

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1873.
CLASS LEADERS.

It is admitted by all who are qualified to form an accurate judgment on the matter, that the prosperity of Methodism largely depends upon the maintenance in full efficiency of the Class Meeting Institution. Let that institution be sustained in a condition of vitality and vigour, and Methodism must necessarily prosper. For such a sustenance would imply that the Methodist membership was in the enjoyment of a high average state of spirituality, which is itself the chief feature of a prosperous religious condition, and the sure pledge of expansion and progress.

If the effective maintenance of the class-meeting system implies the prosperity of the Church possessing it, the successful working of any particular class implies efficiency on the part of its leader. A dull leader is not likely to develop liveliness in his class. A leader of dim and uncertain religious experience will not do much toward promoting clear and well-defined attainments among those entrusted to his oversight. A leader feeble in faith, cold in affection, lukewarm in zeal, unsteady in purpose, low in his view of possible Christian experience, and irregular in his attendance at the post of duty, can never be made the means of building up a class peculiarly stable, rich in Christian enjoyment, full of love, of faith, and of the Holy Ghost. On the other hand, a leader of the best sort, placed in circumstances even moderately favourable for the exercise of Christian energy and tact, will be sure to succeed in a larger or lesser degree in training the members of his class in his own religious likeness, and imbuing them with his own spirit.

If these statements are well founded it seems to follow that it is of very great importance to the advancement of the cause of God among Methodists that every practicable effort should be put forth to render the Methodist Class Leader as efficient as he can well be made.

It is not difficult to form an opinion as to the qualifications which should be deemed essential, and those which may be regarded as merely desirable for the office of Class Leader.

It is essential that a Class Leader should be a soundly converted person. It matters not where, when, how, or under what circumstances he was converted. It is of little moment whether his heart was gently opened like that of Lydia, or poignantly pierced on some day of Pentecost power like those who cried out in their agony under the speech of Peter, or was terrified into conviction like Paul at midday between Jerusalem and Damascus, and like the Jailor at midnight when Paul and Silas were in the stocks and their bodies bruised and bleeding, woe the nocturnal echoes in the gloomy corridors of the Philippian prison with the voice of praise. The great point is that they should have attained, through it matters not what struggles and bitterness, to a clear and satisfactory conviction of being at peace with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is essential that a Class Leader should be fairly indoctrinated in the truth as it is held by the Church of which he is such an important officer. It may not be absolutely requisite that his acquaintance with systematic theology should be wide and deep. But he ought to be generally sound in the faith as it is professed by his Church, and by that Church believed to be revealed in Holy Scripture. Without such soundness he cannot properly discharge the duties devolving upon him.

It is essential that a Class Leader should have his heart in his work, and be endowed with a capacity for the persevering and punctual discharge of his obligations.

Given a man of such qualifications and the result must be a leader of more than average efficiency.

But there are other qualifications for the office of a Class Leader which may justly be deemed desirable. It is desirable that a class leader should possess a matured Christian experience, and that he should be living in the enjoyment of the blessings of that higher Christian life which it is the privilege of all Christian believers to attain unto. For it need not be insisted on how much better fitted he would be in consequence, to urge his class forward to an acquaintance with the deep things of God.

It is desirable that a class leader should possess fine sensibilities, be prompt to sympathize with the members of his class in all their troubles, tender of heart, and kind in speech.

It is desirable that he should be quick in thought, ready in utterance, retentive in memory and well furnished with information of a character to be made available in the service of his class. And it is certainly not undesirable that to fervency and fluency in prayer, he should add sweetness of voice in singing with the spirit and with the understanding.

A person possessed of all these qualifications is not to be found often. But it has been suggested to us by a valued lay friend of large experience that much more might be done than is accustomed to be attempted to secure class leaders of the most efficient description. It seems evident that great pains should be taken by those responsible in the matter to select the best men obtainable for the position. It is worthy of most serious consideration whether, as in the case of candidates for admission into the regular ministry and to the local preaching, there should not be examination in respect of Christian doctrine, of persons singled out for the class leadership preliminary to their appointment to that position. And it seems equally worthy of thought whether a certain course of reading and study for class leaders in the early days of their of-

icial life might not be prescribed with great advantage, and whether, too, class leaders meetings, under the presidency of ministers of rich and varied experience in pastoral work, might not with profit be often held for the interchange of sentiment on the best methods of rendering the social exercises of the class productive of the highest amount of good. Whatever fate may be in store for these suggestions, there cannot be any difference of opinion among those best fitted to weigh them, that the very earnest and well directed efforts ought to be made to raise and maintain the class leading arm of our ecclesiastical service to the highest practical stage of efficiency.

