

NEWS ITEMS.

The oldest ordained minister of the Church of Scotland, the Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Perth, Ontario, has just died, aged 90.

The Bulgarian journal Valzevna says that 5,000 Bulgarians have volunteered to serve in Afghanistan against the English.

Consumption of Timber.—In pleading for the protection and perpetuation of forests, the Landowner's Gazette gives some interesting particulars of the amount of timber consumed every year in the United States.

The people of Canada greet their new Governor-General at rather a critical period of the history of, not only their own land, but of the great country with which they are connected.

During the last week the citizens of Fredericton had opportunities to listen to some excellent readings of which they availed themselves to a very limited extent.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The Local Government are now in session. The first meeting was held yesterday, and the second on Monday, and the third on Tuesday.

"FEVER FACTORIES." The ravages of the epidemic in the valley of the Mississippi during the months of August and September, have caused medical scientists to inquire into the cause of the disease, which is a mysterious and untreatable plague.

Communications. "For the Agriculturist." Sir.—Whilst the minds of the community are being exercised about the powers of Blind Tom, in his musical performances, the insertion of the following extract in your paper, may not be without interest to your readers.

MUSIC, ELOQUENCE AND POETRY. The fact of improvisation alone should overwhelm with shame, these thoughtless and sanctified critics, and teach them to hold their tongues, and conventionally take off their hats in the presence of the angel-work.