The GLEANER.

Vol. 1.

Melbourne, December, 1896.

NEVER GIVE UP.

NEVER give up! it is wiser and better Always to hope than once to despair; Fling off the load of Doubt's heavy fetter, And break the dark spell of tyrannical Care. Never give up! or the burden may sink you; Providence kindly has mingled the cup,

And in all trials or troubles, bethink you,

The watchword of life must be—Never GIVE UP! -Tupper.

GOD'S WORK GROWS.

THE Tract Society workers have been very busy during the past two weeks transferring their offices from the second floor of the Echo Company's building to what is known as the Rogers' building, about one block away on St. George's Road. Anyone who has moved knows something of the confusion and hard work attending such an experience. It has been difficult to keep all our work in order and put in two weeks of moving at the same time. Will all our good friends and workers kindly accept this explanation for any irregularities or delays in answering letters and filling orders ?

We are now pleasantly settled in our new rooms, where we can carry on the regular lines of work to much better advantage. The offices in the Echo building were very convenient for a time, but as the work grew, and the number of workers increased, we were too much crowded to be able to work to advantage. Six employees were packed so closely together that each assisted in disturbing all the others.

• The work of the Echo Company has also grown until they very much needed the space we were occupying. We hardly know whether we needed to move to a larger place more than they needed that we should.

In looking for a place, the Lord seemed to direct to this building where we now are, a cut of which, together with articles on the growth of our work, appeared in the *Bible Echo* of December 14. The place is not so large as might be judged from the cut, there being only nine rooms, two of which are very small; but it could hardly have been arranged more conveniently for our work if we had built it for ourselves. It was erected at the time of the great building boom at a cost of £7,000. The cost was not considered, but money was freely sacrificed to the beauty and convenience of the place. When the boom broke, the owner lost all that he had invested, and the property fell into the hands of a building society. For five years it has stood empty. We have passed it every day, admiring it at a distance, but not dreaming that it was so admirably suited for our work, or that we would ever occupy it; but when the time came that we must-move, the Lord opened the way for us to secure it for a term of two years at a nominal rent.

No. 6.

On the ground floor is the front sales' office, the general agent's office, the stock room and Conference store room. On the next floor are offices for the Conference President, the Tract Society Secretary, the Accountant, and a stenographer's room. There is one empty room for the Society to grow into.

We acknowledge with much gratitude the kind providences of God which have attended our work until we needed such a nice, large place, and rejoice that we have been so prospered in securing just the place needed. We cordially invite all our friends to call and see us. You will find us very happy, and prepared to receive you more pleasantly than when we were doing business "in a corner."

OUR SACRED STEWARDSHIP.

CHRIST came forth from the tomb a conqueror, and sole possessor of all that was lost by the fall.

Satan obtained this world by conquest, but having been conquered by Christ, the usurped possessions have passed into the hands of the Conqueror. Thus c the earth which Christ gave to Adam at creation has passed back into His own hands. He purchased it with His own precious blood. It is therefore called "the purchased possession." Eph. 1:14. He has not restored it to its original state, but He will do so See Micah 4:8; Isa. 51:3.

Christ as owner of the world and all that pertains to it has made man steward over His possessions.

 "And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Dan. 7:27. "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Matt. 5:5.

But the fulfilment of this promise is still future, and until it is accomplished man holds the position of steward over another man's goods. Christ illustrates. this as follows :—

"A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come." Luke 19:12, 13.

Christ is the nobleman, this world is the goods, and we are the servants who are to occupy until He returns. Satan disputes Christ's ownership of this world, and we often forget it, but the fact remains unchanged, and we shall all be called to give an account of our stewardship.

In placing man on a second probation and making him steward of His goods, Christ withholds from man one-tenth of all his income.

"All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof." Lev. 27: 30, 31.

In the "Testimonies" we read: "Voluntary offerings and tithes constitute the revenue of the gospel. Of the means which are entrusted to man, God claims a certain portion,—a tithe."—*Testimony*, No. 31, p. 145.

