

was never more enterprising than at the present time. This was shown by the fact that at the beginning of the present century there were only 174,000,000 of people professing Christianity; in 1884 that number had increased to 416,000,000. There were many things in sympathy with the general Methodist. They rejoiced at the breadth of view of Methodism, which sought for the keeping of a Christian Sabbath, and for the continuation of family worship in its purity. They sought to influence legislation to cope with the two great evils of colonial life, intemperance and drunkenness. (Hear, hear.) While there was doubtless some diversity of opinion on the introduction of the Bible in State schools, all felt the desirability of joining all Methodists on one common basis. The union of all the Methodists had been effected in Canada, and had proved most successful. (Hear, hear.) He handed in the basis on which the union was effected and the resolution which had been passed at the Wesleyan Conference on the question of the union of all Methodists. There were many points on which their organizations were in sympathy. They were one in faith and charity, and he hoped that they would be united in carrying out the great work of their Master in bringing His people to a true knowledge of His word. (Hear, hear.) Mr. F. CHAPPEL endorsed the remarks of the Rev. J. Y. SIMPSON, and the Rev. H. T. BURGESS said that while they were all anxious for the union of all Methodists in the broadest way they must recollect that the official utterances had always been in favour of that step, and that the forces under their control. There could be no question of absorption. (Hear, hear.) The Wesleyan Methodists were very willing to drop that distinctive title. In the Canadian agreement all had adjourned from their own places on to the one common platform. (Hear, hear.) For his part he could trace the hand of God leading them to unite, but union would not be complete until the different divisions of the Methodist Church throughout Australia were one. The Rev. J. B. STEPHENSON explained that their object was to show the fraternal feeling that existed between the different branches of Methodism. There was enough work in South Australia for all to do in bringing the people to Christ. (Hear, hear.) He rejoiced then at the present time the Bible Christians were not only holding their own, but advancing. They were thought a little in advance of the Wesleyan Methodists on the temperance question. The Rev. R. M. HYSER said that the large majority of the Wesleyan Methodists desired the union of all Methodists. He could not see how certain difficulties in the way were to be got over, but was sure that if representatives of the Wesleyan and Bible Christians could meet together those difficulties would to a great extent be removed. They were coming to a better thing than organic union—they were progressing to unity of heart, work, and purpose. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. J. G. WRIGHT said that it was one of the happiest days of his life to see the four branches of the Methodist Church gathered together, conveying fraternal greetings and exchanging kind words. He hoped that the Primitive Methodist Conference that afternoon the union of the Primitive Methodists and Bible Christians had been decided on. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. W. JENKINS and E. GRAYTON also addressed the Conference. The latter, as representing the Methodist New Connexion, said that in England over fifty of the ministers of his denomination favoured the union. He hoped the time was not far distant when there would be a grand Methodist Church of Australia. The Rev. J. ROWS, on behalf of the Conference, reciprocated the sentiments of the various members of the deputations. He had wished for a great many years the organic union of the different branches of Methodism. Union would not remove all the differences between their own, but it would enable them to do more effectively the work of their Master. (Hear, hear.) Public opinion was forcing on the union of their Churches; if they were opposed to it at present he believed that eventually it would come. As a united Church they would have a political power that would make itself felt in the land to the advantage of the people. He associated politics with religion to some extent, and contended that what was wanted in this colony was politicians of principle. The Rev. J. HANCOCK also expressed his delight at the approaching union of the Methodist Churches. He had come to the conclusion that the union was the best thing for the progress of the Church that could be desired. By no other means would the work of Christ receive such an impetus, and he was sure that the blessing of His Holy Spirit would descend on it. The Rev. T. PIERCE said that in heart, purpose, and faith the different sections of the Methodist Church were one, and they should effect an organic union. The question for them to consider was, was it best for the Church of Christ and for the colony. If the answer were in the affirmative he would go for it. Before an organic union was decided upon they must have to make up their minds to concede something. They would also have to fix some common principle on which they could unite. On behalf of the Conference he reciprocated the remarks of all their friends. (Hear, hear.) The Conference then adjourned.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST DISTRICT MEETING.

