

THE GLEANER.

VOL. 1.

MELBOURNE, JUNE, 1897.

No. 12.

AVONDALE SCHOOL.

THE last number of the GLEANER gave an account of the efforts that were being made to send students to the school at Cooranbong, and the names of those who had at that time been sent. Since then Bro. Daniells and myself have had the pleasure of visiting the school, and meeting the teachers and students, who are now so pleasantly associated in their work.

At Sydney, we met Prof. and Mrs. Hughes, who, as expected, arrived from America on the *Monowai*. They were well, and had enjoyed an exceptionally fine passage.

For the past three years Bro. Hughes has been managing our industrial school at Keene, Texas, U. S. A., the plan of which is very similar to ours. With much thankfulness we acknowledge the Providence of God in sending us experienced help at this time when it is needed so much. To me the meeting at the boat, and the visit following, were a great pleasure, for Sister Hughes was one of my teachers for two years, when I first entered school to prepare for the Lord's work, and we had not met for nine years. On the day following their arrival we went to Cooranbong, where somebody's hands had wrought many changes since our last visit. Two very bright, cheerful-looking two-storey buildings had been erected on the school campus, and these were fitted up with such good taste and small expense as to reflect much credit upon those who had been doing the work, and whom we knew had laboured under great disadvantage. It is a blessed assurance to the poor that, when they have only a pound to spend, the Lord is willing to help them to make it go a long way.

On entering the Home one very quickly receives the impression that the Lord is there. The students go about their work with a cheerfulness and zeal that is good to see. Nearly three hours per day the students are employed in manual labour, the ladies assisting with the house work, while the boys and men chop wood, grub stumps, etc. With the amount of grubbing there is to do on the estate, it is not likely that we will be put to the expense of building a gymnasium for a long time. Grubbing is better than swinging Indian clubs anyway.

The school is now fully organised, with six good instructors and sixty-one students. This is a far better beginning than many of our schools have had, and we should rejoice and take courage. On April 28th, the day the school was to begin, the teachers were a little blue, or at least it was intimated that they were, when they sat down to dinner, and found that there were only six present, four teachers and *two* boarding students; but the Lord has brought it out all right, just as He always does, and now the students have to be sandwiched together in order to find room.

Since the report given in the last GLEANER, Bro. Constandt, Joe Steed, and Rawling Verco have gone from Adelaide, Miss Appeldorff and Mr. Judge from Hobart, four from New Zealand, and one from Queensland. There may be still others of whom we have not heard.

As we look over the past struggles in trying to establish a school, we greatly rejoice over the present cheerful prospects. May the Lord greatly bless our young people who are there, and fit them for the places in His service where faithful workers are so greatly needed.

E. R. PALMER.

BALLARAT.

A good work is being carried on by the Ballarat church in Christian help lines. Two bands of workers have been organised. They have also recently started a work for the Chinese. There are a large number of this nationality in Ballarat, and we are glad that an effort is being made to help them. A class is held at the home of Brother Garsed James, and the Chinese that attend are being taught out of the Gospel Primer. From a private letter from one of the workers, we are permitted to make the following extract:—

"We hold the Chinese class twice a week. Last Monday we had the same ten. Friday two new ones came, quite superior to the others. They looked more like store-keepers than gardeners. They quite enjoyed it, seemingly, and were rather amused with the black-board exercise. It was too easy. But when Brother Davis put 'garden,' 'Eden,' 'Adam,' and 'Eve,' on

the board, and explained the lesson, they were quite interested. They could read and write fairly well. I will send you one week's report of our Christian help band No 2: Number of visits, 24; number of hours' work, 24; persons helped, 31; meetings held, 1; gospel talks, 8; garments given away, 34; parcels of food, 5; visits to orphanage, 4. Donations received; cash, 16s. 2d.; one pair new boots; 5 lbs. flour; 1 packet sugar; one tin of jam; one loaf of bread; one blanket; three rugs.

"We have quite a number of deserving cases. To-day we went out collecting. We received three bags potatoes, a quantity of clothing, and 11s. in money. We were out about two hours, and it quite encouraged us to go again."