"God's plan in the tithing system is beautiful in its simplicity and equality. All may take hold of it in faith and courage, for it is divine in its origin. In it are combined simplicity and utility, and it does not require depth of learning to understand and execute it."—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 388.

The withholding of the tithe from man tests him on the same principle on which Lucifer and our first parents failed, namely, God's sovereign right to do as He sees best with His own.

"The system of tithes and offerings was intended to impress the minds of men with a great truth,—that God is the source of every blessing to His creatures." "Thus the people were constantly reminded that God was the true proprietor of their fields, their flocks and herds." "And that everything they possessed was of His creation, and He has made them stewards of His goods."

At an infinite cost the Son of God redeemed man and his lost possession from the hand of the enemy. This not only took the life of Christ, but it imperilled His eternal interests. Had He failed, as it was possible for Him to do, He would have perished. At this cost He rescued what was lost. It is now all His. Says Paul, "Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price." I Cor. 6:19, 20. And Peter tells us that the price was the "precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Peter 1:18, 19.

Thus the tithing system tests men as to whether they appreciate what has been done for them, and whether they will recognise Christ's ownership and His perfect, unqualified right to withhold from them anything He sees fit. The true response from man is not in his words, but in his actions. No matter what his professions of faith may be, if he knowingly withholds the tithe of his income from Christ, he, by his actions, denies Christ's right to claim it. When Lucifer sought the honour and power bestowed upon the Son of God only, he denied God's right to withhold it from himself. When our first parents took the fruit which God had withheld from them, they questioned His wisdom and goodness in doing so. And when man now appropriates the tithe to his own use, he manifests his ingratitude for what Christ has done, and denies His right to withhold any portion of His goods.

The same principle is involved in each case, namely, God's right to bestow or to withhold His gifts according to His good pleasure. Had Lucifer appreciated the gifts bestowed upon him, and recognised the wisdom, love, and sovereign right of the Creator, instead of coveting what was not given to him, he would have been filled with gratitude, adoration, and praise to God for arranging everything just as He had. The same may be said of our first parents in their beautiful Eden home. What a fearful mistake it was for them to close their eyes to what had been given them, and selfishly lay hands on what God had chosen to withhold.

And the very same may be said of us to-day. When we were held by Satan in a cruel bondage from which we never could have freed ourselves; when we were lost, irretrievably lost, the Son of God, at the risk of losing His own existence, came to this earth, suffered and died to set us free and to save us. He wrenched all things from the grasp of the prince of darkness, and now claims them as His own. In love unspeakable He has given us another probation, and made us stewards of His goods. In His wisdom and love He has thought best to withhold one-tenth of all things from us. He has directed us to put it in His treasury to be used for the salvation of men. Now, how foolish, how ungrateful, how cruelly selfish it is for us to forget what He has done and lay our hands on what He has chosen to reserve as His.

O, brethren, we must not do it.

A. G. DANIELLS.

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EN ROUTE TO AMERIÇA.

FEELING assured that the many friends of Pastor M. C. Israel will be glad to hear from him, we give the following extracts from a letter recently received:—

"We are within 350 miles from Apia, Samoa, and will reach there to morrow about 5 P.M., when we will see the missionaries stationed there. The boat remains only a few hours. Yesterday was the longest day I ever experienced. It was Monday, October 5, for forty-eight hours. It was similar to Joshua's long day, only the sun went down in the middle of it. Our company were all sea-sick more or less until we reached Auckland, but since then we have not missed a meal. We have had splendid weather, and have run about 314 miles per twenty-four hours. We are all very much pleased with our accommodations.

"Quite a large proportion of our fellow-passengers are Catholics. I brought a good supply of readingmatter, but the chances of doing much with it look rather slim. Our San Francisco workers have a tract distributor on the boat that is pretty well filled with our papers, but I do not see that many of them are being read by the passengers. They are largely engaged in reading the most trashy kind of novels.

