

# THE GLEANER.

VOL. 2.

Melbourne, November, 1897.

No. 5.

## SIGNS OF CHRIST'S COMING.

WHEN will the black and weary night,  
So full of sins and sighs,  
End, and the dawn of righteousness  
Upon the world arise?

Crowns tremble 'neath His "iron rod,"  
Thrones sway in every blast;  
Dark shadows of events to come  
Upon the world are cast!

Are these His signal-flags unfurled—  
His watch-fires in the night—  
To tell us of His near approach  
Who brings the promised light?

Swifter than a weaver's shuttle  
Pass our days in rapid flight.  
Soon will come the day unmeasured,  
When we'll know no more of night.

There's a little time to labour,  
Just a little space to pray,  
Then the Master comes in beauty  
And begins that endless day.

—Selected.

## THE SYDNEY CAMP-MEETING.

ACCORDING to appointment the Sydney camp-meeting was held from Oct. 21st to the 31st. It was a marked success. The weather during the entire meeting was all that could be desired. There was an abundance of sunshine, but not the oppressive heat that is sometimes experienced during this time of the year, and there was very little wind. The situation of the ground could hardly be improved. It was in full view of the railway, and in the centre of a very great population. The turf was very firm and clean during the entire meeting.

When the time came for the opening services, everything about the ground was in readiness for the meeting. All who were engaged in the erection of the camp testified to the presence and the blessing of the Lord in all their labours. There were seventy family tents

erected, and about two hundred and twenty-five persons were encamped upon the ground, while many others occupied rooms near by, which they had engaged during the time of the meeting.

Of those in attendance at the meeting, about twenty came from Queensland. Few of these had attended a camp-meeting before, or had the privilege of meeting with many of our people. There were about twenty-five from Victoria, most of whom were labourers or delegates to the Union Conference meeting. The remainder of the encampment was made up from the Sydney churches and the isolated brethren from various parts of New South Wales.

At the opening evening meeting of the camp, the large tent was full. This good attendance was kept up during the beautiful evenings which followed, until it reached a real climax on the last evening, which was Sunday, when there were probably from 1,500 to 2000 people standing outside, many of them not able to get within good hearing distance of the speaker. Before the camp-meeting was half over a number of persons had taken their stand for the truth, and the good work was continued until the close.

Sister White spoke with her usual freedom and power each Sunday afternoon to very large audiences, as well as giving most excellent instruction to our own people encamped upon the ground in the early morning meetings. Among the other speakers were A. G. Daniells, E. W. Farnsworth, S. N. Haskell, A. T. Robinson, Dr. Caro, Robt. Hare, W. A. Colcord, and W. L. H. Baker. Great interest was shown in the medical work. Dr. Caro gave many practical talks on health topics, and on Christian Help work, that were greatly appreciated both by our own people and the public. The doctor also gave a series of talks to the children at 4:30 each day, when several hundred children from a state school near the ground would be in attendance. These were among the most interesting meetings held during the encampment, and were appreciated by many of the adults as well as the little ones.

The Union Conference of Australasia held its second biennial session in connection with this meeting, when many important questions and movements were dis-

cussed, and various plans set on foot. The future of our medical work in Australasia received considerable attention, and an organising committee was appointed to organise the Medical and Benevolent Association, which will have charge of this department of work throughout the colonies. Quite a number of workers in this line have already arrived, and others are soon coming.

Committees were also appointed to make investigations and push through such enterprises as providing homes for the aged and for the orphans, and organising kindergarten, primary, and church schools. A committee was also appointed to labour for the evangelisation of the various aboriginal and alien races throughout the colonies and adjacent islands, and as far as possible provide literature in the various native tongues.

