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THE BIBLE ECHO. BRVOTED TO

An Exposition of Bible Truth and Signs of the Times

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PRAYER.

PRAYER was appointed to convey The blessings God designed to give ; Long as they live should Christians pray, For only while they pray they live.

And shall we in dead silonce lic,

When Christ stands waiting for our prayer? My soul, thou hast a Friend on high; Arise, and try thy interest there.

If pain afflict, or wrongs oppress; If cares distract, or fears dismay ; If guilt deject, if sin distress;

The remedy's before thee---Pray!

Depend on Christ, thou caust not fail; Make all thy wants and wishes known ; Fear not; His merits must prevail; Ask what thou wilt ; it shall be done! --Joseph He WELBOU;

HUMILITY.

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15.001 A FARMER went with his bor into a wheat field, to see if it was ready for the harvest. "See, father," exclaimed the boy, "how straight these stems hold up their heads! They must be the best ones. Those that hang their heads down I am sure cannot be good for much." The farmer plucked a stalk of each kind and said: "See here, foolish child! This stalk that stood so straight is light-headed. and almost good for nothing; while this that hung his head so modestly is full of the most beautiful grain."-Selected.

A PATAL MAW.

PHARAOH prayed: "Entreat the Lord that He may take away the frogs from me." Commenting on this, Mr. Spurgeon says: "A take haw he manifest in that prayer. It contains to conversion of sim. He says not, "I have republic against the Lord; entreat that I may find forgive-ness!" Nothing of the third he loves sin as much as ever. "A prayer without pentence is a triver build acceptance. If no that may find the total is with-ored. This may find to go is a sumer the mail former of the sine the third with the total may find the total same the mail former of the sine of the build be the sine the sine of the sine of the pentence is a triver build the total size as a sumer the mail former of the size of the build the the size of the size of the pentence of the size of the size of the size of the pentence of the size of the size of the size of the pentence of the size of the size of the size of the pentence of the size of the size of the size of the size of the pentence of the size of t PHARAOH prayed : "Entreat the Lord Pharises, 9 that

Melbourne, Victoria, July 18, 1898.

I am not as other men are,' never draws near to God at all; but he that cries. 'God be merciful to me a sinner.' has come to God by the way which God has Himself appointed. There must be confession of sin before God, or our prayer is faulty."

WHY IS IT?

IF confession of sin is deep among believers, it will be so among the ungodly also. I never knew it to fail. I am so anxious that God should revive His work in our own hearts, so that we may see the exceeding sinfulness of sin.

There are a great many fathers and mothers among us who are anxious for the conversion of their children. Parents wonder why their children are not saved. I venture to say that, as a rule, the fault lies at our own door. There may be something in our life that stands in the way. It may be there is some secret sin that keeps back the blessing. Let us bray God to come into our hearts, and make His power felt. If it is a right eye, tet us pluck it out; if it is a right hand, let us cut it off; that we may have power with God and with man.

Why is it that so many of our children are wandering off into the public-house, and drifting away into infidelity-going down into a dishonoured grave? There seems to be very little power in Christianity at the present time. Many godly parents find that their children are going astray. Does it arise from some secret sin clinging around the heart? There is a passage in God's word that is often quoted; but in ninety-rine cases out of a hundred those who quote it stop at the wrong place. In the fifty-ninth of Isaiah we read: "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened that He cannot save; neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear." There they stop. Of course God's hand is not shortened, and His ear is not heavy; but we ought to read the next verse: "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God; and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your ingers with iniquity; your mis have spoken He, your tongue hith million perversences." As Mat-therefore bays, "If they owing to them-server iner stood in their own light;

they shut their own door. God was coming towards them in the way of mercy, and they hindered Him. 'Your iniquities have kept good things from you.""

ONE PENNY.

Bear in mind that if we are regarding iniquity in our hearts, or living on a merc empty profession, we have no claim to expect that our prayers will be answered. There is not one solitary promise for us. I sometimes tremble when I hear people get up and quote promises, and say that God is bound to fulfil those promises to them; when all the time there is something in their own lives which they are not willing to give up. It is well for us to search our own hearts, and find out why it is that our prayers are not answered. Let those of us who are parents set our own houses in order, and be filled with Christ's Spirit; then it will not be long before our children will be inquiring what they must do to get the same Spirit.-D. L. Moody.

THE DIFFERENCE.

WHAT a blessed privilege it is that every soul may go directly to God with all his sins, and all his troubles and trials. and tell Him all about them ! And what a blessed assurance also we have, that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness !" I John 1:9.

A false religion teaches men to confess their sins to a priest, and get forgiveness through him. The psalmist writes: "I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord." He did so. He declares: "I acknowledged my sin unto Thee;" and then he tells us the blessed result which followed: "And Thou forgavest the

iniquity of my sin." Ps. 32:5. Thus Daniel did. He says: "I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession." Dan. 9:4. And thus may all do.

IDOLATROUS VOWS AND THE "PRO-TECTION" OF THE .. SAINTS."

LAST April about the time of the commencement of the war between Spain and America, Cardinal Sancha, Catholic Archhishop of Madric, issued a pastoral letter in which he professed to place the Spanish army in the war with America. " under the protection of all the sames."