TUESDAY, MARCH 1.
The District Meetings of the Primitive Methodist Connexion were resumed at the Morphett-street Primitive Methodist Church on Tuesday. The District Meeting was held at 8 o'clock. The Rev. J. G. WRIGHT presided. As it is desirable there should be some medium for co-operation between the Adelaide and Moonta Districts in carrying on the work of the Lord in this colony, we ask the English Conference to authorize the holding of an annual conference of representatives of these districts, or any new districts which may be formed, such annual Conference to be subject to the English Conference on all doctrinal points and questions affecting the general constitution of the Connexion, and to conduct its business according to the provisions of the deed poll and the laws of the Connexion—was resumed and the motion carried. The following consequent motions were also agreed to:—1. That each district retain, without interference, except by mutual consent, the places which it at present occupies and the power of managing its internal affairs according to the authorized usages of the district. 2. That if a favourable reply to this request be received from the English Conference, arrangements for an annual Conference shall be made by the committees of the districts, or a joint committee approved by them, on the basis of equal representation in proportion to number of members. 3. That the Adelaide District be divided as follows:—Adelaide District—Adelaide First, Adelaide Second, Adelaide Third, Adelaide Fourth, Adelaide Fifth, Salisbury, Strathalbyn, Woodside, Two Wells, Gawler, Mallee. Northern District—Kooronga, Saddleworth, Kadina, Yongala, Redhill,

Laura, Dawson, Kapunda, Morgan, Port Broughton, Manoora. The Rev. J. G. WRIGHT moved and Mr. BURGESS seconded—"That the resolutions be adopted with the alterations made." The Rev. W. DUNN moved and Mr. DUNN seconded—"That the motions be thrown out." The amendment was withdrawn and the motion carried. A deputation, consisting of the Rev. W. Watson and Messrs. Peters and Parker, from the Moonta District, urged the advisability of establishing a mission at Broken Hill and Silverton. After a discussion the matter was remitted to the members of the deputation, with Revs. J. G. Wright and W. Jenkin and Mr. W. Diment, to report. The Rev. E. Gratton, pastor of the Methodist New Connexion Church, was accorded a seat on the platform. The District Committee, reporting on what should be done to ensure the payment of the ministers' salaries at the regular quarterly meeting, recommended that when the stations could not meet regularly their composition of the Circuit Stewards and Society Stewards should raise the required amount by loan, provided (a) that no station should involve itself beyond £50 without the consent of the District Meeting; (b) that in giving invitations to preachers the amount of Circuit debt be named in the invitation; (c) that all Circuit debts be reported to the District Meetings annually; (d) that in no case should the Circuit debt be increased from the December to the June meetings; (e) that legislation to apply to the Adelaide District only. The report was adopted. The committee with reference to the Silverton Mission, after conferring, recommended that it was advisable that a mission be jointly established at Silverton by the Adelaide and Moonta Districts, and that the Revs. J. G. Wright and J. B. Stephenson visit those places to endeavour to form the mission; that the Rev. J. Burrows be appointed to visit the district as missionary; that a special Mission Fund be opened for the purpose of bestowing the mission; that the mission be managed by a joint committee from the two districts to be composed as follows:—Revs. J. G. Wright, W. Jenkin, S. Wellington, H. J. Burt, J. D. Brown, D. Dowd, and Mr. W. Diment; J. Peters, F. Parker, and W. W. Winwood; the Rev. J. G. Wright being Treasurer of the special fund and the Rev. J. Watson Secretary of the united committee. The report was adopted. The second reading of stations resulted as follows:—Adelaide First, Rev. J. G. Wright; Adelaide Second, Rev. H. J. Pope; Adelaide Third, Rev. W. Jenkin; Adelaide Fourth, Rev. S. Wellington; Kooronga, Rev. G. Gray; Saddleworth, Rev. J. B. Stephenson; Woodside, Rev. W. Diment; Strathalbyn, Rev. H. J. Burt; Two Wells, Rev. J. J. Salmon; Gawler, Rev. S. Raymond; Mallee, Rev. A. W. Wellington; Redhill, Rev. H. Hartley; Yongala, Rev. J. H. Williams; Kadina, Rev. W. Jarrett; Laura, W. I. Wiltshire; Kapunda and Eudunda, I. Weir; Morgan, W. Wellington; Port Broughton, J. Wills; Dawson, A. McDonald; Manoora, J. J. Styles; Silverton, J. Burrows. The appointment of officers and other formal work was disposed of before the Conference adjourned. In the evening an ordination service was held in the Morphett-street Church. The President (Rev. A. Wellington) presided, and the Revs. W. Jarrett and T. W. Wiltshire were the ministers ordained. A lengthy charge was delivered by the Rev. J. H. Williams.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2.