A few changes were made in the location of workers. It has been arranged for Brother and Sister Starr to remain in Sydney for a short time to assist in following up the interest created by the camp-meeting, and then return to Queensland and take charge of that Mission Field. It was also decided to send Miss Annie Higgins, who has been connected with our Tract Society Office for four years, to Brisbane in about two months' time, to act as secretary to the Tract Department, which will be organised at that time. This will be an important step to the Queensland Mission Field, as the canvassing work and all the tract and periodical business for that colony will be managed locally from Brisbane instead of Melbourne.

Assistance has also been provided for Western Australia. Brother T. A. Craddock and wife have been invited to go to the West to assist Pastor Hare in various lines of tent work, Bible work, etc. They will likely be accompanied by two self-supporting missionary nurses. It has also been arranged for Brother J. Hindson, who was in attendance at this meeting from West Australia, and whose name has appeared so regularly in the GLEANER among the canvassers, to spend six months here in our Tract Society Office, preparatory to returning to West Australia to take charge of the Book and Tract Depot which it is proposed to open in that colony. This will give a local management to the most distant colonies, and will leave Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania only within the territory that is worked from Melbourne. While this will deprive us of much of our most valuable territory, we shall have the great satisfaction of knowing that the work will be better managed, and with far more satisfactory results, by persons living within those colonies who can keep in close touch with all their various needs.

The Central Australian Conference also received consideration. Brother A. T. Robinson and wife, lately from South Africa, were appointed to this field, also Professor Lacey and wife. These brethren with Brother Woods, and others who will doubtless be invited to

enter the work at the Melbourne camp-meeting, will make up the staff for this Conference.

At the closing meeting of the camp, an expression was taken from those present with reference to their desire to have the evening preaching services continued for a time after the camp broke up. A large number expressed their wish to have the meetings continued, and from the time the camp-meeting closed, evening services have been held in the tent on the ground, and these have been well attended, with an excellent interest. Brethren Haskell, Starr, and Baker are in charge of the work, while a number are rendering valuable assistance in Bible work and house to house visitation. Let us remember to pray earnestly for the work there, that there may be a large ingathering of souls.

THE Officers elected for the Australasian Union Conference are as follows: President, A. G. Daniells; Vice-President, W. C. White; Secretary, A. L. Ingels; Treasurer, E. M. Graham. Executive Committee: A. G. Daniells, W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, W. D. Salisbury, Dr. E. R. Caro, E. R. Palmer, and the Presidents of the three Australasian Conferences.

### THE CANVASSING WORK.

I CANNOT see why the canvassing work is not as good and successful a work as can be done for the Lord. Canvassers can become acquainted with the people, they can pray with them, and can understand their true necessities. From the light which God has given me, there is much responsibility resting upon the canvassers. They should go to their work prepared to explain the Scriptures, and nothing should be said or done to bind their hands. If they put their trust in the Lord as they travel from place to place, the angels of God will be round about them, giving them words to speak which will bring light and hope and courage to many souls. Were it not for the work of the canvasser, many would never hear the truth.

Of all the gifts which God has given to man, none is more noble or a greater blessing than the gift of speech, if it is sanctified by the Holy Spirit. It is with the tongue we convince and persuade; with it we offer prayer and praise to God; and with it we convey rich thought of the Redeemer's love. By this work, the canvasser can scatter the seed of truth, causing the light from the word of God to shine into many minds.

The canvassing work is a missionary work, and the field must be worked from a missionary standpoint. Selfish principles, love of dignity and position, should not be once named among us. The thought of seeking to become the greatest should never come into our minds. We have no time to lose. The end is near. The passage from place to place to spread the truth will soon be hedged with dangers on the right hand and on the left. Everything will be placed to obstruct

our way so we shall not be able to do that which is possible to be done now. We must look our work fairly in the face, and advance as fast as possible in aggressive warfare. I know from the light given me of God that the powers of darkness are working with intense energy from beneath, and with stealthy tread he (Satan) is advancing to take those who are asleep now, as a thief taking his prey. We have warning which we may give, a work now which we may do, but soon it will be more difficult than we can imagine. God help us to keep in the channel of light, to work

with our eyes fastened on Jesus our Leader, and patiently, perseveringly press on to gain the victory.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

THE Officers of the New South Wales Conference were elected as follows: President, W. L. H. Baker; Vice-President, W. C. White; Secretary, Miss Lizzie Gregg. The President will also act as Treasurer.