A little later, admiral Villamil, commander of the Spanish torpedo flotila, together with his men, on leaving Spain for Cuba, went to a Catholic cathedral, and vowed, before an image of the Virgin Mary, "never to return home unless victorious." But neither the Cardinal's pastoral, promising the "protection of the saints," nor the vow of the admiral before the image; has brought success to the Spanish arms. Defeat has so far crowned their every move. On the other hand, unparalleled successes have attended the American forces. Two entire Spanish fleets have been destroyed by the American navy, in the first instance without any loss of life to the Americans, whatever, and in the second instance with only one killed and two: wounded, while the Spanish lost a thousand men in the two engagements, admiral Villamil himself being among the number.

320

Such events, it would seem, ought to open the eyes of all to the fact that the reputed "protection" of dead men is a myth, and that vows made before an image do not insure success in battle.

A wide contrast exists between the foregoing and President M'Kinley's late proclamation in which he advises the people in America to return thanks to God for the success that has attended the American flag in the conflict with Spain, and to pray, not before an image, nor for the protection of the saints, but to God, that the "Divine protection" may be extended to the American forces during the rest of the campaign.

THE COST OF WAR.

THE tremendous financial strain which war imposes on a country may be gathered somewhat from a recent statement that Spain's war with America is costing her at the rate of £1,600,000 per day.

And what is she gaining by it ? Where is the profit? The vast sums of money she has spent hitherto in war preparations, are being wasted through the destruction of her navy. Her possessions are slipping out from under her control, which she might have retained, without war, through an honest administration of humane government.

Three months' expenditure at this rate will amount, in round numbers, to f 150-000,000. Think of what such a sum condition in supplying human wants and deeds; in administering to starving mul-studes; in improving, beautifying, and beasing a country; on in spreading the light of the glorious gospel throughout the the of the glorious gosper throughout the result from as it is being spent, it only is up the war spirit in men. Distributed millionenous, the Cubass, it would be the service men, and child be the service men, woman, and child be the service men, the service men, to have tenters Print Misso ed mor ander **Sal**tabas *

How foolish it is, then, for men to spand their time and means on war,war. not to defend men in their rights, but to retain possessions and governmental control irrespective of those rights. Ob.---

"Were half the power that fills the world with terror, Were half the wealth bestow'd on camps and courts Given to redeem the human mind from error,

There were no need of arsenals nor forts."

"WHO SLEW ALL THESE?"

THIS sad, old earth, once the bright, the beautiful, over which the morning stars sang together, is now but a huge sepulcher, where for six thousand years men have continued to bury their dead. It is, indeed, a veritable prison house of death, and the annual 33,000,000 of prisoners are still being subtracted from the number of the living, and joined to the multitude of the upseen.

The ruthless hand of the destroyer falls alike on the just and the unjust, the child of tender years, and the man of mature strength. It is even as it was in the land of Egypt, from the kingly palace down to the habitation of the dungeon slave, in every home there is, or soon will be, one dead! As we view this gigantic work of slaughter, that has filled the world with broken hearts and weeping eyes, we hear forever repeated the pensive enquiry, "Who slew all these?"

The atheist and the unbeliever might answer, "This is the work of the Christians' God." But this cannot be so, for the Creator loves humanity, and showers His rain and His blessings both on the just and on the unjust. God has not planned that the creatures of His care should be thus ruthlessly destroyed. He takes no pleasure in the death of him that dieth.

There is a being--that fallen angel which robbed man of his heritage-who stands behind all this work of slaughter. The Son of God came and died so that He might "destroy the works" of that angel; yea, that "He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil."

John 3:8; Heb. 2:14. In the beginning God gave men power over nature, its elements, and the creatures of His hand. Through the fall of man, Satan usurped that power, and has since endeavoured to turn it all in the channel of destruction. He has loosed the wings of the tempest, and taught the thunderbolt to destroy. Under his inspiration man has learned to love the evil in eating and drinking, and in habits of living, until disease has poisoned all the

here on your and your of any of another of more beautiful, many, have been led, into been made to improve

a death-blow at the life and energy race. The hideous distortions of Leather ism have been prompted by the surmind that inspires the fashionable distations of modern times. We need not wonder, then; that under all these unholy influences the span of life has been short. ened from nine long centuries to about thirty-four years. Even these few days are spent in constant struggle with disease and its attendant aches and pains.

Of those born alive, statistics tell us that one-fourth die before eleven months; onethird before the twenty-third month; one. half before eight years; two-thirds before the thirty-ninth year, and three-fourths before the fifty-first year. Only one in 12,000 survives a whole century. Few and evil, indeed, are the days of man's pilgrimage here.

But God is not the author of all this. Let us put the' responsibility of this matter where it belongs-on him who has been "a murderer from the beginning." John 8:44.

Kind reader, as you answer the question, "Who slew all these ?" remember that Satan is the one who has the power of death; that it was he who brought death into the world; Christ is the author of life. Acts 3: 15, margin. He is the Prince of life. He is the Resurrection and the Life. John 11:25. It is Christ's object to destroy the works of the devil. Death is one of these works. It is "the last enemy," and God has no place for it in His dominion. The author of death, man's first enemy, and death itself, man's last enemy, are both to be destroyed in the lake of fred Rev. 20:10, 14. God's people will survive this destruction. Of them it is written, "Neither can they die any more." R. HARE. Perth, W.A.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

In order that we may have signs, there must be a prediction of future events. The occurrence of the events thus foretold, constitute signs of the times.

The signs of the times, therefore, are simply those prophecies which are fulfilling in our own day, which show that the time has come, or is at hand, for the fulfilment of other predictions which stand in the same chain of events. Signs of the times are themselves prophecies of what is before us, and they are the seal which God sets to what He has declared would be. They are the solern voice of God to is: as if He were Himself now walking through the land reiterating the declaration, at His prophets of old, and proclaiming the tribulances of His word to all the inhabitants thereof.