The Primitive Methodist District Meeting resumed the sessions on Wednesday morning, the President (Rev. A. W. Wellington) occupying the chair. Deputations attended from the Wesleyan and Bible Christian Churches, consisting of the Revs. J. Y. Simpson, E. T. Burgess, R. M. Hunter, J. B. Stephenson, T. McNeil, and W. F. James, and Mr. James Scott, regarding the proposal of union in the Methodist Churches. The President welcomed the deputation. The Rev. J. Y. SIMPSON conveyed fraternal greetings to the meeting from the Wesleyan Church, and congratulated the President on his election to office. He expressed a hope that the Churches might enjoy great success during the ensuing year. After pointing out the great similarity between all the Methodist Churches on doctrinal matters he expressed a desire that the union might soon become an accomplished fact. Mr. JAMES SCOTT also urged the formation of a union. The Rev. H. T. BURGESS considered that if a complete union could not be formed at once a partial union might be effected, which would ultimately lead to the hoped-for uniting of the Churches. The Rev. J. B. STEPHENSON and R. M. HUNTER supported the suggestion. The Rev. H. WILLIAMS, in replying on behalf of the District Meeting, said he was bound to welcome the deputation as coming from the mother Church. He had once belonged to that body, and felt entirely in harmony with the deputation. The Rev. H. J. POPE felt thankful to the Wesleyans for sending such an important deputation. He heartily reciprocated the feelings expressed. The Churches were identical in doctrine and in the great objects of their work. He felt that if they cultivated spiritual union temporal union must follow. He believed that ultimately they would be united as was desired, but he did not think that time was so near as some anticipated.

The Rev. S. ROBINSON did not see any great difficulties in the way of union among the various Methodist Churches, as there was such great sympathy between the members of the various denominations. The Rev. J. G. WRIGHT also supported the proposals of union. The deputation then withdrew. The third reading of the stations was confirmed as follows:—Adelaide First, J. G. Wright; Adelaide Second, H. J. Pope; Adelaide Third, W. Jenkin; Adelaide Fourth, S. Wellington; Adelaide Fifth, J. H. Williams; Kooronga, G. Gray; Saddleworth, R. Jackson; Saddleworth, H. J. Parkinson; Woodside, W. Diment; Strathalbyn, A. J. Burt; Two Wells, J. J. Salmon; Gawler, S. Raymond; Mallee, A. W. Wellington; Redhill, H. Hartley; Yongala, H. Holmes; Kadina, W. Jarrett; Laura, W. I. Wiltshire; Kapunda and Eudunda, I. Weir; Morgan, W. Wellington; Port Broughton, J. Wills; Dawson, A. McDonald; Manoora, J. J. Styles; Silverton, J. Burrows. The appointment of officers and other formal work was disposed of before the Conference adjourned. In the evening an ordination service was held in the Morphett-street Church. The President (Rev. A. Wellington) presided, and the Revs. W. Jarrett and T. W. Wiltshire were the ministers ordained. A lengthy charge was delivered by the Rev. J. H. Williams.

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY.