"I should have been glad to see all of my old friends, and had an opportunity to shake their hands before leaving, but they were so far away that I could not expect it. I feel sorry to leave the colonies, and at the same time I am glad to have an opportunity to see our old friends in America, and a prospect of visiting my relatives at some time not far in the future. When Andrew found the Messiah, the next thing he did was to find his own brother, Simon, and bring him to Jesus. I believe it is the will of the Lord that we shall labour for the salvation of our own brothers and sisters. This I have long felt a desire to do, and hope soon to have the opportunity. They have been reading the *Echo* with interest, and I hope it has prepared the way for further labour."

"REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS."

BRO. F. L. MEAD, one of the general canvassing agents in America, makes the following "reasonable requirements" of our agents, which he is certain will bring success.

1. "Thorough consecration to God and His work.

2. "Eight hours' solid work each day, or forty hours each week, for every week in the year.

3. "Twenty hours' study each week of the Bible and the 'Testimonies' and other good books, and a careful reading of our periodicals.

4. "Permanency in the business, making it their life-work."

These suggestions are worth studying. They may seem difficult to follow, but there is success in them. Many of our agents work as though these were their principles, and others would do much better if they would adopt them.

BROKEN HILL.

Our little company here are supplicating a blessing on ourselves and the people of this place, and I believe we already have an earnest of it, in the eagerness with which some of our members are selling and distributing our literature, especially the *Bible Echo*. There is also a greater desire to read it on the part of the people. Our late *Echo* club amounted to but six and one-half dozen copies, now it has reached twelve dozen. We are seeking for more spirituality, that the Lord can use us in His work here.

H. S. Nolan.

RECIPES FOR MAKING UNFERMENTED WINE AND UNLEAVENED BREAD.

UNFERMENTED WINE.—Secure good grapes. The small wine grape is preferable. Strip the grapes from the stem, and stew in an enamelled kettle till it comes to boiling heat. Strain through a coarse cloth. Then boil the junce for fifteen minutes. Just before it boils, skim off all the skum that rises. When at a boiling heat, pour into strong bottles, which have been thoroughly cleansed, and are kept warm that they may receive the hot wine without breaking. Fill to within half an inch of the cork, and cork immediately with good, solid corks. Cut off the corks close to the bottle, and seal with sealing wax. Then set away in a darkplace, and do not move it about unnecessarily.

UNLEAVENED BREAD.—Ingredients, three cups of white flour, half a cup of thick cream, a pinch of salt, and a little water.

Put the flour into a dish, add the salt, and rub into the cream thoroughly; then wet with water, as cold as possible, till it is the consistency of stiff piecrust. Knead and roll well with the hand for fifteen minutes. Roll into cakes about four inches square and a quarter of an inch in thickness. Mark out each cake into half-inch squares with a knife, so that it will be easily broken, and prick each square to prevent from blistering. Lay on baking tins previously floured, and bake in a quick oven, taking care not to scorch or burn.

MISSES OLIVER AND GILL, who have been selling the *Bible Echo* in Adelaide for the past three months, have returned to their work in Ballarat.

SUGGESTIONS TO CHURCH OFFICERS.

For some weeks before and after the quarterly meeting, there is an unusual amount of care and responsibility resting upon the various officers of the church; hence much time and prayerful study are required, and frequent seasons of consultation will be found necessary.

As we near the close of the quarter, it is especially appropriate that the officers of the church should make careful study of the prosperity of each member. A very effective way to do this, is to take the church records, and examine the list of members, asking these two questions regarding each member: 1. Is there any duty that the church owes to this member that is not being performed? Does this person need any word of encouragement or advice that we can give? Or is he in need of any kindness or help that we can bestow? 2. Is there some work in the Master's vineyard for this person to do which is not being done from lack of faith, or courage, or knowledge? And is there any way that we can strengthen his hands, so that he will take hold of the work, and receive the blessings that come with service?