We shall be glad to receive further reports of this good work. We are sure that such labours will result not only in blessings to the church, but that it will prove an effective means of reaching others with the truth. "And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul: then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday." Isa. 58:10.

A. L. I.

A TOUCHING APPEAL.

ABOUT a year ago a man and his wife, living in Victoria, accepted the truth through reading some of our publications. He has been in correspondence with us since that time, and has manifested a love for the truth, and a zeal to present the light to others. Of his sad experiences during the past few months the following letters will tell. On Nov. 13, 1896, he wrote:—

"I have received the publications you sent, but have not as yet read any of them, for I have received a terrible blow, and it is sad news I have to tell you. I have been pretty well crushed by other troubles, but to lose the best friend one has in the world is very hard. This has been my experience. On the morning of the 7th inst. my wife left home for the hospital, expecting to be able to return the same day to care for our young child. She never returned, but died a little before ten the same evening. It seemed so hard to part without knowing she was going, for I thought she would be able to leave the hospital the next morning.

"I believe that she sleeps in Jesus. She was waiting and watching for any fresh light from God, ever ready to submit to her convictions with an open simple heart. She was very anxious to have our four little ones brought up in the light she had received from God, believing it to be of the greatest importance. Her mother took the baby, and I am left with three little ones to care for as best I can.

"The future seems very dark to me, but I will put my trust in God, and I know that He will carry me through.

I will watch to see what He is going to do with us, for we are in His hands."

After months of struggling, in which he was unable to obtain steady work, he writes again on June 6:—

"I write you these few lines to let you know how I am situated, which is not a pleasant task, I can assure you. It has been a perplexing matter to me to know what I am to do with my children. At present the eldest, May, is staying with my sister, but her husband is not willing to keep her longer, and the two boys are with me. Through scarcity of work, I am compelled to say that I cannot provide for the children, as I have no home for them, and no one to care for them as they should be cared for. As far as I can see, it is not likely that I shall find a temporary home for them such as I should wish, for I have no money to pay for them, and I hardly expect people to take them for an indefinite time for nothing, and then take them away from them when they get attached to them. I think by this you will understand my position, so if you can suggest anything that would relieve me I should feel grateful. If anyone is willing to take any of the children, you could kindly let me know. I would like the eldest, May, to be placed in the hands of some kind, yet firm, person, and where there are no other small children. She is of an excitable temperament, but is very anxious to be good. She is seven years old, has light brown hair and light blue eyes. She likes to be taught about Jesus. Frederick is nearly six years old, Sydney is a bright, little fellow, nearly four years old. He is very lively, and requires to be under firm hands, but he is very affectionate. It will be very trying to let this little fellow go, if I can let him go at all, but I must try."

Copies of these letters were taken and read in several of our Melbourne churches, and a call made for homes for these homeless little ones. Kind hearts were touched, and within a week's time provision was made for them all. The Lord has come near to us, and blessed us in the arrangements. We know that He has a special care for the lambs of the flock, and that He is well pleased to have His people open their hearts and homes to such as are in need of help.

Just about the time that these cases were presented to us we learned of another little one who is without father, mother, or home. It is a little boy of five. His mother was left alone when he was very young. She struggled on for several years, battling against poverty and ill-health, and then died.

The relatives are all too poor to take care of the child, and a call is being made for some kind person to make a home for him. Is there not some one among our GLEANER readers who will respond to this call? Please address communications to the Secretary Australian Tract Society.

A. L. I.

MONTHLY SUMMARY AUSTRALIAN CANVASSING WORK.

May, 1897.

