

A new preaching station has recently been opened. "It was lately resolved, at a church meeting, that a committee of ladies should be appointed, to visit those members of the church who are absent from the communion, in order that those who are sick may not be neglected, and that the time of the pastor may be economised. Any cases which it is important I should personally visit will be reported to me and receive my attention." Of psalmody arrangements, our readers have already had full particulars. The weekly offering is in full operation at Lozells, producing, in 1866, £480, out of which all current expenses were met, and a balance of £100 contributed to the debt. The Building Fund also received £300 directly: less than £100 are now owing on the place. Other benevolent contributions, to nineteen objects, amounted to £361, making a total for the year of £1,142. "This is a field that the Lord hath blessed." May He bless it still!

"REV. J. L. POORE still lingers in life. He is, however, very ill. During the month the disease (dropsy) has pervaded the whole system. The physicians give no hope of recovery, and attempt nothing but alleviation. In that they appear successful, as he is free from pain and irritation, and in the full use of his reason. He calmly and hopefully awaits his end, the time of which, from the nature of the disease, cannot be predicated. Great sympathy is felt for him, for his praise is in all the churches."—*Correspondent (Melbourne, Jan. 23) English Independent.*

THE REV. JOHN FRASER and Mrs. Fraser came as passengers on the ship *Nimrod* from Sydney. Mr. F. was acting pastor of the Congregational church in Derby, Vermont, for seven years, which he left in 1863 on account of the delicate state of Mrs. F.'s health. He proceeded to New Zealand under the auspices of the Colonial (English) Missionary Society. He commenced a Congregational church at Port Chalmers, Otago, with, sixteen members, which, in the course of a year, increased to nearly forty. A congregation was gathered, a meeting-house built, at an expense of some \$3,000, also a parsonage—the mechanics of the congregation coming forward to do the work on the "manse" without charge. The climate proving unfavorable to Mrs. F.'s health, they were compelled, reluctantly, to leave in the beginning of 1863, a successor being providentially obtained, so that the church did not suffer. While at Sydney, on his way to San Francisco, Mr. F. was induced to remain at Woolahra, one of the suburbs. Here a church was organized in March, 1865, with sixty members, the first church in the colony that, from the beginning, has existed on a self-supporting basis. It has increased since to over eighty. They built a church, a gothic stone structure, at a cost of \$9,000, the greater part of which, notwithstanding the hard times, and their being a poor people, they have paid. Mr F. was obliged to leave this interesting field of labor, his health breaking down from the climate and overwork. He is as yet uncertain whether he may remain on this coast or proceed eastward. Mr. F. will supply the pulpit of the Green Street church for a few Sabbaths, in the absence of the pastor. —*Pacific, San Francisco, Feb. 28.*

SINGING IN MR. SPURGEON'S CHURCH.—A Baptist clergyman in this State, just returned from Europe, thus describes the singing to which he listened in Mr. Spurgeon's church in London. He is doubtless the most effective preacher in England, and thousands crowd to hear him, and great numbers are converted. He entered in the morning and read that beautiful hymn—"Not all the blood of beasts," interspersing with simple earnestness a few words to bring out more impressively the true spirit of the poetry. Then he repeated the two first lines, and the vast assembly poured out the devout strains of the verse; then he read the first lines of the next verse—"But Christ, the Heavenly Lamb"—and said,