The store, 986, wild defined, clearly es-tablished sign of the times, is an event of immense importance, it ought to arrest the attantice, of all particul, and be with them the shipt come of interest. Neglect of any will be no been a subject of censure

 $_{\rm de}$ due generation than it was with the least whom Christ rebuked for not discerning the signs of their day. Nor will such neglect result less fatally now than then.

And are there such signs existing in our day? Every student of prophecy knows that there is not merely one such sign but a whole array of them, not ambiguous and indistinct, but clear, prominent, and startling. Yet the mass of mankind shut their eyes to these things; professed Christians ignore them; and all immediately set about the work of trying to account for, and explain away any unusual occurrence, instead of considering what lessons of instruction God designed they should draw from it. They would fain persuade themselves that the moral darkness and gloom, which they are constrained to admit is everywhere spreading and deepening, is but the blackness of a transient cloud, which will soon give way to the clear blaze of millennial glory. And thus they blind their eyes to the view as it really is, and wait for that sudden destruction, which the apostle declares shall come upon all those who yield themselves to the fast embrace of this fatal delusion.

The signs of our times are events which are laid down in the prophetic word as tokens of the near approach of the great consummation, and the opening of eternal scenes. To forewarn mankind of the coming of this eventful day, the world was to exhibit remarkable phases, and witness remarkable scenes. These may be classified under tour general heads :--

I. Unusual occurrences and phases in the religious and moral world;

2. Remarkable advancement and discoveries in the scientific world;

3. Unprecedented activity and threatening movements in the political world; and

4. Strange and startling phenomena in the natural world.

That the state of things here indicated does exist in all these divisions, no one will deny who is ordinarily well-read, or acquainted with passing events. Whereever we may look, there is no lack of occurrences calculated to excite wonder, and elicit comment. Every literary vehicle is loaded with them ! every mouth is full of them Whynall do not look upon them in the same light as the student of prophecy, is because they are either ignorant of the fact that these things are pointed out in the prophecy as tokens of the couling endpor though not ignorant, are unwithing to somit the application of the prophetic declarations to them. The former, however, is no doubt the cause with many for when a person will candidiy Cumpere' the swords of prophecy with the present state of the world in all is mine in the can built see such a failing the contains the can built see them, as to be contained that there are verily the thing while the contains, pave said should contains the second to be been a No; the masses are not aware of what the prophets have spoken; and hence, although they are struck with wonder at the unusual occurrences and strange events of this time, they fail to see their significance, and realise their importance.

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But it is not sufficient merely to have attention aroused and wonder excited; for men may wonder at the remarkable works of God, and view with astonishment the stately march of fulfilling prophecy, and knowing not its significance, may, with all their wonder and astonishment, perish at last. What we want is to become acquainted with the prophecies, believe them to be the word of God to us, given for our benefit and instruction, and prepare for the great future toward which they all converge.

U. Smith.

GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE.

LOVE IN WRATH,

"O give thanks unto the God of gods, for His mercy endureth forever. . . . To Him that smote Egypt in their firstborn; for His mercy endureth forever; . . . and overthrew Pharoah and his hosts in the Red Sea; for His mercy endureth forever. . . . To Him who smote great kings; for His mercy endureth forever; and slew famous kings; for His mercy endureth forever." Ps. 136:1, 10, 15, 17.

It is evident that the one who, guided by the Divine Spirit, penned the above lines, beheld in the plagues of Egypt, not the wreaking of vengeance of a God who hates the offender, but a manifestation of the wonderful endurance of His love and and mercy.

The Egyptians had once possessed the knowledge of the Creator; but they had gone the downward way from the worship of God, to worship the sun, and from that to the basest forms of nature worship. Paul says that "they are without excuse; because that when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and to four-footed beasts, and creeping things." Rom. 1:20, 23. Thev multiplied their gods until it became a proverb that there were more gods in Egypt than men.

The Egyptians ascribed their national success to the greatness of their guardian gods; and as the professed people of the true God were their slaves, it seemed to them that He was but a god of slaves, and did aot have power to deliver them. "Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice, to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go," was the proud answer of Pharaoh, to the messengers of God. "I know not the Lord," was doubtless an honest confession on the part of Pharaoh.

It was God's design in bringing His people out of Egypt to reveal to the Egyptians, and through them world, the knowledge of Hursch.

The first sign given before Phase ... directed against their false worshap. deify reptiles and worship them is one of the very lowest forms of idolatry, the last step in the downward way from the worship of Jehovah to the worship of Satan, who, since the serpent tempted Eve, has been symbolised thereby. The serpent was held as sacred, and worshipped as a god in Egypt. Moses cast down his rod, and it became a serpent. The Lord would thus show to Pharaoh that He had power to make their god at will. When the magicians, by magic, made it appear to the people that they did likewise, the serpent that came from Moses' rod devoured the others, and then turned to a rod again in Moses' hand, showing that the God of Israel had power not only to make but to unmake the god of Egypt. In this was both a revelation of the true God, and also a proclamation of the gospel, a revelation of the power of God to triumph over Satan, who was personified in the serpent. Here was a sufficient revelation of the gospel-"the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth "--- to have saved Pharaoh, if he had walked in the truth thus opened to his mind. But through pride he refused to heed it, and his heart was hardened.