J. R. N.

ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

The Cattle Plague—The Autumn Campaign—The Geneva Arbitration—Methodism at Home—The Financial District Meetings.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Much anxiety has been felt at the recent outbreak of the cattle plague, the dreaded redpest, in a district of Yorkshire. It is but seven years since it wrought such fearful havoc among the herds of England, and caused a prodigious loss, which amounted in the gross to about five million pounds, and was the occasion of a rise in the price of meat which has continued to this time. The evil appears to be stayed for the present, as the whole of the infected herd were at once destroyed, and the district placed under the most stringent regulations and police surveillance. No fairs or markets for the sale of cattle can be held within the infected district without direct license from the Privy Council, and the Government is actively using the extensive powers committed to it during the prevalence of the plague in 1866. The outbreak will prevent any reduction in the present "famine prices" of meat, as the restrictions are to remain in force until near Christmas, and even longer if the necessity shall continue to exist.

A large proportion of the forces now stationed in England, has lately been employed in tents, and engaged in a kind of mimic warfare, in the neighbourhood of Salisbury, and its far famed Plain, thousands of armed men and cavalry have been tramping to and fro, and fighting as children trim on the "make-believe" principle.

We have had a great Northern army in fierce opposition to a great Southern army, and a sharp resistance to the bold advance. Two conclusions have been arrived at by the press: in the first place there has been a great expenditure of money to very little purpose, and secondly the generalship of our armies appears at considerable disadvantage. The war has developed in the most realistic and really frequent after toilsome marches and plucky advances the men learned to their great disgust that the umpires had decided against them, and they lost even the credit due to their endurance and apparent bravery. It has been an outting as a picnic on a large scale, but to others a time of short commons and plenty of hard work. Our indefatigable Wesleyan chaplains accompanied the troops from place to place, and had occasional opportunities under very favourable auspices, of preaching to numbers, of the gospel of the grace of God. We fear that all this pomp and parade of seeming warfare is fostering the spirit in the minds of our people that we would fain see weakened or destroyed. Our safety does not consist in these things, and the presence of such large armies in the land is a great burden, and in some respects a positive curse. Labor is very scarce, the taxes are very high, and yet all these costly and most unproductive, materials of men and munitions of war, are kept up and maintained in constant efficiency, as if an enemy were close upon our shores.

As your readers, Mr. Editor, are by this time doubtless well aware, the decision of the Arbitrators at Geneva, is substantially in favour of England, and we are required to pay a round sum of upwards of three millions sterling as compensation for damages occasioned by the cruisers which were allowed to escape from English ports. The Treaty convention or law by which England was judged, was not in existence at the time that England was committed, and certainly there has been no little magnanimity, and an intense desire to end the strife, by thus submitting to be judged and thus condemned. As for the feeling with which the decision is regarded by the majority on this side, it may best be summed up by reference to a cartoon in one of the leading comic papers, in which Britannia is depicted as handing a heavy bag of Gold to Uncle Sam and saying, "Here, take this, it will please you, and I shall not miss it." If this payment ends the controversy of the past five or six years, and puts out of the way the unbecomingly contentious and intermittently squabbling, we shall be satisfied, and consider it a decided relief. We trust that America will now be content, although expecting an immensely larger sum. The trial has been conducted with great fairness and remarkable patience. The most eminent men on both sides have been heard, and documents, prepared with all the possible and legal acumen, have been put in and fully considered. A grand example has been set before the world, and the expectation is cherished that this memorable Arbitration will point the way for peaceable adjustment of other difficulties and offences between the nations of the world, and that the dread learning comic papers, in which will not so frequently be exhibited.