[By Telegraph.]
Port Darwin, February 25.
The steamship Euphrates after lightening a large quantity of cargo and reducing the water left the mud flat, and is now lying alongside the railway pier. One leak was discovered and stopped, but others exist. She made very little water while on the mud flat, into which she sank 12 or 15 feet. An enquiry will be held by the Harbourmaster in private, and evidence sent to the Marine Board. The Taiyuan, one of the China Navigation Company's new boats, left here to-day, taking Mrs. Parsons, three children, and nurse amongst the passengers for Adelaide. News has been received of the safe arrival of Mr. Parsons, Miss Parsons, and Mr. Holtze in Hongkong.

A NEW CORPORATION AT PORT AUGUSTA.

[By Telegraph.]
Port Augusta, February 25.
An adjourned meeting of residents of the suburbs of Port Augusta was held at the Pastoral Hotel to-night at the subject of local self-government. The committee appointed brought in their report, which showed that the costs of initiation and maintenance of the Corporation for the suburbs would be £778 and the probable income £783. Mr. V. F. Smith moved and Mr. T. PARRER seconded—"That the suburbs of Port Augusta be annexed to the existing Corporation of Port Augusta." Mr. D. J. BROWN moved and Mr. A. BARRATT seconded as an amendment—"That the suburbs of Port Augusta be formed into a separate Corporation." The amendment was carried. A motion to adjourn till Tuesday next, the committee being reappointed to ascertain the names of the ratepayers willing to act as Mayor and Councillors and submit same for prospective Corporation, was carried. The adjourned meeting of residents in the suburbs of Port Augusta to discuss the question of local self-government was held at the Pastoral Hotel to-night. Mr. A. SCOTT presided, and there was a large attendance. The boundaries were defined. The new municipality was called Davenport. Three wards were named First, Second, and Third. The following nominations were made:—First Ward, David Jennings Brown, Councillors—First Ward, Messrs. T. Hunter and Maurice Hill; Second Ward, Messrs. H. G. Williams and G. B. Bryant; Third Ward, Messrs. J. E. Lecky and J. Murdoch. Auditors, Messrs. T. Young, sen., and S. LEVICK. The petition for incorporation was largely signed. Votes of thanks to the Chair and the Press concluded the proceedings.

LOCAL DEFENCE FORCE.

[By Telegraph.]
Strathalbyn, February 25.
A large and influential meeting was held at the Institute, Strathalbyn, to-night, to consider the desirability of forming a corps of mounted infantry at Strathalbyn, and Major R. Carruthers presided. Mr. J. L. STIRLING, M.P., explained the object of the meeting. Captain Learmonth, from the Staff Office, also attended to give information and detail conditions of the first which was unanimously resolved—"That it is desirable that steps should be taken to establish in and about the district of Strathalbyn a corps of mounted infantry." Mr. J. L. Stirling moved and Mr. D. Bell seconded the foregoing resolution, and Mr. J. H. Gordon and others supported it. After hearing further particulars, about twenty gentlemen gave their names as members, and it was then decided to form a corps. The meeting was very enthusiastic on the subject. Captain Learmonth had kindly sent up specimens of intended uniform and accoutrements, and these were exhibited to the meeting.

CORONERS' INQUESTS.

FIRE AT MELBOURNE.
An inquest was held at Melbourne by Mr. H. M. Smith, J.P., on February 24, as to the cause of the fire which broke out in a stack of property of Mr. J. Brown, George Hill, farmer, deposed to having just previous to the fire occurring passed the spot, but did not see any fire. When he arrived at the scene of the fire the stacks were burning. James Brown, farmer, and owner of the destroyed property, said one stack measured 95 tons, and of the other about 25 tons were left. They were insured in the New Zealand Insurance Company for £180. All the neighbours assisted to the utmost of their ability to put the fire under. He had not the slightest suspicion of any one. The Jury returned a verdict—"That the stacks were set fire to by some person or persons unknown, but there is no evidence to show by whom."