THE members of the Avondale School Board as elected at the late session of the Union Conference are: W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, C. B. Hughes, A. G. Daniells, M. Hare, I. James, W. T. Woodhams.

MONTHLY SUMMARY AUSTRALIAN CANVASSING WORK.—October, 1897.

AGENT AND TERRITORY.	DAYS.	HOURS.	Can.	ORD.	M.	L.	C. G.	C. M.	C. P.	HELPS	TOTAL VALUE.
<b>BIBLE READINGS.—</b>											
Reekie, Mr. P. ... Gympie, Q. ...	18	112	187	36	3	11	16	6	—	£ 16 6	£27 1 6
Chapman, Mr. T. A. ... Gympie, Q. ...	15	84	147	33	5	15	9	4	—	1 17 0	25 14 6
Putnam, Mr. J. L. ... Brisbane, Q. ...	3	16	15	6	—	—	—	5	1	—	2 0 0
Thom, Mr. W. N. ... Jumburra, etc. Vic. ...	5	35	—	17	1	3	7	6	—	4 0	2 14 6
<b>GREAT CONTROVERSY.—</b>											
Masters, Mr. F. ... Northam, W.A. ...	3	—	—	4	1	1	2	—	—	—	3 0 0
<b>H. H. BOOK.—</b>											
Currow, Mr. A. ... Barcaldine, Q. ...	5	38	37	13	—	5	—	8	—	—	19 15 0
Diverall, Mr. J. C. ... Tallangatta, Vic. ...	20	145	99	12	—	4	—	8	—	2 16 6	20 16 6
McKenzie, Mr. A. G. ... Bundaberg, Q. ...	8	40	37	13	1	3	—	9	—	10 0	20 17 6
Currow, Mr. L. ... Barcaldine, Q. ...	5	44	—	8	2	3	—	3	—	—	14 17 6
Reekie, Mr. F. W. ... Williams River, W.A. ...	17	174	201	80	2	24	—	54	—	2 10 0	124 5 0
<b>LADIES' GUIDE.—</b>											
Gooding, Mrs. C. ... Adelaide, S.A. ...	15	105	98	14	1	1	—	12	—	9 0	13 7 6
Ackary, Miss A. ... Charters Towers, Q. ...	24	157	—	70	19	12	—	39	—	—	1 7 6
Rudge, Mrs. I. ... Zeehan, Tas. ...	9	38	88	19	4	6	—	9	—	—	72 17 0
<b>MAN THE MASTERPIECE.—</b>											
Currow, Mr. L. ... Barcaldine, Q. ...	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	15 0
Currow, Mr. A. ... Barcaldine, Q. ...	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	19 13 6
Chapman, Mr. T. A. ... Gympie, Q. ...	—	—	—	7	1	2	—	4	—	—	3 12 6
<b>SUNBEAMS.—</b>											
Stoate, Mr. R. J. ... Bendigo, Vic. ...	—	—	—	5	—	—	1	4	—	—	1 18 6
Totals	147	988	909	348	44	92	35	174	3	11 3 0	6 19 6
											2 12 6
											398 5 8

BIBLE ECHO SALES during October, 1897.

CHURCHES.	MEMBERSHIP.	ECHOES.	UNORGANISED COMPANIES.	ECHOES
Adelaide	159	2,108	Brought forward	11,216
Ashfield	66	760	Bendigo	1,220
Avondale	50	216	Brisbane	664
Ballarat	40	236	Charters Towers	216
Bismarck	56	48	Croydon	192
Brighton	14	108	Geelong	160
Broken Hill	18	732	Ipswich	60
Hawthorn	40	141	Kalgoorlie	96
Hobart	95	552	Kangarilla	52
Kellyville	16	108	Kadina	24
Latrobe	9	24	Launceston	102
Mourne	208	779	Melrose	288
Overn	23	120	Townsville	1,319
Farramatta	70	1,620	Zeehan	96
Perth	31	620	New Zealand	8,368
Prahran	47	644	Miscellaneous	1,645
Prospect	12	48		
Rockhampton	68	392		
Sydney	84	1,561		
Toowoomba	23	168		
Williamstown	64	231		
Carried forward		11,216	Total	25,718

NOTES.