I know of a church where the officers thus studied the list of members once a week for many weeks, and each week they found that the Lord opened to their minds new views of neglected duty, and new plans for helping their brethren and one another. At the first reading of the list they saw but little that they had faith and wisdom to undertake; but as they humbly laboured to do all in their power to encourage their brethren, God gave them wisdom and influence, and the church was built up. They prayed for the desponding; they stirred up the indolent; they instructed those of little experience; and they prayed and planned for those that were out of work.

Many times as the list of members was read, the names of persons needing help would be passed over, until, in answer to prayer, God put a word of encouragement into the heart of one of the church officers, which he felt that he must carry to that member; and the same God who prompted the one to speak, prepared the heart of the one for whom he laboured to receive counsel and encouragement. "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.", Gal. 6:2.

Let the elders especially consider these questions: Are all members of the church firm in the faith? Are they rejoicing in the Lord? Are some growing weak from lack of knowledge, or from want of spiritual food? Are some perplexed? Are any discouraged? If any are weak, if any are wandering, what is the duty of the faithful "under-shepherd," who expects as reward for his love and fidelity that he will soon receive "a crown of glory"? Shall we not all feel more responsibility and interest in our brethren, and seek God daily for power from on high, that we may help and encourage them in the journey to the heavenly city? Read Eph. 3:14-21. Are there brethren that are offended one at another, or at some action of the church? Visit them; cheer them up; labour for a reconciliation. Read James 5:19, 20; Gal. 6:1, 2 beforehand, and work in the spirit there indicated.

When we come to the business affairs of the church, there are many matters that require special attention at the close of the quarter, and more particular attention at the close of the year. The following are some of the matters requiring special attention :—

r. The clerk should write to all absent members, and to all who are not attending the meetings, stating the time of the quarterly meeting, reminding them of the pleasure which will be given the church by their attendance, and calling attention to the importance of these occasions, and also asking that those who cannot be present shall send a letter to the church, expressing their hopes and experience.

2. The deacons should see beforehand that all things are in readiness for the celebration of the Lord's supper and the ordinance of humility. We are nearing the time for grapes, and provision for a supply of unfermented wine, sufficient for the year, should now be made. The making of bread that is suitable for use in communion, is also a matter worthy of attention. When we consider that this bread is an emblem of the body of Christ, who is the source of *life*, and that leaven is a process of decay and a symbol of *death*, we can then see at a glance that it is not appropriate to represent the body of the Life giver by that which has in it any ferment or leaven. Let us use unleavened bread henceforth in the communion.

3. Plans for the meeting in all its parts should be carefully laid, so that the precious time, when there is an attendance of nearly all the members of the church, may be used to the very best advantage. It is well for the officers to prepare a simple programme, and have a distinct understanding regarding the time and order of the meetings, and the part that each one is to act in both the devotional and the business meetings. It is always desirable that a minister should be with the church at the time of quarterly meeting; and as there are more churches than ministers in the Conference, it is sometimes best that some of the churches should hold their meeting a week earlier, or one or two weeks later, than the appointed time, that a minister may be with them. Let the clerk correspond beforehand with the officers of the Conference, or with the minister in charge of the district, so that there may be a clear and definite understanding about this matter.

4. The reception of members into our churches is not confined to the quarterly meetings, and yet it seems appropriate that special attention should be given before and at these meetings to two questions, namely: 1. Are there any Sabbath-keepers living within the influence of our church who should be encouraged to transfer their membership to this church? 2. Are there any persons wishing baptism and acceptance into the church? If there be any such, let the elders of the church visit them, learn of their experience and of their knowledge of the word of God, and its special messages for this time, and impart such instruction as will prepare them to enter the church with knowledge and full assurance of faith.

