

The Young Men.

IN the July number of the REVIEW A. B. H. desires some suggestions on the problem, How to Hold Young Men in our Churches. For myself I would like to see a discussion of this important question in the columns of the REVIEW. Here are some points that have helped me.

I. *Get acquainted.* A great deal depends upon this. No pastor can hold together and influence young men for good unless he makes a point to get acquainted with them; and so well acquainted that he can call them by name. If we would learn to call people by name when we meet them we would sooner find a way to their hearts.

II. *Recognize them* wherever you meet them. If possible, take your place at the church-door after service and shake hands with them, and make them feel you are glad to see them there and have a personal interest in their welfare. Visit them in their places of business or at their homes and invite them to your home.

III. *Win them to Christ.* Let all the above suggestions be means to this end. When you have won them to the Saviour you have gained the victory. The young people whose pastor is an earnest soul-winner will soon crowd the place of worship.

IV. *Put them to work.* Find something for them to do as soon as they are converted and keep them at it. Let them feel that the Church has a place for them. This will win their interest for and loyalty to the Church. Have a young people's society.

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Ex-Pastors.

THERE are many pastors whose experience with ex-pastors living on the same field has been exceedingly unpleasant, and some have declared that they would never settle again where there was such an one. Of course not

a few ex-pastors are a real and comforting help to the present pastors. And where this is not the case the fault should not be wholly charged to the ex-pastor, for the active pastor is, in many cases, not a little to blame. Sometimes the latter is jealous of the former, especially if the ex-pastor was his immediate predecessor. The former pastor may have many warm friends, growing out of his late pastorate, and it is natural that these should express their interest and pleasure in him in various ways. But this often tends to occasion the outcropping of jealousy in the present pastor. For this reason an ex-pastor is often placed in a very embarrassing position. He finds himself being charged with trying to "steal the affections" of the people, whereas he may be far from attempting such a thing. There are instances where both pastor and ex-pastor are blamable for the clashing which occurs, and both need great wisdom and much of Christ's spirit in order to get along together in a manner which shall be an honor to both and a blessing to the cause which they profess to love.

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To "Communicate."

THE HOMILETIC REVIEW is a great help to the preacher, and through him to the people in the pew. But the writer has in mind the duty of the hearer to make some sort of response, even if it be only an Amen, to the preacher. We know of a church where not one of the officers or leading brethren has for three or four years spoken to the pastor directly a word of commendation of his sermons. This is not because of dissatisfaction, for the pastor knows that he is appreciated. But this knowledge has to come in a roundabout way. Such neglect to say a word now and then to the effect that "I was interested in your discourse this morning," or "Your words helped me," is a matter of habit, or it may be that it