

his wife, too, whom he has left in Australia, with their six children, who will have to cross the Pacific without him, to meet him, probably at San Francisco. No doubt Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull are exercised as to what arrangements to make for some of their children in the homeland. Pray that the way may be made plain, and the path straight.

A cablegram has been received that Miss Mangan must come home. There is no one to take her place. Is there not a nurse somewhere who will hear the call of God to this important service? Let us renew our prayers to this end.

E. FOX.

### A VITAL QUESTION AND A CRY THAT MUST BE HEEDED.

#### Whose Is It, Mine or God's?

To whom does it belong—this money I have inherited, this salary I am earning, this house I am building, these savings I have in the bank? I say my house, my bank account, my property, my salary, my clothes, my books, my education; but is it really mine? Who owns it—this wealth, this power, this influence?

"You do, of course," laughs the world.

"God does," asserts the Bible.

It's queer, isn't it, that after all the centuries of reading the Bible, the church has made so little of property as a religious question, for the Bible is full of it!

Story and proverb and poem, legislation and parable and exhortation, all unite to emphasize God's sole ownership of earth and heaven. Through long centuries of painful training the children of Israel were taught to take the first fruit from the garden, the choicest lamb of the flock, the tenth of all the increase, as a token that they and all theirs belonged alike to God, the giver and owner of all. The tithe, the free-will offerings, the gift at feast day and fast day, were only so many reminders of funds held in trust.

The New Testament is not less startling in its emphasis of man's stewardship and God's ownership. Jesus' parable of the talents and His picture of the judgment agree in this, that they weigh the questions of acquisition and expenditure with the issues of life and death.

Whose is it? If it is mine, I may use it to please myself, and it is nobody's business but my own; but if it is God's, I must give an account for every penny to the owner.

Aladdin's lamp never was half so mysterious nor so powerful as these shining bits of nickel and silver that slip through our fingers in an unceasing stream. There are some servants of ours who can speak but one language, but these are the polyglots of the universe. A grain of corn talks bread, and only bread; a violet breathes of violet; but a nickel will speak whatever you will, facile slave that he is. To one he says tobacco, to another bread. He turns himself into a trolley ride, or puffs himself out in smoke. To the child he whispers ever of goodies; to the student, of books and papers; to the artist, of brush and pencil; to the schoolgirl of flowers and ribbons. Yet that same little coin may take the wings of the morning and preach the everlasting gospel to the ends of the earth, if you will it so.

Were they God's—those billion, billion nickels that were drowned in folly last year while His world lay groaning in darkness? Were they God's coins that built those mountains of candy and volcanoes of smoke and piled those pleasant palaces of pleasure while His world was ignorant and cold and hungry and wicked? Was it God's money that was frittered and fluttered and flaunted and danced and whistled into eternity while His kingdom waited? If it were, shall we not meet its record some day when the books are opened?

Whose is it, anyway, mine or God's? There is not a profounder question for Christian men and women to settle. It ought to be settled.—Helen Barrett Montgomery, in "Missions".

#### MISSION STUDY BOOKS.

Several of our exchanges have featured prominently the "Mission Study Book" for this year. It is called "The Bible and Missions," and is written by Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery. Baptists should take an especial interest in this book, for they are proud of the fact that Mrs. Montgomery is a Baptist, the daughter of a Baptist minister. Many readers of The Link will remember