

lost. It seeks to return them to their homes, entering personally into the arrangements; secures employment, always with kind, responsible employers; and when these cannot be obtained at once, provides lodging and care in little cottages, each under a matron of approved judgment and character, where in what is a home, rather than an asylum, they

have leisure to develop the instincts and feelings that form the basis of permanently reformed character. Is there not something here that we can learn from? Much is being done in our large cities, but such associations might be formed in connection with every prison throughout the country, and the fruit would be wonderful.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Winter Vacations.

A CLERGYMAN after preaching for a friend on a vacation Sunday, remarked to a young lady, "You have a large summer congregation here." "Oh, yes; but these are the stay-at-homes. Our nice people are all out of town."

One of the most successful city workers remarked: "The work of city missions is confined practically to about eight months, of which only six are really of much account." The reason given was two-fold: 1. The workers are under such intense strain that they absolutely must have rest and absence from their work. 2. The people themselves are not as easily reached or influenced in the summer as in the winter.

The fact still remains that the stay-at-homes during the summer constitute the immense majority of the population. The average vacation of a clerk is two weeks. He is at home the rest of the time, and open to influence just as much as ever.

But that side has been described sufficiently. The question is, what can be done? We would suggest—divide the vacation. Let the pastor take a couple of weeks right out of the press of work in January. He will not be so tired and exhausted when July comes, and a couple of weeks then will be of more value than four, if he commences them under the strain of eleven months of unintermitting pressure. But he cannot leave without seriously damag-

ing the routine work of the church. Try it and see. There are multitudes of the "stay-at-homes" who would be only too glad to forego a little in the winter if they could feel sure of pastoral counsel in the summer, and the "nice people" might learn the beauty of a self denial such as they do not often exercise. It will do no harm to try it; and perhaps some of the ministerial wisdom so manifest in the winter's work will be able to work out the problem of how to reach men in summer time.

Preaching by Stereopticon.

A PASTOR was grieving over the lack of genuine interest in the young people that came to his church, representing largely the less educated classes, and still more over his apparent inability to reach many more who strolled by his church door with apparently no thought or desire to enter. He tried various "modern improvements," with apparently little permanent result. People came, but few remained to pray. At last he bethought him of the stereopticon as a means of illustrating Christ's life and way of treatment of those who came to him. He hesitated lest he do more harm than good. But he tried it. Preparing for his work with earnest prayer for guidance, he selected his subjects carefully, with the single idea of setting forth some special truth. One evening he illustrated the Saviour's method of dealing with sin, and closed with a confession thrown