DEPUTATIONS.
RAILWAY CARRIAGE OF GUANO.
On Monday Mr. Coles, M.P., member for Light, waited upon the Commissioner of Public Works (Hon. L. L. Farrer), representing residents of Freeling, Greenock, and Kapunda, and asked that the Government should reduce the rate of railway carriage of guano. Mr. Coles pointed out to the Commissioner that guano is becoming extensively used amongst the farmers, and if the carriage were cheapened the use of the article would be greatly increased. The Commissioner, after referring to the tariff, admitted that the charge appeared to be excessive, and promised to reduce the price if possible to the lowest rate at which goods are carried on the Northern line.

FIRE AT PORT PIRIE.

[By Telegraph.]
Port Pirie, March 1.
This morning at 6 o'clock a fire for the fourth time broke out in the Milling Company's mill. The flames, however, were soon extinguished by the prompt action of the employees by buckets of water. The mill hose was quickly adjusted, and brought into play, but the fire was then practically dead. The local brigade arrived in good time, but their services were not required. The fire started in the north-western exhaust tower, which rises about 6 feet above the roof into which the smut is blown by a powerful blast, when it exhausts into the air, and a quantity settles on the roof of the mill. It is thought that a spark from a stack ignited this. The actual damage done should be covered by £5.

THE PROPOSED ANGSTON RAILWAY.

[By Telegraph.]
Greenock, March 2.
A meeting to protest against the proposed railway from Angaston to the main line was held at Schuber's Hotel to-night. Fifty persons attended, including Messrs. Coles and Glynz, of Kapunda. A vote was unanimously carried against the railway. Mr. John Stirling, of Sheoak, was in the chair.

DECEASED: A NEW LOCAL ANAESTHETIC.

An alkaloid has lately been obtained from the plant Euphorbia Drummondii, N.O. Euphorbiaceae, by Dr. John Reid, of Port George, South Australia, which promises, if report be true, to compete with cocaine as an agent for producing local anaesthesia. A tincture of the plant is made with rectified spirit, or proof spirit, acidulated with hydrochloric acid, and after standing a few days, the spirit is distilled off, ammonia added in excess, and the whole filtered. The residue, after the small amount of ammonia has disappeared, is dissolved in dilute hydrochloric acid, and filtered through animal charcoal, to destroy the colouring matter, which is abundant and inactive. This filtrate is evaporated slowly, and leaves the alkaloid. It is almost insoluble in ether, freely soluble in chloroform and water, and deposits from solutions microscopic acicular and stellate crystals. The crystals deposited from the hydrochloric solution filtered through animal charcoal are circular or boat-shaped. They are colourless, and seem to be less soluble in chloroform. Sheep and cattle are stated to die in great numbers annually in consequence of having eaten this plant, the poisonous qualities of which vary in proportion to the quantity of milky juice they contain. Sheep, bullocks, and horses die in from twenty-four to seventy-two hours after eating it, all of them presenting paralysis of the extremities, some of them hanging the head as if tipsy; the appetite does not appear to be interfered with. It is curious that the animals avoid the weed at first, except under pressure of hunger, but once having partaken of it, they seek for it and eat it with avidity. Injection of a solution of the alkaloid into the nostrils of a cat produced stupor and insensibility to stimuli, with a placid, stupid expression, like that of an animal under the influence of a narcotic. The limbs appeared parietic. A few drops of a 4 per cent. solution dropped into the eyes of another cat produced insensibility to the extent of allowing the conjunctiva to be touched, and the orbicular muscle no longer contracted with the same vigour. The pupil was not appreciably dilated. Three grains were injected subcutaneously, and the cat lay on its back, with its head on the floor, and its eyes closed. In the course of experiments on his own person, Dr. Reid found that the drug produced anaesthesia, with loss of taste when applied to the tongue or nostril; but small doses swallowed were not followed by any perceptible constitutional symptoms. He tried it subcutaneously in a case of confirmed sciatica in an old man, and the essay was followed by complete, and so far, permanent relief; in sprains, it was very useful in relieving the pain. Dr. Reid recommends the use of Campbell's tincture in small operations, local irritation, and sprains. It will be remembered that the Euphorbia Drummondii is said to be the cause of the present horse disease in the North and North-East.

FIRST GOLD DISCOVERED IN VICTORIA.