5. Arrangements should be made for the holding of a business meeting while the largest number of members are together. This meeting is usually held the evening after the Sabbath, or on Sunday. At that meeting full information should be given to the congregation regarding the workings of the church for the quarter just closed, and in case of the January meeting, of its workings for the year. As far as possible these reports should be presented in writing, and should include :--

I. A report from the clerk, showing the number of members received and dismissed during the year, the present membership of the church, and a brief statement of those decisions arrived at by the officers in their meetings that would be of interest and benefit for the church to know.

2. A summary report from the librarian of the Tract Society, showing what has been done by the church in the tract and missionary work, and a financial statément, showing the receipts and expenditures during the time covered by the report. This may be accompanied by an outline of the work in hand, or in which the church should engage, with an estimate of the expense of carrying it forward.

3. A report from the treasurer, showing the amount of tithes received during the quarter, and forwarded to the Conference treasurer.

4. Reports from the treasurer, or deacons, according as the responsibility of the matter may rest, of the receipts, expenditures, and present standing of each of the various funds and accounts of the church.

Let the officers of the church prepare to follow these reports with plans and propositions regarding the raising of necessary funds, and the financial policy of the church for the year to come. Then, if the brethren are given an opportunity to consider these plans, they will be prepared to adopt and to support them heartily and intelligently during the year.

Let no one prepare for, nor enter into, the consideration of these questions in the spirit of contention or debate. Let not one condemn the proposals of another, but let each one who has a thought or a plan, state freely and kindly what he thinks ought to be done. "Now the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all." Amen. —Church Visitor.

DUTIES OF CHURCH OFFICERS.

In the organisation of the church, elders and deacons are chosen and ordained to give direction to the work of the church, and to look after the spiritual and temporal welfare of its members. The character which should be possessed by those chosen to these important offices, and the duties devolving upon them, are made plain in the word of God.

THE ELDER.

The necessary qualifications of an elder, or bishop, are recorded in Titus 1:6-9, and in 1 Tim. 3:2-7.

Here we learn that an elder must be "blameless," that is, not taking a course or leading a life meriting censure.

He must not be "greedy" or "covetous" and grasping, but rather a "lover of hospitality" and of "good men."

He must be "just," "temperate," not "self-willed" or "soon angry," nor a "brawler,"—a contentious or quarrelsome man.

He should be one who ruleth well his own house, having faithful children, not accused of riot or unruly

He should be sound in doctrine, "holding fast the faithful word;" upon him devolves the duty of feeding the flock of God. Acts 20:28. He should study the need of those under his charge, and in order to be able to set before them meat in due season, he should be a diligent student of the Bible. He should study not with a view to sermonising, but that he may be able to teach and instruct the people. They need good, sound instruction in reference to their duties, the work of God and its various branches, the needs of the cause and the dangers and perils around them. Much help may be derived from a careful study and a proper use of the "Testimonies to the Church." The word of God and the testimonies of His Spirit are able, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to thoroughly furnish Christ's under-shepherds to every good word and work. By means of these their words may be seasoned with wisdom and grace. The different lines of work should all receive attention from the elder. The relief of the distressed, the circulation of our periodicals, the duty of sustaining the cause by tithes and offerings, proper Sabbath observance, the Sabbath-school, etc., should be explained and set before the people that they may work understandingly, and a lively interest be kept up in these things.

THE DEACON.

The moral qualifications described in 1 Tim. 3:8-13 as necessary to the office of deacon, are substantially the same as those of a bishop or elder. Their special line of work we learn from Acts 6, where deacons were first appointed in the Christian church. Their duty is to look after the poor and see that the temporal wants of the members are supplied, as far as possible, wherever help is needed. It is proper, also, that they should assist the elder in the administration of the ordinances; and in his absence, unless otherwise provided, the deacon should take charge of the prayer and social meetings.

THE CHURCH CLERK.

The following injunction has wonderful significance to the church clerk: "Let all things be done decently and in order." I Cor. 14:40.