In Methodism there is nothing very special to report. The work of the New Ecclesiastical year has been entered upon with much hopefulness and with increasing prospects of usefulness. Our honoured and beloved President was at Nottingham yesterday to open a new chapel in that fair town, and appeared in unusually good health and spirits, preaching with much power, and with evident tokens of the Divine blessing accompanying the word. The fine sanctuary which was thus dedicated to the worship of the Most High; makes the tenth which Mr. Wiseman has opened in the few brief weeks during which he has held his high office. Thus the work of Methodism is rapidly extending, and before long each of these new creations will become a centre of spiritual power, and souls saved.

The Financial District Meetings have been held, and were enlivened by the importation of a few fresh topics. The great Concessional Fire Insurance Company is now in full operation, and appealed through the District Meetings for the co-operation of all Trustees and officials upon the Circuits. It will gradually secure most of the Insurances already existing, and probably stimulate to a more general insurance of Methodist property. A plan for the arrangement of all the Districts, was laid before meetings, but in most cases was referred to a Committee to report at the District Meeting in May next.

The great event of the meeting was the election of a minister and a layman to represent us in the Committee upon Educa-

tion which is to meet in London some time prior to the assembling of Parliament. There was no time for discussion, and scarcely any for even a declaration of opinion. We had to elect two men in whose wisdom and ability we had full confidence, and they will go up as delegates to enforce the expressed views of a majority, but as our representatives upon this great and grave question, which will tax the fidelity of the best and ablest men in Methodism.

B.

Circuit Intelligence.

RIVER JOHN CIRCUIT.—I know, dear Mr. Editor, that you are always pleased to hear from the Brethren with reference to their work; and I do believe it would be for the general good, if brief Circuit reports were more frequently handed in by our ministers.

We arrived here the latter part of July, following hard upon the retreating footsteps of our predecessors. We found the Circuit a large and extensive one; we had left; still the situation is not an undesirable one by any means. The country is very fine; a pleasant agricultural district; the climate is pleasant and healthy; the roads are excellent; the parsonage is still quite comfortable and well kept; and the people are of the most kind and friendly stamp.

They gave us a most cordial reception, and ever since have seemed to vie with each other in their acts of kindness.

I have ten preaching places, at almost all of which the congregations are increasing. Our neat and commodious new church at River John is frequently filled to its utmost capacity. At Berriswea and the Back Road, finding their school houses unsuitable and insufficient, the people are making arrangements for the erection of more respectable buildings for divine worship. We expect to see two new churches in those places before many months.

I preached in Tatamagouche village last Sabbath. There has not been a Methodist service held there for years, but the people received us gladly, and the large Town Hall was crowded with an intelligent and attentive audience, to whom, in the name of the Master, I offered a free, full and present salvation.

Our Home Mission meetings have just been held. Bro. Wasson from Wallace kindly and efficiently assisted. The result is even beyond our expectation. Last year this Circuit contributed to the Home Mission Society only one hundred dollars. Our other Connexional funds will also be somewhat in advance of last year.

All this is encouraging. But what we most need is the "baptism of fire."

This we labor for this we pray for, this we look for, believe me, dear Brethren, and hope to be able to tell in my next communication of the joy of a spiritual harvest!

R. B. M.
Parsonage, River John, Oct. 1, 1873.

ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND.

Bro. Milligan writes, Sept. 28, 1872:—"Circuit matters are progressing very pleasantly, several things are quite encouraging. Religious feelings are evidently taking fuller possession of the minds of our people, and the church is going forward very satisfactorily, and things now encourage us to believe it will be ready for opening by the end of the present Conference year. It will cost more money than was expected, and I fear will have, when finished, considerable debt upon it, but will be worth the most substantial and commodious building, a most important addition to our Connexional property. Our friends manifest here a spirit, I might say a rare devotion in pressing forward this laudable undertaking. Means by all time and attention also by the Trustees and Building Committee, are freely consecrated to his happy consummation."

We labour on much gratified with the disposition manifested by our leading men to co-operate heartily in seeking in every way the continued peace and increased prosperity of Zion.

There is I believe in this island a splendid field for Methodist missions."

Miscellaneous.

FALMOUTH, CANNING, &c.

(From the Editorial Correspondence of the Religious Intelligencer.)