The following circular has been issued in England by Mr. William Campbell:—"First gold discovered in Victoria by William Campbell at Clunes in 1849, and exhibited by the discoverer. A committee of the old Legislative Council of Victoria took evidence on the discovery of gold, and reported that Clunes was the first goldfield, and that the promoters were greatly indebted to the members of their own and other Churches for the result."

RIVER LEVELS.

The following figures show the state of the rivers at the under-mentioned places at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 2:—Murray—Albury, 3 ft. 6 in.; Wahgunyah, 2 ft. 5 in.; Koonah, 3 ft. 6 in.; Swan Hill, 25 ft. 6 in.; Euston, 4 ft. 3 in.; Overland Corner, 8 ft. 8 in.; Murrumbidgee—Gundagai, 13 ft. 3 in.; Wagga Wagga, 11 ft. rising; Hay, 6 ft. 9 in.; Barrenald, 9 ft. 1 in.; Darling—Bourke, 29 ft. 9 in.; Louth, 24 ft. 9 in.; Tilton, 27 ft. 6 in.; Wilcannia, 25 ft. 2 in.; Menzies, 23 ft. 9 in.; Pooncarrie, 20 ft. 9 in.; Wentworth, 10 ft. 8 in.; Namoi and Barrow—Barrow at Walgett, 32 ft. 4 in.; Burrowina, 22 ft. 3 in.; Mooli, 17 ft. 10 in.; Mungundli, 24 ft. Culgoosa—Goolgoolga, 5 ft.

Before purchasing Wedding, Birthday, or other Presentations we should recommend you to call and see the splendid assortment of Sherrill silver and plated Ware, and Silver Watches and Jewellery now showing at A. L. Brunckhorst's (late Steiner's), 108, Rundle-street. 1887

An uncorroborated testimonial states that 70 Warts have been thoroughly removed from the hands of a Gentleman and his Son by White's Certain Cure. Warts have been cured, and many have obtained relief from this new celebrated remedy for Corns and Warts. Prepared only by J. White, Chemist, Kent Town. Price, 1s. 6d., of Chemists and Dispensaries; per Post, 1s. 6d. 97m

NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY COMPANY.

We have received the following report, presented to the shareholders at the twenty-second annual general meeting held in London on February 4:—"The Directors in laying before the shareholders for their approval and adoption the twenty-second annual report of the Company with balance-sheet, comprising statement of accounts made up in the colonies to September 30, and in London to December 31, 1886, beg to invite their attention to the following results:—The net profit for the year 1886, inclusive of £11,985 1s. 5d. brought forward from the preceding year, after deducting expenses, interest, commissions, income tax and p.-party tax, writing off stationary, and making due provision for bad and doubtful debts, exhibits a sum of £37,889 12s. 6d., which, with £2,000, the proportion of premium on the fifth issue of shares, payable in 1886, gives a total of £39,889 12s. 6d. This amount the Directors recommend should be applied as follows:—To payment of dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and interest on capital paid in advance on old shares, £36,200 12s. 6d.; payment of bonus at 5 per cent., 18,054 3s. 4d.; Reserve Fund (proportion of premium on 20,000 fifth-issue shares, payable in 1886), £3,000; carried forward, £3,625 13s. 6d., total, £39,889 12s. 6d. In July last an interim dividend was paid at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, amounting, with interest on capital paid in advance, to £18,021 11s. 2d., so that there now remains for distribution the sum of £21,868 7s. 10d. By the addition of £270,000. While twelve months ago the effects of the prolonged drought which had many parts of Australia were visible, had not passed away, very general crops were since fallen in, and so to render the season most favourable throughout the Australasian Colonies. Although there has been no improvement in the value of agricultural products in the year 1886, the advance during the past six months in the price of wool, and the continuous development of the frozen meat industry, more especially in New Zealand, have materially improved the position of those engaged in pastoral pursuits."

SALARIES OF AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY'S OFFICERS.

