

the wants of customers; if night work were discontinued, they would require a watchman to arouse the men to their work, &c.

Your Secretary could not see the full force of these objections, and maintained that, if practicable, the men in their employ should commence work at an early hour in the morning, and have the night for rest and sleep. If men are employed during day in Scotland and in other parts of Canada, as well as by not a few bakers in this city, why not by all?

Your Secretary quoted for the benefit of the meeting the following quaint, terse, and true observations of the Rev. WM. ARNOT, and left with them the responsibility of acting in the premises according to the dictates of their own enlightened consciences. The passage quoted reads thus:—"Day and night are precious constituents of this world as a provision made by God for the good of men. To shuffle them out of their places is to abuse them. * * * Necessity or mercy in cases suddenly emerging consecrates occasional night work, as it consecrates occasional work on the Sabbath day; but by choice to spend the night in work, and the day in rest, is an act of rebellion against the King of Kings, whether the worker be pursuing pleasure, or gain, or knowledge. It is an aggravated case of breach of trust. It is to accuse the Creator of a blunder in alternately drawing a curtain round the world for rest, and hanging the sun in heaven for light to the laborers. The wild birds among the branches keep the Creator's law and enjoy the reward of obedience in better health and livelier spirits. At night fall they lay their heads beneath their wings, and are ready to meet the dawning day with songs."

Before dropping this subject it may be well to notice the double injury done to the stomach by persons gratifying their appetite for hot or newly baked bread, and to the poor bakers who it is alleged are kept at work through many, many a wearisome night to provide this unwholesome dainty. "A word enough to the wise." It would be unjust to include all in the list of bakers who employ their servants during the silent hours of night. At least one half of the masters approve heartily of day work, and carry on their trade accordingly; but the principal contract-bakers, it is believed, keep their servants at work without intermission from 10 at night till midday the day following.

Your Committee would express an earnest wish that the master bakers of this city, and in all places throughout Canada, may be induced to view this important matter dispassionately and without prejudice, and if they find it practicable, as is fondly hoped they will, that they will to a man give up night work in their establishments, and henceforth allow to their servants the blessing of the light of day for work, according to the law of nature, which is the law of God, and the silent hours of night for rest wherein to recruit their wasted energies! "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets."

But the question may be put by some, what has this Society to do with this matter? The answer is simple. It has relation to the Sabbath, for how can a man who is toiling all night and every night (save one), be able to keep himself awake, and attend as he ought to the preached Gospel or any other sacred duty on the Lord's Day, so as to profit thereby, and glorify his Father in heaven?