The Egyptians, recognising the fact that upon the annual overflow of the river Nile depended the wonderful fertility of the soil, which would otherwise have been barren and incapable of supporting life, had personified and worshipped the river. They had built and beautified a magnificent temple upon the banks of the Nile, where was enshrined a colossal statue of the god Nilus. Here the king and the nobles resorted at stated times for the worship of this god. The God of the Hebrew slaves turned this sacred river into blood, making its waters, which the Egyptians drank with reverence, deathdealing instead of life-giving. All the power of the Egyptian gods could not restore the river to its former state. Only the Hebrews' God had power to do that.

The frog was also a sacred animal, which was worshipped with much pomp and ceremony by the Egyptians. The God of the Hebrews multiplied the frogs till they became a terrible pest, and the land stank. The proud and haughty Pharaoh had to appeal to the God of his despised slaves, to destroy the gods of Egypt,—creatures which He had made.

The louse was considered unclean. If it touched either priest or people, it unfitted them to enter their sacred temples. At the command of Jehovah the very dust became lice upon man and beast. By the power of God every temple of Egypt was closed, and every shrine for a time deserted. What an object lesson to teach that people that their whole system of false worship existed only by the sufferance of the One who, in His tender love and mercy, was seeking to lead them back to them!

Notwithstanding every effort was made to propitiate the "fly god," who was supposed to have power to protect the land of Egypt from flies and destructive insects which sometimes infested it, life itself became a burden because of the swarms of flies, with their poisonous stings, which hame at the bidding of Israel's God.

"At the same command the lightnings flashed, and the thunder rolled along the ground, while the terrible hail destroyed the crops, and killed both man and beast found unprotected in the field. The murrain fell upon the cattle, killing even the sacred ox, the centre of the abominable, lascivious Apis worship. The magnificent temple, the boast of Egyptian architecture, was described, or filled only with silent mourners for the dead god. The silver trampets of the priests, and the songs of the nude dancing maidens were hushed. What a revelation of the fact that there is one God, and only one! Not in all Egypt could there one honest, sincere soul still remain deceived by the hollow mockery of so vile a polytheism."

The worship of the sun stood at the head of all the Egyptian worship. Yet He who demanded the liberation of His people, caused the glory of the sun to vanish from all the land of Egypt and have the people in darkness, while in the land of Goshen, where the Creator of the sun was acknowledged supreme, there was light.

But was not that last judgment, the having of the firstborn, an act of vengeance on the part of Jehovah? Let us consider for a moment and see if we cannot behold divine love even in that act. and so say with the psalmist: "To Him who smote Egypt in their firstborn, for His mercy endureth forever." If Pharaoh's heart had been open to the love of God, would he not have been led to brokenness of heart and to repentance, in this reminder of that wondrous love that had not withheld His own firstborn, yea, His only begotten, but had freely given Him to die that they might have deliverance from a worse bondage than that from which He was delivering His people?

God thus condescended, in mercy, to speak the truth to the Egyptians, and through them to all people in all time; for through the deliverance of His people from Egypt, the knowledge of the only two and living God was spread to all the mations around, till His fear and dread of on all people.

and the server have and therefore everything the server have and bower, it might be and be the Reputtane, as it will be said in the the Reputtane, as it will be said of the server have plagues are poured of which we will next speak, that the server have plagues are poured of which we will next speak, that the server have plagues are poured of which we will next speak, that the server have be but the server of the but of the server have be but the server of the server be but the server of the server of the but the server of the server be but the server of the server of the server of the server of the server be but the server of the server behold a love which hovers over us, even in the hour of darkness and bordage, seeking to deliver us and bring us into rest in Jesus Christ; that through our deliverance, He may be revealed to others; that they too, through our deliverance, may experience the joy of deliverance.

A. T. ROBINSON.

(Concluded next week.)

THE MAN, CHRIST JESUS.

"THEN came Jesus forth wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man."

Pilate must have been deeply impressed by the majestic calmness of Jesus under every kind of insult and cruelty. He had already declared, "I find no fault in Him." He saw in Jesus the perfect man.

Though the Roman ruler but dimly perceived this truth, it is one which all Christians should carefully consider. Christ is the ideal, the only true and perfect man. And to those who turn from all religion because of the hypocrisy or vileness of false professors, we can say, with Pilate, "Behold the Man."

The inspired men of God delighted to tell of the coming Man. Isaiah says: "A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind and a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." Isa. 32:2. Every believing soul can tell how truly those precious words speak of Jesus. He is our shelter from the storms of temptation, our shady rest in the hot desert of this world.

Again we see Him as the "Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief," and our own small woes shrink into insignificance beside the awful burden which broke the heart of the Man of Calvary.

Zachariah describes "the Man whose name is the Branch," as the one who was to build the temple of the Lord. Zech. 6:12. This is the temple built of living stones (1 Peter 2:5) in which God has promised to walk. 2 Cor 6:16. The master builder, Christ, is watching the preparation of each stone for its place in that house of God. Every experience of the child of God is helping to fit him for his place in that temple, for "we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." So we can rejoice in the Lord always, and thank Him for all things.

When the promised Man had come, the self-righteons Phanisees could not endure His presence. They said: "This Man receiveth sinners and eateth with them." But their cause of complaint is the hope of the world, for "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Thank God that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom T am "chief," and that He is " the same yesterday, to day, and forever."

When Jesus ascended on high not lay aside His human nature, in "the one Mediator between God and the the Man Christ Jesus." The great purpose for which He "took on Him the seed of Abraham," and was made in all things like unto His brethren, was "that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest." Heb. 2:16, 17. But He was not a priest on earth (Heb. 8:4); the human nature was taken to prepare Him for His work in heaven. His priesthood is an endless one, and so He can save to the utter. most all who come to God by Him. Heb. 7:24, 25. It is thus that we are not saved by His death, but by His life. Rom. 5:10. Thank God for a living Saviour, one who is touched with the feeling of our infirmities.