Falmouth is a very pretty and pleasant place. The farmers are all evidently in comfortable circumstances. We have not seen any place better suited for summer and winter recreation, than this. From its hills splendid views of the surrounding country can be had Windsor is in sight, Newport is also seen just below. The Avon river adds much to the beauty of the scene, and not a little to its fertility. Many acres of valuable dyke stretch away far as the eye can see. One can drive this most any direction. The roads are unimpaired. There is a Methodist church and a Baptist church, both neat houses, in which services are regularly held. There is also a Congregational church, but service is rarely held in it now. It was our privilege to listen to Rev. Mr. Hennigan, President of the Wesleyan Conference, who preached a sermon full of practical truths, such as men need to hear, and hearing which they will be made better. Doctrinal sermons, learned dissertations, and discourses abounding in flowery sentences and flights of fancy, may all very well be in their place (wherever that may be), but in this every-day world, full of every-day busy men and women, plain, pointed, practical, every-day truth is the pressing need. Truth that will come home to men's hearts and consciences, making them truer and purer in all their relations, and influencing them Christward and heavenward.

From Falmouth to Canning we preferred to travel by carriage as affording a better view of the country than could be made from the train. Sending the luggage by train, so as to be as little encumbered as possible, a start was made, the whole party in high glee, for the day promised to be fine. Just here let us say the promise was faithfully kept. Would that all good promises were so. The distance between the points named is about 25 miles. Seven or eight hours were consumed in travelling it, and that it is plain that nothing was passed with undue haste. To the credit of the horse and driver be said. Perhaps though it is no more than fair to acknowledge that the greater share of the credit was due to the horse. Faithful beast! he evidently knew the road, and the beautiful country through which it passed, and was anxious that the unacquainted driver should have sufficient time to properly appreciate nature's grand spread of beautiful things. If

anybody's patience was tired, anybody was very foolish to be so. It was all for the best. Mount Denon is the first place reached. It is a snug little village. It is probably called Mount Denon because there are general moderate elevations distinguishing it from its flat surroundings. The houses and farms all have a thrifty look. There is a Methodist church, the principal one is the Free Baptist. The building is a neat and nicely finished one. It has what the majority of country churches have not—a spire. If we mistake not, the house was built by Capt. James Coffin. It is a credit to his Christian generosity.

The church is abundantly blessed and prospering. Hantsport is the next village. The houses are more closely grouped than in Mount Denon, and it has more the appearance of a town. Considerable business is done. Ship building is largely carried on by Senator Churchill, who has been chiefly the means of making the place what it is to-day in respect of view. The principal church is the Baptist. Leaving Hantsport we soon came in view of the Grand Port dyke. As far as can be seen is a vast expanse of this rich land. It is rich in historic suggestions. One involuntarily thinks of Longfellow's matchless story of Evangeline, and of the poet's words: "Seldom is there found so general an air of neatness and taste as is here. Paint is used generously on the buildings, and a great deal of taste is evidenced in the culture and arrangement of flowers, which are seen in profusion both within and without the dwelling houses." The beautiful scenery is well worth a visit. Its location is well chosen. It is a Baptist institution, and we believe is flourishing. An effort is being made just now to increase the Endowment Fund to \$100,000. We hope success may crown the movement; thoroughly equipped it may do well the world designs. The handsome and valuable endowment is a serious hindrance to the efficiency of any institution, and they press especially hard upon a religious enterprise. Port Williams was once a place of considerable importance. It was the port of shipment for the vast potato crops, &c., of Cornwallis. But with the repeal of the reciprocity treaty, its importance as a business centre began to wane. It will require the revival of the treaty, or something akin to it, to inspire "the Port" with anything like its old life and vim. Six miles from Port Williams is Canning. The drive to it is enjoyable, to a person disposed to enjoy anything. Canning is a busy little place, doing a good deal of business.

