

the congregation, and morally hurtful to those who deliberately insult *God* in His own sanctuary.

Now, while good church members love to have strangers come to their church, and are always ready to share their seats with them, or give them up altogether, it is not to be expected that in return for their kindness, they should be subjected to a recompense of this kind.

As a rule, people attending concerts, operas, or any performance of a similar nature, seldom find it imperative to go out during the programme, in order to restore their exhausted energies by the invigorating effects of a cooler and purer atmosphere. It is a strange fact, however, that the very people who will pay to sit out a three hours performance in a hot and crowded theatre, or can comfortably pass from six to seven hours amongst the smoke-impregnated atmosphere of a billiard room, cannot think of risking their precious constitutions for one and a half hours in a church, which is not only well-cushioned and ventilated, but also "without money and without price."

The reasons for such conduct are not perhaps so far to seek as a great many imagine—want of life on the part part of the minister; sometimes, the length of the sermon; oftener, in many cases, a want of warmth and cordiality among the members. But be the cause what it may, we are decidedly of the opinion that people have no right to disturb the harmony of a religious meeting by leaving during its continuance. As a rule these disturbers are ignorant and shallow minded, else they would not care to exhibit themselves in any such manner. At the same time they have souls to save, as valuable as those of the most devout worshippers in the whole congregation, and probably it is on this account that the nuisance has been put up with so long and has assumed such annoying proportions.

The remedy would be to compel those who wish to leave during the service to provide themselves with felt or other noiseless slippers, so that the disturbance occasioned by their exit might be reduced to a minimum, instead of as at present, being attended by the discordant accompaniment of squeaky boots; or perhaps it

would be better still to have it distinctly understood, that unless in cases of imperative necessity, no one will be allowed to leave during the service. While we feel sure that this rule would not at all lessen the attendance, we are also certain that if people understood this thoroughly before they went into church, they would be more careful how they committed the breach of good manners that so many are now guilty of.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

**EMERGENCY MEETING.**—We beg to direct the very earnest attention of all pastors of churches and elected members of the Board of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario to the Notice of Special Meeting, in another column. The debt of the Convention can be, and ought to be wiped out. But in order to this, the credit of the Denomination and the honour of Christ's kingdom require that every Baptist church member in Ontario should do HIS DUTY.

**THE BAPTIST YEAR BOOK** for Ontario and Quebec, for 1878, is rapidly passing through the printers' hands; and if the Editors meet with no delay in waiting for "copy" from the various Societies, it may be looked for by the public early in December. It will contain more than the usual amount of reading matter, including the Address the late lamented President of the Convention intended to have delivered on resigning the Chair to his successor; but which was read after his decease by his pastor, amidst the deepest silence and solemnity of the Convention.

**THE YEAR BOOK** is being printed by Messrs. Dudley & Burns,—the printers of the HELPER,—and our readers may therefore expect a very neatly printed volume, from the office of a Baptist firm.

**THE RECENT CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION.**—We had intended giving our readers this month a short *resumé* of the proceedings of Convention week; but even that will be impossible in the space at our disposal. What with Conference meetings, and meetings connected with the Home Mission Society, the Foreign Mission Society, Designation of Rev. John Craig as Missionary to India, the Women's Foreign Mission Society, the Institute, Su-

perannuated Ministers' Society, Church Edifice Society, etc., etc., we shall have to refer our readers for full reports to the new *Year Book*, which will be out before many weeks; and content ourselves with a note or two on some future occasion.

**THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF JARVIS STREET CHURCH** have got thoroughly organized for the winter work in connection with the two societies,—the *Young Women's Christian Association*, and the *Young Men's Christian Association*, connected with the church:

**THE YOUNG WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION** has elected as its officers the following: *President*, Miss Elliot; *Vice-President*, Mrs. Laird; *Secretary*, Mrs. Ernest Roberts; *Treasurer*, Miss Campbell; *Assistant-Treasurer*, Miss McCorquodale. This society has accomplished a very large amount of earnest, self-denying labour for the Master in the past; and we trust that "to-morrow may be as this day, and much more abundant."

**THE YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION** has elected for its officers:—*President*, T. Dixon Craig, B.A.; *Vice-Presidents*, John Yorston and Wm. J. Davis; *Secretary*, Frank Burke; *Treasurer*, Thomas Wilkins. The Standing Committees, for the more efficient performance of the work of the Association are:—Religious Meetings' Committee; Tract Committee; Strangers' Committee; and Committee for Visiting the Sick. An important change in the meetings this winter is that of having them alternately of a religious and literary character. It is expected that in this way the gifts of the members will be better brought out.

The date of the first *Young People's Social* for the season has been fixed for the evening of December 6th prox., when a very pleasant time may be expected.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

#### EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, rendered to the Board of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario, October 18th ult., I do hereby call a special **EMERGENCY MEETING** of the above-named Board, to convene on *Tuesday* the 27th day of