When Jesus comes with power and great glory, He will still be the Son of man, though the Judge of all the earth. Matt. 24: 30.

"Watch ye therefore and pray always that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:36.

May you and I, dear reader, be among those who shall receive "a crown of glory that fadeth not away," and forever sing praises to Him who hath loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, the Man Christ Jesus.

W. R. CARSWELL.

WHO IS DOING IT?

"HE that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith."

Seven times this command is given in only two chapters of the Bible, Revelation 2, 3.

All people have ears, but not all have ears to hear. And of all who have ears to hear, not all have ears to hear what the Spirit saith.

Have you ears to hear what the Spirit saith?

This hearing by which we recognise what the Spirit saith, is the hearing of faith.

There is a hearing of faith, as well as a seeing of faith, a walking of faith, and a living of faith.

Therefore it is written, "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?"

Receiving the Spirit by the hearing of faith, the hearing of what the Spirit saith, is only by faith.

We are commanded these seven times not only to hear what the Spirit saith, but also to hear what the Spirit saith "unto the churches."

When the Spirit has spoken distinctly seven times to the churches, and when He who is the head of the church has commanded seven times that we hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches, then how can we proper spiritually unless we do lister this seven times that we hear

"But how shall they hear without a preacher? Is it not then perfectly plain

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THE CONSEQUENCES OF ONE WRONG STEP.

IT seemed a small matter to our first parents, when tempted, to trangress the command of God in one small act, and eat of a tree that was beautiful to the eve and pleasant to the taste. To the transgressors, this was but a small act; but it destroyed their allegiance to God, and opened a flood of woe and guilt which has deluged the world. Who can know, in the moment of temptation, the terrible consequences which will result from one wrong, hasty step ! Our only safety is to be shielded by the grace of God every moment, and not put out our own spiritual eyesight so that we will call evil good, and good, evil. Without hesitation or argument, we must close and guard the avenues of the soul against evil.

It will cost us an effort to secure eternal life. It is only by long and persevering effort, sore discipline, and stern conflict, that we shall be overcomers. But if we patiently and determinedly, in the name of the Conqueror who overcame in our behalf in the wilderness of temptation, overcome as He overcame, we shall have the eternal reward. Our efforts, our selfdenial, our perseverance, must be proportionate to the infinite value of the object of which we are in pursuit.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

Christian Help Work.

ADELAIDE CHRISTIAN HELP BAND.

DURING the four months which have elapsed since the Band was first organised, we feel that God has been with us, encouraging us by His Spirit, and prospering us in our labours, thus rendering our visits not only materially but spiritually profitable to those we desired to assist.

We have received 160 lbs. of groceries, besides a considerable amount of clothing, and \pounds_{I} 3s. 14d. in cash. We have been enabled to purchase a quantity of cloth, to pay rent, 5s., to assist a needy family; and further, to pay wages for work done by the poor to work up the cloth before alludes to. We desire to thank God for His countenance in our undertaking, and intend with His assistance, to go forward in the good work thus commenced.

L. E. LAURIE, Leader ; A. LUCAS, Sec.

NOTES FROM ODR SKA PRANCISCO HELPING HAND MISSION

On the evening of April toth, a man was knocked down in front of the mission, the object of the out who made the assault being robbery, but he way folled in his purpose. The same block a thinkness got into an altercation near the person, and with a dagger attempted to be man mutter, but by the interposition of the bystanders, was prevented from plunging the deadly weapon into the body of his fellowman. Not far from the same date, as we were leaving the mission after the evening's service, we heard the rattle of a policeman's club on the stone pavement, on the opposite side of the street, and on looking around to ascertain the cause. saw a man running as fast as he could, and a policeman in hot pursuit. These incidents, and many more that might be related, are evidence of the need of the mission, and also of the fact that the Lord directed in the matter of securing the buildings which are occupied by the mission, in this particular location. It is one of Satan's vineyards. There is as much need of work in the locality of the mission, for fallen women as there is for fallen men; for it is observed that, although we do not see many of the former class on the streets during the day, nor during the early part of the night, yet from midnight onward till the dawn of day, there are many women of the lowest type out on the streets, some of them staggering under the influence of liquor, and fully demonstrating the depths to which they have fallen by engaging in street fights, and in the use of such vile language as would seem impossible to come from the lips of womankind. We are glad that a home has been established by the Mission Board for the purposes of saving some of these, "as brands from the burning,"

Notwithstanding the fact that we are located in the midst of so much sin, confusion, and outbreaking crime, it is a subject of remark by many who visit the mission that throughout the entire building there is an atmosphere of peace and quiet. One man, an unbeliever, said that the tranquillity of the home did not seem like hypnotism, but was to him an unexplainable influence. Truly "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Geo Unity - neither can he know the because the are spiritually discerned." ($15 \text{ Jim} \left\{ 15 \text{ Ji$

A man with a powerful physique, made the following statistication in a recent meeting: "I am satisfied that you have a power with you that I haven't got, and I want it. I have given myself to the Lord to-night." We are glad to have men see and acknowledge that God is the source of power, and that the gospel "is the power of God unto salvation, to every one that believeth."

The same evening another said: "There is something that my heart longs for that I haven't got. I think it is Jesus that my soul is longing for. I've come to night to give my heart to Him."

