! Lord God of Sabaoth!'" that you engaged in an occupation that interests apostles, martyrs, prophets, and the holy Church triumphant. Remember that God will call you to account for "every idle word;" much more, for every idle chant: and shut to Him "all hearts are open, and all desires known."

He required Moses to remove the shoes from his feet when on holy ground; and, in Ecclesiastes, He commands, "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they consider not that they do evil." And our blessed Saviour, seeing His Father's temple perverted to merchandize, and the required sacrifices turned to gain, twice drove out the offenders, saying, "It is written, my house is a house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." Ask God's blessing on the