Twice within a few years the business part of the village has been nearly all destroyed by fire, but the enterprise of the people soon recovered from the loss, and they go on as before. Some shipbuilding is done. A great deal of business was formerly done in the exportation of potatoes. Much money was made by speculative trading, and a few rich men were produced entering the American markets, it is not nearly so profitable as before. The chief crops are potatoes and hay, though in some cases the farmers are introducing a greater variety into their farming operations. The churches of the village are, a Free Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, and Baptist. These all have settled pastors. But though highly blessed with church privileges, the village is burdened with a corresponding crowd. There are as many as twelve rum shops, each one exerting itself to the utmost to poison the community, caring not how deadly may be the consequences. In the early part of the year we saw a party of men, in their coats with filthy lures, how many homes feel the dire course which these dens of iniquity emit, God only knows. We long for the day when the strong arm of the law shall take hold of rum vendors as it takes hold of pickpockets, thieves, incendiaries, the ravagers of innocents, murderers, and other persons of this class. Rum sellers are more reputable only because they have the sanction of the law and the countenance of society. In the sight of God, the great law-giver, and the judge of all, rum sellers will, and do stand on a par with the irreparable and dangerous characters we have mentioned.

Our next station was Canning, a village of some importance, and in the North-Western Province, an Upper House constituency. Although Scotch and national antipathies were strongly apparent to the constabularies, the actual vote of the Canning district, by the actual vote of its course, secret, all that leads up to it is in most cases open enough so far as the expression of intention is concerned. Although the elections have been disgraced by malignant symptoms which have appeared on former occasions when the Irish Roman Catholic vote was cast, the platforms were rushed, speakers howled down, and candidates protected with difficulty from dangerous violence. Indignation at these unscrupulous attempts at intimidation was intensified by the publication of a manifesto read from the altar of all the Roman Catholic churches on Sunday, the 2nd of the election. In this document James Alipius Gode, "by favor of the Holy Apostolic See, Bishop of Melbourne," thus addressed his people:—"It will need all the weight of your electoral and moral influence to save sacred rights from being trampled by the gentlemen and constitute the present Government. They threaten the Catholics of this colony—a fourth part of the entire Christian population—with religious persecution in the shape of a godless and compulsory system of education. Holding out, as is now proposed, the abandonment of the payment of school fees for primary education in a shameless and demoralizing bribe to the poor and weak, to put their consciences aside for apparent present advantage. We entreat you to remind of your conscientious obligations, and refuse your votes to those, by whomsoever recommended they are, in favor of a scheme of godless, compulsory education. He who commits himself by his vote to such a scheme places himself at once in opposition to the Church and conscience."

The Pastoral was most effective. All voters were at once driven to the Government. Minor differences of free trade and protection were sunk in a common protest against priestly dictation. Many who had been warm supporters of Opposition candidates left their committees and went over to the other side. A overwhelming defeat was entailed on the anti-Missionaries. Seats were secured for the Government by majorities of two to one, and at St. Kitts, the Attorney General's opponent was so hopelessly behind, that not having polled one fifth of the number of returning votes his £50 deposit was forfeited, a mishap which determined the hopes and priorities of two creditors who were waiting ready with attachments to fasten on the temptingly exposed asset when it should be left free.

It is only just to add that Mr. Duffy disclaims responsibility for the conduct of his clerical friends, having publicly lamented the injury he directly attributes to it, and that many of the Catholic laity have expressed disapproval of the Pastoral.

A METHODIST THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION IN FIJI.

The successes of the Wesleyan Methodist missions in Fiji have been the marvel as well as the gratification of Protestant Christians throughout the world. A whole country has been thoroughly revolutionized from heathenism, and brought under the influence and into the prosperity of Christian civilization. The missionaries were prudent and wise educators, and the Christian school was in each locality set up in conjunction with the pulpit and the altar of worship.

The last Wesleyan *Chronicle*, published in Melbourne, Australia, bearing date June 20, 1872, and which arrived by the last Eastern mail, brings us an account of the corner-stone laying of a Theological Institution (designed for the thorough training of native preachers) in Navulou, a central, convenient and prosperous town. The enterprise received from the first most hearty approval and co-operation of the king and other influential chiefs. Very fine allotments of land were made, and the site selected is described as exceedingly attractive.