Two other of the new converts gave the following testimonies :---

"I praise God, not only for His saving power, but also for His keeping power."

"I praise God for His saving power. I'm a sinner saved by grace."

In order to supply the demand for sleeping accommodations, forty more beds have recently been added, so that we now have 140 beds in which weary men can rest.

The work is the Lord's, the power is His, we are His, and to Him we give the glory for all that is done, and praise Him for the privilege of being connected with the work of saving souls. Signs of the Times.

Reports the Week of Prayer.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

My last report was dated at Kadina, where a new church had just been organised. I then returned to Adelaide, where 1 spent the week of prayer, in company with Brother J. H. Woods. We held meetings each evening during the week, and special meetings several afternoons for the benefit of some who could not get out in the evening. The Lord came very near to His people, and many hearts were made tender by the sweet, subduing presence of His Holy Spirit.

The annual offerings, which were made in behalf of the Avondale School and our mission work, amounted to f_{28} gs. in cash, besides quite an amount of jewellery. In these gifts were trinkets and keep-sakes which have been prized for years, especially on account of associations connected with them, thus representing the true spirit of sacrifice on the part of the givers. The blessedness of this kind of giving, while partly experienced now, will be realised in its fulness in that day when it shall be said : "Gather My saints together unto Me, those that have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

Following the week of prayer I visited the Broken Hill church, and if it was not the week of prayer it was certainly a week of prayer, and also one of blessing. This church has had a visit from a minister but once in nearly three years. They have been taithful in the work, however, and the Lord has blessed them much. We left them much encouraged, and with the assurance that they would be visited oftener in the future than they have been in the past.

On my return to Adelaide I visited some families of Sabbath-keepers in Auburn and Penwortham, whom I found rejoicing in the truth.

Leaving Adelaide on Thursday evening, June 16th, after spending the Sabbath with the Ballarat church, I returned to Melbourne after an absence of nearly seven weeks.





LABOUR is life. "Tis the still water faileth ; Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth. Labour is rest from the sorrows that greet us, Rest from all petty vexations that meet us.

Labour is health. Lo, the husbandman reaping ! How through the veins goes the life current leaping ! See his strong arm, in its stalwart pride sweeping, True as a sunbeam the swift sickle guides.

Labour is wealth. In the sea the pearl groweth ; Rich the Queen's robe from the irail cocoon floweth ; From tiny acorn the strong forest groweth; Temple and statue the marble block hides.

-Pacific Health Journal.

LESSONS FOR BOYS.

Boys should be carefully taught the following :---

r. To be true, and to be genuine. No education is worth anything that does not include this. A boy had better not know how to read-he had better never learn a letter in the alphabet, and be true, genuine in intention and in action-than to be learned in all science, and in all languages, and be at the same time false in heart and counterfeit in life. Above all things, teach boys that truth is more than riches, more than earthly power or possessions.

2. To be pure in thought, language, and life,---pure in mind and in body.

3. To be unselfish. To care for the feelings and comfort of others. To be generous, noble, and manly.

4. To be self-reliant and self-helpful, even from childhood. To be industrious always, and self-supporting at the earliest proper age. Teach them that all honest work is honourable; that an idle life of dependence on others is disgraceful,---Our Home.

GIVEN AS A MEDICINE.

A REPUKE emphasised by a kindness is apt to be remembered. ... One day an officer walked into the office of a well-known business

What do you want here ?" Le said to the and office and the bar of the w

Live come to attach the wages of one of topen for a debt." alaitha pulsee is so the second in which

Who is the man?" the second secon

and for twonly rears, all can't

Sand Sand Lares can't get " ga owe ? aot mu

but ther immediately wrote his cheque for the amount, and said, as he handed it to the man :

"This will pay all your bills. If I hear of your running in debt again, you'll have to go."

It was what the doctors call " heroic treatment," and it not only astonished the man, but "revolutionised" him. He settled with his creditors, and then, by carefulness. kept out of debt.

Better than a genius for making money is the habit of paying as you go. Debt is sometimes a misfortune for which the man who incurs it is not to blame, but too often it is the result of reckless folly or of the lack of wise economy in expenditure. One thing is certain; not one of a thousand shackled by such bondage will find a friend like the man who paid his workman's debt .--- Youth's Instructor.

PHYSICAL EVILS OF TOBACCO.

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· TOBACCO, by perverting the saliva, prevents the due elaboration of chyle and blood.

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TOBACCO impairs the sense of smelling and tasting, and often of hearing and seeing.

TOBACCO seriously affects the action of the heart and circulation of the blood.

TOBACCO mars beauty, destroys the complexion, and impairs the brilliancy of the eyes. TOBACCO smoke, in confined rooms, is very

injurious to sickly women and children.

TOBACCO consumers are more liable to disease than if they were in a natural condition.

TOBACCO weakens the constitution, and renders recovery from sickness a greater difficulty .-- Christian Cynosure.

ALCOHOL.

ALCOHOL inflames the inner coat of the stomach, and causes it to secrete abnormal gastric juice. Enfeebled digestion makes unhealthy blood, and results in unhealthy bodies. A man or woman who abstains from liquer is liable to be healthy; a man or woman who indulges at all is unsafe .- Dr. B. W. Richardson.

` . _____

HYOIENE.

