

county of Wentworth, fifty-five years ago. His father was a native of Ireland, while his mother was a Canadian, having been born in Ancaster township about the beginning of this century. When a lad, Mr. Laird entered the employ of Mr. Charles Magill (now Col. Magill, and recently mayor of the city), who at that time kept a large dry-goods store. Mr. Laird and a fellow clerk, named Tew, were converted at a revival conducted by Rev. James Caughey in the "Brick Church," as Wesley Church was called before the building of Centenary. Both decided to enter the university and went to Victoria College in 1853. In 1855 when twenty years of age Mr. Laird was received on trial and stationed at Lindsay. In 1856 and 1857 he attended college again and in 1858 he was stationed at Toronto East. In 1859 he was ordained and received into full connection with the church. In 1859 he was pastor of the Methodist Church at Glanford; 1860-61-62 he spent in the charge at Cainsville; the next three years at Watertown and then three years at Port Dover. In 1869 he was stationed at Dundas, where he spent two years. From there he went to Woodstock, where he spent three years. In 1874 he was transferred to the Toronto Conference and stationed in Oshawa; next he spent three years in Whitby and then three in Port Hope. In 1882 he was called to Elm Street Church, Toronto, where he remained a conference term, after which, in 1885 he went for his second term to Wood-