The ceremony of laying the corner-stone took place on Thursday, March 7. A large audience composed of chiefs, native teachers, students and others, assembled. We now quote from our Australian exchange:

Rev. D. S. Wylie gave out the hymn commencing *Yai yai me da mudo*, (All hail the power of Jesus' name.) and read the 84th Psalm. Rev. F. Langham, chairman of the district—in the unavoidable absence of the King—then proceeded to fix the post in its appointed position, which was done in quite an artistic manner. He delivered an address, in the course of which he expressed his great satisfaction and joy that so important a work was that day commenced at Navulou. The institution belonged to Fiji, and with the divine blessing, would be of incalculable benefit to every part of the country. Men, he said, were not born wise; but in that institution they hoped to train many young men to be wise and good, that they may turn become useful in their day and generation. He explained that he was their cousin to place a document under the foundation of such buildings, and they had prepared one for that. It was as follows:

"This foundation post of the Fiji District Theological Training Institution of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society was set by Rev. F. Langham, Chairman of the district, on the above date, in the presence of a large congregation of chiefs and people from every part of Fiji.

R. K. RATU FEREBE CAKOBUA.
NA-YANI NA TA KABA, TAI LAKAVA, KING.
RATU ABEL NAIKATI KAU, GOVERNOR.
RATU ELIJAH, CHIEF JUSTICE.

Rev. F. Langham, J. Nettleton, D. S. Wylie, and W. W. Lindsay, Building Committee; Rev. F. Langham, J. Nettleton, W. S. Brooks, D. S. Wylie, J. Rooney, J. Robinson, A. J. Webb, F. B. Rootes, J. H. Simons, and W. W. Lindsay, Ministers in the District; Rev. Benjamin Chapman, President of the Australasian Conference; Rev. John Cope, Secretary; Rev. Stephen Rabone, General Secretary for Missions. God save the King!"

Rev. D. S. Wylie and W. W. Lindsay took part in the subsequent proceedings, and Ratu Abel, Tai Nakilo, Joel Balu, and others, expressed in short speeches their pleasure at commencing. After singing another hymn, and prayer by Rev. F. Langham, the congregation dispersed. We may add that the building is to be made very substantial. It will be seventy-two feet long, and its height and breadth in proportion. The walls will be "lath" (lime), thus giving it a very handsome appearance. The tower's house will be built of imported timber, and about twenty students' houses are to be erected immediately, so that we hope soon to be able to report the completion of this important undertaking.

JEJUSIT SCANDAL IN FRANCE.

Wherever else the Roman Catholic authorities may loudly inveigh against the conduct of Pere Hyacinthe in marrying, assuredly they will not do it at Brest (says the *Daily Telegraph*) where the trial of the Jesuit Dufour, chief of the Jesuit College, had just created so considerable an excitement. This holy man, in returning from a five day service at Quimper, appears to have made rendezvous with a lady, whose relations with him were more intimate than proper, and to have been detected by the conductor of the train in behaviour which, extremely indecorous in any case, must be called most scandalous in that of a consecrated priest. It is worth while to remark that Father Dufour stood in the relation of spiritual guide and confessor to his companion, whom he called his "sister," and in so doing, adding falsehood to disgrace and to violation of his vow. The people of Brest were so indignant at the man who had maintained a reputation for extreme piety, and was a most fashionable preacher, that they broke all the windows in the Jesuit College and stormed its gates, which had to be protected by the military. What offended the townsfolk most of all seems to have been that the father was actually returning from the misdeed, and was committed, and that he had the hardihood to celebrate public mass the day after the event. The feeling against this hypocritical priest and his order has indeed grown so strong that Brest is sending a petition to M. Thiers, praying for the expulsion of all Jesuits from its precincts, and this sentiment seems to have extended beyond its common borders for the advocate engaged by Father Dufour finally declined his defence. This painful exposure comes badly for the Society at a time when Jesus is appealing to their unblemished moral character against those edicts which banish them from Germany. Other places besides Brest will say that, whether it be canonical at Rome or not for Pere Hyacinthe to marry, his example might certainly be followed in religious societies with great advantage to scriptural morality.

DEATH OF A VETERAN.

Rev. Peter Cartwright, D. D., the pioneer Methodist preacher of the West, died on Wednesday, Sept. 25, at his late home near Pleasant Plains, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. He has been for a long time in very feeble health, and the announcement of his death will occasion no surprise. He was a native of New York, born in September, 1785, and while still a youth he was taken by his parents to Kentucky, then an almost unbroken wilderness. But the Methodist preachers penetrated into these remote wilds, and young Cartwright was converted. At nineteen he was admitted on trial into the travelling ministry, in which he has continued for nearly two thirds of a century, fifty years of which time he held the office of presiding Elder. Scarcely any other name occurs so large a space in the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys.