AGENT AND TERRITORY.	DAYS.	HOURS.	Can.	ORD.	M.	L.	C. G.	C. M.	C. P.	HELPS	TOTAL VALUE.
PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS—											
Downs, Mr. J. B., ... Romsey, Vic. ...	17	130	143	48	7	20	18	3	3	£2 3 0	£36 18 0
Mills, Mr. P. W. ... Hillgrove, N.S.W. ...	7	49	104	22	8	4	8	2	—	1 1 0	18 1 0
Oliver, Miss. L. ... Launceston, Tas. ...	17	125	198	12	2	1	2	7	—	1 13 6	9 3 6
Gill, Miss. M. ... Launceston, Tas. ...	17	131	150	9	1	—	5	3	—	1 13 0	7 5 6
Carswell, Mr. W. R. ... Toowoomba, Q. ...	15	115	143	22	3	6	11	2	—	3 16 6	18 14 0
BIBLE READINGS—											
Reekie, Mr. P. ... Warwick, Q. ...	12	58	71	15	1	4	3	7	—	1 13 6	11 1 0
Chapman, Mr. T. A. ... Stanthorpe, Q. ...	19	133	167	47	1	7	4	29	2	19 0	25 11 0
Adcock, Miss E. ... Brisbane, Q. ...	1	5	5	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	2 9 6
Innes, Mr. J. ... Burnie, Tas. ...	5	38	37	12	2	—	10	—	—	14 0	8 19 0
Innes, Mrs. K. ... " " " ...	5	38	50	8	1	1	1	5	—	18 0	5 16 6
GREAT CONTROVERSY—											
Masters, Mr. F. ... Northam, W.A. ...	—	—	—	6	—	2	3	1	—	—	3 17 6
H. H. BOOK—											
Mackenzie, Mr. A. G. ... Mount Morgan, Q. ...	9	74	65	26	1	9	—	16	—	2 9 0	42 19 0
Currow, Messrs. A. & L. ... " " " ...	19	—	22	30	7	6	—	9	—	18 0	43 0 6
Davis, Mr. N. A. ... Ballarat, Vic. ...	14	96	—	30	—	—	—	30	—	1 0	41 6 0
Davis, Mrs. N. A. ... Ballarat, Vic. ...	14	70	—	33	—	4	—	29	—	—	48 5 0
Blunden, Mr. G. H. ... Colac, Vic. ...	4	18	10	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	6 17 6
Diverall, Mr. J. C. ... Bethanga, Vic. ...	4	38	11	5	—	1	—	2	—	6 0	4 16 0
LADIES' GUIDE—											
Bell, Mr. R. S. ... Tamworth, N.S.W. ...	4	33	—	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	17 6
Gooding, Mrs. C. ... Gawler, S.A. ...	14	76	59	10	—	2	—	8	—	1 14 6	10 16 6
Gregg, Mrs. M. A. ... Waratah, N.S.W. ...	10	64	97	32	1	6	—	25	—	1 12 0	31 3 0
Hewitt, Mrs. A. J. ... Calvert, Q. ...	9	44	57	37	3	10	—	24	—	3 2 0	38 14 6
Johanson, Mr. J. ... Donnybrook, W. A. ...	—	—	—	2	4	9	—	2	—	—	2 15 0
Ackary, Miss A. ... Charters Towers Q. ...	4	35	—	9	3	1	—	5	—	9 0	39 9 0
MAN THE MASTERPIECE—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	15 0
Currow, Messrs. A. & L., Mt. Morgan, Q. ...	—	—	—	38	17	6	—	15	—	—	43 6 0
Masters, Mr. F. ... Northam, W.A. ...	—	—	—	11	5	2	—	4	—	—	12 9 6
SUNBEAMS—											
Stoate, Mr. R. J. ... Bendigo, Vic. ...	—	—	—	10	—	—	3	—	7	1 4 0	6 11 6
SUNSHINE AT HOME—											
Hughes, Mr. C. H. ... Brisbane, Q. ...	2	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—	2 8 0	3 10 6
Totals	208	1370	1367	526	71	105	73	260	17	£28 15 0	£545 4 0

BIBLE ECHO SALES during May, 1897.

CHURCHES.	MEMBERSHIP.	ECHOES.	UNORGANISED COMPANIES.	ECHOES.
Adelaide	146	3,158	Brought forward	13,899
Ashfield	66	296	Bendigo	85
Avondale	50	290	Brisbane	1,257
Ballarat	50	315	Charters Towers	996
Bismarck	56	60	Croydon	80
Brighton	20	120	Geelong	240
Broken Hill	11	780	Ipswich	75
Hawthorn	50	225	Kalgoorlie	120
Hobart	96	906	Kangarilla	45
Kellyville	16	75	Kadina	88
Latrobe	10	30	Launceston	120
Melbourne	214	940	Townsville	175
Malvern	24	120	Traralgon	90
Parramatta	70	1,665	Zeehan	180
Perth	29	775	New Zealand	8,600
Prahran	52	821	Miscellaneous	2,060
Prospect	12	60		
Rockhampton	63	440		
Sydney	84	2,388		
Toowoomba	23	60		
Williamstown	58	375		
Carried forward		13,899		28,110

NOTES.