The following agents were in attendance at the Sydney camp-meeting,—L. Currow, A. Horwood, Mrs. Gregg, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Carswell, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Dean, Miss Edith Adcock, H. Ross Lewin, C. P. Michaels.

It will be noticed that the summary is small this month. The work of the New South Wales agents does not appear. We hope to give a double report from them next month. A number of our agents were at the camp-meeting, and this would also tend to lessen the work for the month.

A BEAUTIFUL ground has been selected for the Melbourne camp-meeting in the suburb of Balaclava. This meeting will open Thursday, Nov. 18, and continue until the 29th. The preparations on the ground are being pushed forward rapidly. We believe that we shall have a good meeting. A burden has rested upon the churches and upon individuals to make special efforts to encourage those to go who are in special need of help, and to assist financially those who would otherwise be deprived of the meeting. The Lord is witnessing to this good work, and the result has been to intensify the interest of all who have had a part in these arrangements in the coming meeting.

A GOOD TESTIMONY.

I CAME into the truth in Mount Morgan, Queensland, last June. Praise God. I can see now that every step that led me there was by the hand of Providence, and in answer to my prayer, although I could not see it at the time. I thank God with all my heart that He has brought me among His people, and made my life worth living. Now I shall live for Him to do His work.

The baptismal service in Ashfield last Sunday was a glorious experience for me. Now has the new life really begun. The life that for twenty years it has been my desire to gain. It is a grand and glorious thing to be able to "bury the old man."

A. HORWOOD.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SCHOOL.

ONE of the resolutions adopted by the Union Conference reads as follows:—

WHEREAS, The blessing of the Lord has rested upon the efforts to make the cultivation of the soil, and other industries, a part of the education of students, and as an all round education will require still other industries such as printing, carpentering, etc., and—

WHEREAS, The growth of the school demands the erection of a boys' dormitory before the beginning of the new school year; therefore—

*Resolved*, That we pledge ourselves in behalf of our people to raise £1000 for the said improvements, and that we recommend that this work begin at once.

While this resolution was under consideration, and before it had been put to a vote by the Conference, the meeting took an unexpected but very gratifying turn. One after another arose in the audience and expressed their desire to make a donation to this enterprise, until £106 had been given. This was very encouraging to those who have the responsibility of raising this fund. There can be no question but that the Lord was leading out in the matter, and that He stands ready to bless every effort that is made for the furtherance of this work.

AN AUSTRALASIAN HEALTH JOURNAL.

*Resolved*, That we request the Union Conference Committee to take into immediate consideration the advisability of issuing a popular monthly medical journal early in 1898.

This resolution, which was presented to the Australian Union Conference at its late session, met with general approval, and it was decided that such a journal should be published. A committee was appointed to suggest plans with reference to its management, and they submitted the following recommendations:—

That a popular health journal be issued on the first day of January, 1898, and each succeeding month thereafter: the said journal to be illustrated, and to contain sixteen pages of reading matter, with additional coloured covers, the price of which journal shall be 2/6 yearly by subscription, or three pence per copy. It shall contain articles on practical subjects relating to the care of the body in health and disease, healthful cookery, healthful dress, training of children, etc. It shall be written in language that may be understood by the people, and the instruction such as can be of practical benefit to all.

The approval with which these plans met was practically illustrated by over one hundred subscriptions being taken on the camp ground. Dr. Caro will be the editor of this journal.

THE GLEANER.

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