General Intelligence.

The Rev. I. E. Bill during his recent mission to Annapolis Co., N. S., on behalf of the Endowment Fund of Acadia College, obtained the promise of over \$4000.

The Londonderry Iron Mines will have Railway connection almost immediately. The line, three miles in length, has been graded, and is about ready for laying rails.

It is reported in St. John that Capt. Dennis McCall, master of the steamer "Greenland" of St. John, now lying at Coltham, murdered his wife and two of his children on 20th of August last.

The Supreme Court at Charlottetown has returned a verdict of \$29,000 against the P. E. Island Government. The manager of the Harrell estate was the plaintiff. The case had been seventeen years in dispute.

OPENING OF THE INTERCONTINENTAL RAILWAY.—The Nova Scotia sections of the Intercontinental Railway will be opened to-day. A train conveying a party of forty men and journalists will leave Halifax at 9 o'clock this morning. If the Folly River bridge is completed before the train reaches it—the report on Saturday that the bridge has been ordered to be finished—done—the party will proceed through to St. John without change of cars, arriving there this evening and leaving to-morrow morning to return home. Should the bridge be unfinished, the party will change cars at Folly and only proceed to Amherst or Sackville. The road will not be open for traffic for some days yet—*Chronicle, 7th.*

The Halifax Civic Elections took place on Tuesday, the 1st inst., and the result follows:—Mr. Duggan was elected Mayor. The vote stood for Duggan, 954; for Mulver, 835; for McCulloch, 131. Six Aldermen were elected by Mr. Duggan's majority, and the candidates were Messrs. George Fraser, Edger Dodson, Alex. Forsyth, M. J. Power, J. R. Graham, C. C. Caux. Our civic rulers for the next year are: Mayor, James Duggan; Aldermen: Ward 1—J. McCulloch, W. H. Neal, and George Fraser. Ward 2—Edgar Dodson, Ward 3—Robt. Richardson, and Edger Dodson. Ward 4—G. Power, W. H. Neal, and W. H. Neal. Ward 5—Wm. Barron, M. J. Power. Ward 5—Wm. Taylor, J. S. D. Thompson, J. R. Graham. Ward 6—William Nisbet, Daniel Sullivan, C. C. Caux.—*Express.*

Accounts from Ottawa state that W. D. O'Brien, Esq., has taken the contract for the building of the wharf at Richmond, and extension of the railway to the Dockyard wall. The former expense will be £300,000, and among the people of this city. We are glad that Mr. O'Brien has secured the contract, as he is a very energetic man, and we feel confident that the work will be performed with satisfaction to the public and credit to the contractor. Mr. Nicholas Glennon will superintend the work, and we know of no person better fitted to throw energy into the work, and bring it to a satisfactory completion.—*Id.*

DISEASE IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.—A very malignant disease, which baffles the skill of physicians is prevailing in Cambridge, Queen's Co., at present. A young man, named McKee, died of diphtheria in this city some time during the early summer, and his body was taken by his home in Queen's County for burial. Against the advice of physicians and friends, the family insisted on opening the coffin to see the corpse before burial, and the result was a disease of which he died was said to be infectious. A little later, several members of the same family took the disease and died in a few days, despite all the medical treatment they received. Now intelligence reaches us that the disease has spread to other families; that Mr. Wm. Briggs, of the same place, has been taken with the disease, and that he is in a very short time, and that the disease is still spreading. About 12 years ago, the same locality was visited by a disease very like the present, which carried off the parish in some cases several members of the same family having been buried in one grave. It is to be hoped that the disease may be stayed, and that the identity of the disease may not now be allowed what it was.—*St. John News.*

FRUIT GROWER'S EXHIBITION. N. S.—The Annual Exhibition of the Fruit Grower's Association of Nova Scotia, will be held at the Agricultural College, on Oct. 16th and 17th. Among the prize Col. Laurie, who is anxious to encourage fruit growing in all the Counties of Nova Scotia, has offered a prize of \$100 for the best