THE blessed word "health" once literally meant "holiness," and that means wholeness; for disease and sin alike are fractional conditions-one of the body, the other. largely through the body, of the soul. Equipoise, as of the compass in the binnacle, is the only normal relation of our being toward God and His laws ; adjustedness, harmony, these are the high, pure happiness-giving rewards of conformity to the will of Him. who in nature and grace formulates that

with in laws as changeless as His own bring. My will on Thing be done." whether ut-there has violating a law of bealth or anighted miniment, haips to low Miss. into a densit: but, "The will, out mine, be done **从把初始**。

ters of diet, as well as disciplina turn the desert into Eden, and man semane the gate of heaven.

"Who sweeps a room, as for God Law makes that and the action fine, song George Herbert. Oh, may these "deeds of week-day holiness,"---this reverent study of those habits in life which relate to the ."iet dress, cleanliness, ventilation, and exercise, that will make the physical estate of hu. manity more normal, attract our thought, as the sun draws the tides to the sea.-Frances E. Willard.

TO MAKE GLOSSY STARCH.

Put two ounces of white gum-arabic powder into a pitcher, and pour on it about a pint of boiling water, according to the degree of strength you desire; and then, having covered it, let it stand all night. In the morning pour it carefully from the dregs into a clean bottle, and keep for use. A table. spoonful of gum-water stirred into a pint of starch that has been made in the usual manner, will give lawns, either black or printed, a look of newness, when nothing else can restore them after washing .-- Good Health.

NEVER threaten a child with punishment which you do not seriously mean to inflict, for children quickly discover if one is in earnest or not. It is only fair to give the child due warning, but if after speaking once or twice the child perseveres in bad conduct, disobedience, or whatever it is, the threat should be carried out. It is right to rule, as far as possible, with love, and not by fear, but it is often not well to allow justice to be too much tempered by mercy .- Selected,

BAKED Bananas contain a large quantity of pectin, and no free acid, are very nourishing, and may be freely given even to delicate invalids and feeble children. To bake, remove carefully the skin and fibrous portion that frequently adheres to the flesh of the fruit. Place them in a porcelain baking dish; add half a cup of water to each dozen bauanas; bake twenty minutes in a hot oven, basting once or twice; serve hot .-- Selected.

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Public Services are hold each Sabbath (seventh day) in the following cities, to which all are cordially invited :---

| Idvited | School. | Church. |
|--|---------------|------------|
| Adelaide-Bible Christian Chapel, Young St. | 9.30 a.m. | |
| Auckland Machelvie Street, Sorrey Hills | a.30 p.m. | 10.30 a.m |
| Ballarat-Society s Hall, Greaville Street | apm. | 3 30 p.m. |
| Brisbane-Aiblon Public Hail. (upstairs) | 3.30 p.m. | 3 30 p.m. |
| Geelong-Trinity Schoolngom, Lit. Myers St. | 3 p.m. | ix a.m. |
| Hebart-S D.A. Church, Warwick St. | 10 a.m. | 11 30a.m. |
| Hawthorn - Park Strept Chapel, Glouferrie | 10 a.m. | 11 15a m. |
| Melbourne-S.D.A. Church Alfred Cres- | | |
| cent, North Fiteray | 9.30 a m. | man. |
| ramatta-The Tabernacie, Charles St. | | |
| th Temperance League Hall, Limbo St. | 10,15a.m. | 11.20 a m. |
| khampton - Oddfellows Hall, Denham St | | |
| Sydney-Carlisle St , Ashfield | 9.45 a m. | mam. |
| Williamstown Freemasons' Hall, Electra St | | |
| Windsor-Foresters' Hull, Albert Street | g. 30 g.m. | LI B.M. |
| Woolhara-Oddfellow's Hall, Queen St | | 3 p.m. |
| Petersham-S.D.A. Church, Cannon Street | 1 | ∫ria.m |
| near Parrammatia Road | . g.30 a.m | 1 3 p.m |
| | | |

ote. -- In the foregoing list the design is to give the name and ress of one Seventh-day Adventist church in each large city seaport town only, for the benefit of travellers, and not a com-plet list of churches in the colonies

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| 1761ydj (7 x 5 x r inches). Scripture | | |
| Dictionary and Harmony of the Gospels | 6 | 0 |
| A1763yd (7x 5 x 2 inches). Thin, India | 12 | 6 |
| A1769yd (7 x 5 x 4 inches), Thin, India | 20 | 0 |
| Minion (new good print.) | | |
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| REVISED VERSION. Ruby. | . ~ | |
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Sent March 1 140

Items of Interest

A serious rising of the "Black Flags" is reported from China, the rebels being everywhere victorious.

The state school at Stawell, Vic., has been closed on account of the prevalence of measles in that town.

It is stated freely that notwithstanding the direct denial by senor Sagasta, Spain is about to sue for peace.

Aquinaldo, the leader of the Phillipine insurgents, has proclaimed the independence of the Phillipine Republic.

Three dairymen were prosecuted in the District Court, Melbonrne, on July 5, for adulterating milk, and fined £6 £3 and £5 respectively.

The United States Government has decided to annex the Hawaian islands, and a resolution to that effect has been signed by President M'Kinley.

The American warship, Charleston, has taken possessian of the Ladrones, a group of Spanish islands a few hundred miles north-east of Manila.

The members of the U. S. A. Congress, elated with the successes of Cuban Campaign, gave three cheers for President M'Kinley and the army and the navy, and sang the Star Spangled Banner in chorus before adjourning.