BROTHER AND SISTER HEWITT are now finishing up their work in the Ipswich district, and expect soon to go to Gympie.

REMEMBER OUR BIBLES! One hundred different styles, at prices from 3d. to 65s., and weighing from one ounce to fifteen pounds. Parallel and other best Oxfords at cost. Write for what you want, and we will try to please you.

SISTER GREGG has completed successfully her first delivery in Newcastle. It will be remembered that Brethren Buhler and Bell also made a good delivery there for "Bible Readings" several months ago. The Lord is evidently helping our agents to put a good number of books into this town, the business of which has been so nearly ruined by the strikes.

THE severe winter climate of Tasmania has made it necessary that Brother Wilson go to a warmer climate for the present. Arrangements have been made for him to labour in Brisbane for a few months. We understand that he is spending a few days at Brother Semmen's Health Home in Sydney, where he can have needed rest and treatment.

ANOTHER worker, Miss Lily Williams, of Sydney, has been added to our Tract Society staff, making seven in all. She accepted the truth about two months ago, and as a result lost her position as cashier for a business house in Sydney. Almost immediately the way opened for her to come to our office, where we are confident that her business experience will be of value to our work.

WE are sorry to learn that the typhoid fever, which is raging in Perth, W. A., has taken down several of our workers there. Brother and Sister Reekie have been in the hospital, and Sister Johnson is very sick at home. When we heard last from them they were improving. Let us remember these workers in our prayers.

AN INCIDENT FOR CANVASSERS.

THOSE who work for God should never grow weary in well doing; for our Lord's blessed promise is that in *due season* we shall reap if we faint not.

I often think that if our canvassers could see the changes their labours produce in thoughts, experiences, and subsequent lives of at least some of those for whom they toil, they would rejoice with joy unspeakable. Occasionally we get slight glimpses of the good

work that follows our efforts, but as is so often said, eternity alone will reveal all.

I would like to know who it was that canvassed for "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation" in the Northern part of New Zealand. In one family with whom a copy was left, the son became deeply interested in the truths presented by the author.

While pursuing the study of the book, a very religious gentleman chanced to spend a night with this young man's parents. On learning that his son was studying "Thoughts," this visitor warned him against the dangerous teachings of the book. Quite an argument took place on the law and the Sabbath.

What the visitor said about the abolition of the law and the change of the Sabbath troubled the young man very much at first. But after carefully considering the argument for a few days, he felt more convinced than ever that he ought to keep the Lord's Sabbath.

When his mind was fully made up to obey God, he laid the matter before his father. He was told that he could not remain at home and keep the seventh day of the week.

Duty seemed plain; he must be true to God, even if it cost him his home.

He wrote to his sister and her husband who were living on the opposite side of the Island, telling them about his convictions, and asking them if they could provide a home for a time.

Imagine his surprise and joy on receiving a letter from them stating that they had also begun to keep the Lord's Sabbath, and that their home was open for him. He went to them and lived with them until the opening of the Avondale School two months ago.

He is now in the school rejoicing in God, and preparing to do valiant service for the Lord Jesus who has done so much for him.

Dear fellow-labourers, toil on. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper either this or that, or whether they *both* shall be alike good."

A. G. DANIELLS.

THE GLEANER.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

AUSTRALIAN TRACT SOCIETY,

251 ST. GEORGE'S ROAD, NORTH FITZROY.

VIC., AUSTRALIA.

PRICE:

	s.	d.
Per Year, post paid	1	3
Clubs of six or more copies to one address, per year, post paid, each	0	9
Single copies, postage $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per copy extra	0	1

Printed by the Echo Publishing Company, Limited, 14 Best Street, North Fitzroy, Victoria, for the Australian Tract Society, and registered as a newspaper in Victoria.