1. First the clerk should be provided with a record book, such as has been provided for his work under the supervision of the General Conference. (This book can be secured through the Tract Society, or by corresponding with the Conference Secretary.) He should see that the name of every member of the church is correctly entered on the "roll," giving their Christian and surname in full. It is not sufficient to insert a name as "Sister Smith." If her name is Mary it should be entered as "Mary Smith." The date and manner of admission should be carefully entered under the proper headings, so also should the dismissals be treated likewise. On no account should a name be scratched off the roll. On no consideration should a leaf be torn out of the book.

2. He should write the minutes of all the business of the church on separate slips, and after submitting them to the officers for approval, enter them in the place set apart for that work. He should write the minutes for the officers' and leaders' meetings, and forward a copy of the same to the Conference Committee. He should keep a record of all the committees appointed, and duly inform the members of their appointment either by pen or voice. The former is the better way.

3. The clerk should be in correspondence with every absent residing member, to encourage and assist, and supply the church with necessary information concerning them. He should be alive to counsel and advise members of sister churches, who may be residing near his church, to secure their letters of dismissal in order that they may unite with the church they are likely to attend.

4. At the advice of the elders and deacons he should call the roll once each quarter, and be prepared to give information of those members too far away to attend

6. Promptly at the close of every quarter, the clerk should forward HIS REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE SECRETARY.—*Church Visitor*.

THE Church Visitor, from which we have copied the articles in this GLEANER on church work, was a little type-written quarterly issued by the Union Conference in 1894, and sent out to the church officers of Australasia.

CHURCH OFFICERS' MEETINGS.

MUCH responsibility rests upon the officers of the various congregations who have been chosen to act as leaders and burden-bearers. Each one should study carefully and prayerfully the character and the extent of the work committed to him, and the nature and value of the opportunities thus afforded him to serve God and his fellow-men, and thus to improve the talents committed to him for use and improvement. And besides this individual study, the officers of each church will need to meet together frequently for consultation regarding their work and for prayer.

Officers' meetings should be held as often as once a month in the churches where meetings are the most difficult, and the least needed; but in most churches they will be needed more frequently. Once a week is none too often till the matters requiring special attention are all considered and the work well in hand.

SUBJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

Of necessity the subjects requiring consideration will be different in the several churches, according to the various circumstances in each church, and I can only name some of the matters most likely to require consideration in all places.

I. The spiritual condition of the church. Are all firm in the faith and rejoicing in the Lord? Are any discouraged or perplexed, and what is the duty of the officers towards them?

2. The business affairs of the church. What are the monthly receipts and expenditures of the poor fund, of the incidental account and of the Tract Society? Are the poor receiving the help and encouragement that the church is able to give? Are the tithes promptly collected and forwarded to the Conference Treasurer? Are the incidental expenses of the church' fully met, and its bills all paid? Is the place of meeting properly cared for? Is the tract and missionary work properly sustained?

3. The missionary work of the church. What is being done? What are the openings for labour? How can we meet the demands of the times? Who should be encouraged to engage more extensively in the work? How may they labour to the best advantage? Have we the literature needed for the work? Have we funds to procure that which is needed?

4. The Sabbath-school. Are all in attendance who would be benefited by the school? Arrange for some one to visit each person who may be encouraged to attend, once, or repeatedly if necessary, to secure their attendance. What can be done by the teachers and officers of the church and Sabbath-school to encourage more diligence and more comprehensive daily study of the Bible lessons?—*Church Visitor*.

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THE GLEANER

MONTHLY SUMMARY AUSTRALIAN CANVASSING WORK.

November, '1896.

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BIBLE ECHO SALES during November, 1896.