The British sailing ship Cromartyshire and the French Steamer La Bourgogne collided in the North Atlantic, on July 7. The latter sank immediately, over 500 lives being lost. Of the 20x persons saved only one was a woman

On July 1, e, and 3, the American land forces under General Shafter, and the fleet under forces under General Shafter, and the fleet under Admiral Sampson made a joint attack on San-tiago. As a result the principal fortifications have been demolished. 2000 killed and wounded are reported among the Americans. The Span-ish losses must have been very great, but are as yet unknown. After the battle, Ad-miral Cervera, with four of his ships and two torpedo boats, attempted to escape from San-tiago. A smart naval engagement followed. tiago. A smart naval engagement followed, resulting in the destruction of the Spanish fleet, and capture of Admiral Cervera with 1300 other prisoners, 600 being killed, including Admiral Villamil.

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Melbourne, Victoria, July 18, 1898.

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ion to the BIBLE ECHO, notice the date on the wrapper of your paper, and see that it is correctly changed. 3. All matter appearing in the BIBLE ECHO without credit may generally be understood as coming from the Editor.

THE article in this number on "God's Eternal Purpose" will be found exceedingly interesting and instructive. The series on this subject will close next week.

It would no doubt shock many professed Christians if God should audibly speak to them individually and tell them that their prayers are an abomination. And yet that is just what, in His word, He does say personally to every one that turns away his ear from hearing His law, Thus we read in Proverbs: "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination."

THE past week's news brings the intelligence of another terrible marine disaster, a collision on the Atlantic Ocean between the La Bourgogne, a French liner, and the Cromartyshire, a British vessel. The former quickly sank, 525 of her 726 passengers and crew going down with her. One hundred and seventy passengers and thirty-one of her crew were rescued by the Cromartyshire.

SINCE the destinction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago, the Pope, it is announced, has written to the Queen Regent of Spain, advising her to at once appeal to the European Powers to interfere and bring the Americo-Spanish war to a close. Spain has been a most faithful ally and supporter of the Papacy, and the Pope doubtless fears the result of further conflict to the Spanish nation, notwithstand-"ing the Spanish forces have been placed under the "protection" of the "saints" by Cardinal Sancha 1 14 4

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millennium." That is true. Events are leading, and rapidly leading, up to the millennium. The worst time this world will ever have seen, or will ever see, is now opening before us, the "time of trouble " foretold in Dan. 12:1. And "at that time," says the angel to the prophet, "thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." lesus will come then to take His people to heaven, there to live and reign with Him a thousand years. When He comes the earth will be "broken down" at His presence (Isa. 24:19), and left without human inhabitant. Jer. 4:25. It will have a sabbath of rest from sin, the seventh thousand years, or millennium, since creation. See 2 Chron. 36:21. Dear reader, is your name written in "the book "?

"Better Than Nothing."-The law of God is the foundation and rule of His government. It is the divine expression of the divine character. As God is righteous, so His law is righteous. As God hates sin, so His law condemns sin.

In the word, the law is represented as a mirror, by looking into which the sinner may discover his sins. James 1. Says Paul: "Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law; for I had not known lust, except the law had said. Thou shalt not covet." Whenever God has sought to bring man face to face with his sins, He has always brought him face to face with His law. It is quite proper, therefore, that this law should be kept plainty in, view.

In Mr. H. Price Hughes's West upndon Mission, recently, the Many, Morgan Gibbon said : "I agree very with that cathedral verger of whom I have somewhere read, who had an abhorrence of the blank spaces he saw on the wall. 'Ah, yes,' replied the verger, 'I tell the dean he ought to put something there. As I sez to him, If you'd only put up the ten commandments 'twould be better than nothin.' And if Christians would only go out of the conventional methods, and try to bring home to the consciences of the men and women of London the ten commandments, aut only would it be better than nothing, it would be better than asything, because therein they had the 'thou shalts' and the 'thou shalt nots' of the Lord God Almighty."

AVONDALE SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE Avondule School will continue throughout the summer, beginning Oct. 5, 1898. More attention will be given during the comment term to manual a studies than has been tone hitherto. The Last Grand Crash."-Many men Contact for gerious times shaad. A Contact of President M'/(inley's cabinet cal, or other similar lines of work. Then One study, at least, will be devoted to esident auf thing a contract of the will be special and of work. And as a self provided, rather a self as a self as

there will be an excellent opposition, miscellaneous practice in all im-garden and orchard work. Larber ties of fruit will be preserved for the of the School.

For older people who cannot spend se much time in school as the young, show special courses will be provided in Bible study, health work, hygienic cooking, etc

Full particulars of all features of the summer school will be given later. The summer school will connect with the winter term of our school, so that young people who are sent here can remain and save not only the expense of travelling back and forth to their homes, but also the time that would be lost in long vacations.

Will those who would like to attend the summer school or send their children to it, please notify us at once.

C. B. HUGHES, Principal.

Situation Wanted .--- Boy, age 15, useful, willing, seeks situation on a farm, with Sabbath keepers. Address, Mrs. Lambert, Homeside, Lily Street, Auburn, N.S.W.



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Rheamatism Conquered. Asont Vale, egth March, 1893.

Asont Vale, agih March, 189; Dear Sira, Severa years ago I had an acute attack of Rhen-matism, which left a severa pain at the ond of the solation are in the left foot, with the muscles all swollen, causing me to wik state, and almost incapacitating me from work for two years. After, presevering with your Schomen Solution for four (i) unohits the pain and swelling disappeared altogether, and I an Uhahkful to say that I am able to wikk as well as over I did in my life, I,think very highly of your Solution, and would strongh recommend others to give it a fait rial who suffer form Rhen-matism or Sciatica. Yours truly, and the Sacondon) Sciatica.-Yours truly, E. ECHATTACK (late Town Clerk of Essendon.)

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