

enshrining mist—they acted by common consent as men who had been brought under the pressure of unforeseen emergencies. Again, and again, and again, after the close of the First Period, some general or other officer might be seen overstepping without scruple, the usual bounds of authority, and governing the destination of troops, which—except on that ground of emergency—would not have been under his orders. No such license could well have obtained if the course of military business had not been rudely disturbed; and in the absence of all collected knowledge about the early part of the battle, it was natural that those who observed all this evident dislocation of formal authority should ascribe it at first to what soldiers call a “surprise” though, in truth, it was only after the close of the First Period that the laxity in question began. What our people wanted was—not more time, but

—more troops. Buller, the Duke of Cambridge, and Cathcart—the generals who brought up reinforcements—were all early enough in the field, and the real task was to make their scanty numbers suffice for that “everywhere,” which summed up in a word the positions requiring succor. The evident pressure of concurring emergencies which our people traced to “surprise,” was brought about in reality by their adversary’s command of huge numbers, and his vigorous use of the prerogative which enabled him, because the assailant, to throw immense weight on one spot; but also, after half-past seven o’clock, by that destructive mistake which led them to imagine that the parapet of the Sandbag Battery must be a part of the Inkerman defenses, and that, therefore, in that outlying part of the field no less than at home on their own ridge they ought to maintain a tough fight.

Notice.



REV. EGERTON RYERSON, D.D.,
LL. D.

Rev. Egerton Ryerson, D.D., LL.D., President of the General Methodist Conference of Canada, whose portrait we give in this number, is the son of Colonel Ryerson, a U. E. Loyalist, and a British officer during the Revolutionary war, who settled first in New Brunswick and subsequently in Upper Canada, where the subject of this sketch was born early in the century. In 1824 he first commenced the duties of an itinerant Methodist preacher, under the direction of a presiding elder, and labored on Ancaster Circuit. In 1825 he was received on trial, on the Yonge Street and York Circuit; was ordained a deacon on the Cobourg Circuit in 1827; became an elder in 1829 on the York Circuit; and officiated as editor of the *Christian Guardian* during 1830-31-32. In 1833 he was Secretary of Conference, and also editor of the *Guardian* till 1835. For the three following connexional years, he labored in Kingston; was again editor of the *Guardian* in 1838-39, and was Principal of Victoria College, Cobourg, during 1842-3-4.

In 1845, “by permission of Conference,” he became Superintendent of Education

for Upper Canada, retaining this position through many years of toil, and overcoming almost superhuman difficulties in his labors for the advancement of education. He entered on his itinerant career about the age of twenty, and it is stated was a speaker of great power. His sermons and speeches were full of ideas. Though he was at no loss for words at the commencement of his career, yet he was timid, slightly embarrassed at times, and spoke with a rapidity which often somewhat checked his utterance. This indicated a great intellect and powers of no common order, which afterwards matured when he had entered upon his pastoral career. His literary abilities were, however, those which made him a marked man. In 1827 he wrote against the “arrogant claims of dominant churchmen,” and in controversy he has since won much distinction. For the period of nearly half a century he has, through his important official engagements, wielded great influence; and perhaps to no one in Ontario can more of the success of its present common school system be ascribed than to him. He is still hale and hearty, and his being recently honored with the Presidency of the great united Methodist body in Canada indicates the high esteem in which he is held by his Church.