CHURCHES.				MEMBERSHIP.	Echoes.	Unor	Echoes.					
Adelaide Ashfield Ballarat Bismarck Brighton Cooranbong Hawthorn Hobart Kellyville Latrobe Melbourne Malvern Partamatta Perth Prahran Prospect Rockhampton Sydney Toowoomba Williamstown	···· ··· ··· ··· ··· ··· ···		······································		121 66 50 24 24 50 90 16 6 210 16 70 29 253 12 29 53 12 29 53 12 29 53 53 53 57	3,768 360 312 60 144 208 454 96 120 425 144 1,84 1,196 832 48 384 2,004 256 300	Brought for Bendigo Brisbane Broken Hill Geelong Ipswich Kangarilla Launceston New Zealand Miscellaneous	ward 			······································	11,519 68 84 372 80 48 24 104 5,084 2,589
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NOTES.

HEREAFTER the address of the Australian Tract Society will be 251 St. George's Road, North Fitzroy, Victoria. This is also the address of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Central Australian Conference.

A PORTION of the subject matter of this number of the GLEANER will be of special value to church officers, and it will be very useful now at the close of the year, when the election of officers and other important business should receive attention. It will be well to preserve this number for future reference.

WE hear that the school building at Cooranbong, N. S. W., is rapidly going up. The work is prospering, and it seems evident that our faith in this enterprise will soon be lost in sight. We pray that God will greatly bless in the preparations for opening the school.

THE circulation of the *Bible Echo* is increasing. This month's summary exceeds the last by 2,428 copies. The issue of the last number for 1896 is 5,600 copies. This is the highest point yet reached.

As PASTOR WHITE, President of the Union Conference, is soon to leave for America, it was necessary for Pastor Daniells, the Vice-President, and Miss Graham, the Treasurer, to go to Sydney to consult with him in reference to the work. Mr. Salisbury, Manager of the Echo Publishing House, accompanied them.

PASTOR WILSON and wife passed through Melbourne on their way from Adelaide to their field of labour in Tasmania on the 10th inst. They spent Sabbath and Sunday, December 5 and 6, with the Ballarat church.

The summary is very small this month, in fact much smaller than the amount of work that has been done. For unknown reasons we have received no reports from some of our best agents, and we are sorry to make up the summary without them. We hope that those that are missed will appear in the next number. A large number of the agents have been occupied with their deliveries, which has also cut down the reports.

DELAYS caused by the change of "Home Hand-Book" from the old to the new edition have given some trouble to our agents on that book, and caused us much anxiety. That is now in the past. The new books and prospectuses are here. We are pleased to note that much important matter has been added to this book, together with many new plates, which will help much in its sale. For the present at least the prices will remain unchanged. CHEERING news comes to us from the Adelaide work. The Lord has placed a burden upon the workers in behalf of the unconverted and backslidden persons in the church, and a real revival is in progress, in which many of the young people in particular are coming to Christ. We hear that about forty persons have been baptised since the camp-meeting began. The work in North Fitzroy is also becoming more and more interesting. The honse is full every Sunday evening, and many are interested in the truth. A good work of revival has also begun in the church. We believe God will work with us with power, and we ask your prayers to that end.

BIBLES.

WE have recently put in a large assortment of Bibles, and are prepared to please both your taste and pocketbook by furnishing any style from a leatherette New Testament at 4d., to a large parallel family Bible from 45/- to 65/-. They are in all sizes of type from diamond. which you ought not to read without a magnifying glass, to small pica, which anyone but the blind can read. Among the most serviceable is a new line of Oxford Teachers' Bibles, ranging in price from 10/6 to 22/-. They are morocco bound, with flaps, gilt edge, references, with or without helps, and long primer type, which is very large and readable. They are on thin paper so as to be compact. One for 14/- is excellent for the price. Smaller Bibles, very nice for young people, sell from 6/9 to 23/6. One for 11/- is a special bargain.

The Revised Version in several styles is furnished from 4d. to 8/-. On the Family Bibles mentioned above, a liberal discount is offered to agents. We still have in stock several parallel Bibles at 42/-, which are specially useful for ministers and other Bible students. If you will write stating what you desire, and about what you wish to pay, we will do our best to please you. AUSTRALIAN TRACT SOCIETY.

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