

was carried on by the Prince of Wales as regent. Henry III reigned 56 years, but his administration was a weak one. So that Queen Victoria's rule will pass into history as the longest as well as the most prosperous to England of all its sovereigns.

DR. RAND has retired from the chancellorship of McMaster University, Toronto, and hereafter will assume the less responsible duties of a professor in that institution. Rev. O. C. S. Wallace, who, like Dr. Rand, is a native of Nova Scotia and a graduate of Acadia University, has been offered the chancellorship.

The story of Dr. Rand's career is too well known to our readers to need repetition here. He superintended education in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick at the inception of the free school system in each province, during the most critical period in their educational history. The intervening years have given proofs of the wise and substantial character of his administration. His crowning effort as an educational leader has been directed to the founding and management of McMaster University, which he undertook five years ago, and which, with characteristic energy, he has placed in such a position as to win for it and for his work warm expressions of recognition from the highest educational authorities in Ontario. Dr. Rand's many friends hope that there are many years of usefulness in store for him, and that his health will have materially improved when he emerges from his chosen summer retreat in his native province.

UNITED COUNTY INSTITUTES.

THE Board of Education has approved of the idea of uniting the St. John and Charlotte County Institutes for this year, and holding the combined session in St. John during exhibition time.

This may prove the entering wedge for enlarged county institutes, at least certainly all will hope that at some future time a like approval may be granted to enable the St. John teachers to return the visit at St. Stephen.

County institutes have a large field for usefulness, and if this can be increased by increasing the attendance at them, it should be done. If all the teachers in both counties attend, the attendance will be larger than at any provincial institute ever held.

Nobody has said a better thing in fewer words than the foremost of English novelists of the day, George Meredith, when he writes: "He is the teacher who shows where power exists: he is the leader who awakes and forms it."

TALKS WITH TEACHERS.

The question of corporal punishment has again come into prominence in connection with a case in Charlotte County. The case first came before a magistrate, and was by him sent up to the County Court, where the Grand Jury threw it out. It was claimed by the plaintiff that the punishment was excessive. The defendant claimed that the severity of the punishment was partly accidental, and due to the child's action in seeking to evade it. This view of the case prevailed with the Grand Jury. The Judge gave some very good advice in the matter, and while upholding the teacher's right to administer corporal punishment, condemned the unreasonable exercise of the prerogative. He stated at the same time that the failure of the trustees to hold an investigation was no bar to bringing an action.

This last statement introduces a new phase in such cases. It has always been held necessary for school boards first to investigate, though with what object it is difficult to determine, except that it might be to allow bad feelings to calm. The trustees may inquire into the matter and may pass an opinion, but they seem to have no further jurisdiction in the matter. They may censure the teacher, but they cannot dismiss him except for gross neglect of duty or immorality, under neither of which heads would excessive punishment come. The Board of Education and its officers have no powers in the matter except to see that trustees investigate. There then seems to be no resource but the courts. It seems as though there should be some other channel through which such cases could be settled, as teachers are often forced into court for reasons outside the punishment complained of.

It is the teacher's undoubted prerogative to administer reasonable corporal punishment, and no school board nor court can take away the right. It is true that some well-meaning people object to it entirely. It is satisfactory to know that the necessity for its infliction is becoming less year by year. Few teachers administer it except for offenses against morality, such as truancy, untruthfulness, profanity, or gross disobedience. The teacher who administers it for lack of ability to perform assigned work, does wrong, and cannot defend such action, and more harm is done than good. If the teacher cannot promote advancement in knowledge without the use of the rod, his usefulness is not of a very high order.

In graded schools, all cases requiring suspension and severe corporal punishment, are supposed to be first submitted to the principal. This is an excellent rule.