This passage from the report of the recent noisy meeting of shareholders in Sydney should be interesting—"Mr. Ralston, the Chairman—What amount of money has been paid to Mr. Ralston as bonuses or gratuities during the time he was Secretary of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, and the number and value of each bonus paid to him? The Chairman—In December, 1874, £250; October, 1879, £500; September, 1884, £500; total, £1,250. Mr. McKillop—The same as to Mr. Black, Secretary to the Society. The Chairman—In December, 1874, £250; December, 1874, £500; October, 1879, £1,000—(Oh, oh)—September, 1884, £1,000—(Oh, oh)—total, £3,750. These amounts were all allotted to the annual meetings. They were given at the end of quinquennial periods, in consideration of extra work—(Oh, and hisses)—and approved of at annual meetings. (Hisses.) Mr. McKillop—The same as to Mr. Teocot, the Chairman—in December, 1874, £175; October, 1879, £500; September, 1884, £500; total, £1,175. Mr. McKillop—What amount of money has been paid to all the other officers of the Society as bonuses or gratuities and the total value of such bonuses or gratuities so paid each year? The Chairman—In December, 1874, £650; October, 1879, £2,476 12s.; September, 1884, £4,233 2s.; total, £7,359 12s. (Hisses, shames, and hisses.) Mr. McKillop—In what year did Mr. Ralston become an officer of the Society, and is it a fact that the Directors have agreed to pay him a yearly pension of £1,300 or any other amount; if so, what amount? The Chairman—Mr. Ralston joined the Society in May, 1865. The Board has agreed to allow him a pension of £1,300 per annum. Mr. McKillop—Is it also the intention to pay Mr. Black a pension; if so, what amount, and what salary is he paid? The Chairman—The Board has not had occasion to consider the question of granting a pension to Mr. Black. His salary is £2,000 per annum." The meeting subsequently resolved—"That the granting of pensions and gratuities to retiring officers is inconsistent with the principles and objects of the Society, and shall in no case be allowed without the consent of a special general meeting."

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, ORROROO.

A cake and fancy fair in connection with this Church was held in the local Institute Hall on Friday and Saturday last, where the usual articles were displayed for sale. In the evening a grand concert was given by the choir, at which some excellent music and songs were rendered. This was one of the most successful entertainments of its kind ever held here. The efforts were repaid by the almost absolute clearance of the various stalls by Saturday evening, when the takings added to the subscriptions amounted to £140. The decorations of the hall and stalls were excellent, and the promoters were greatly indebted to the members of their own and other Churches for the result.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS.

At the Engineer-in-Chief's Department on February 25 tenders were opened for the supply and delivery of five W.I. gates and turnstiles. Six tenders were received, that of Mr. M. Durnell being the lowest. At the Superintendent of Public Buildings' Department eight tenders were received for the erection of an agricultural implement shed at the Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition. Collier Brothers being successful; while for the erection of a post and telegraph office at Yunta ten applications were lodged, Cowell Brothers securing the contract.

THE LATE RICHARD JOSHUA.

Many of the early colonists will probably recollect Mr. Richard Joshua, who for many years was in business in Hindley-street. The *European Mail* of January 21 says:—"A man of some note in regard to fortune-building has just joined the majority; this is the late Richard Joshua, better known, however, through his two sons. He was one of the early Adelaide men, but had long been resident in this country, and had attained the advanced age of 81."

CONTRACT FOR RAILWAY SIGNALS.

The Government has accepted the tender of Messrs. J. Martin & Co., of Gawler, for signal fittings and point and signal connections on the South Australian Railways, the amount being £3,795 12s. 1d. There were seven tenders, the highest being £3,923 11s., and the next lowest to Messrs. Martin and Co. £3,925 6s. 6d.

THE ADELAIDE AND SUBURBAN TRAM COMPANY.

We understand that the Directors of the Adelaide and Suburban Tram Company have made another reduction of 10 per cent. on the wages of the drivers of the cars amongst other employes. A previous reduction of 10 per cent. was made some months ago.

"ROUGH ON ITCH."—Rough on Itch cures skin humours, eruptions, ringworm, tetter, salt rheum, frost-bite, chilblains, itch, ivy poison, barber's itch. 303v