

REV. T. FERRIER, Chairman of Deloraine District, Manitoba Conference, reports a meeting of the Quarterly Board, at which a resolution was passed making Deloraine a self-sustaining circuit for two men. The Board and people have our hearty congratulations and best wishes for the future.

THERE is now appearing in the *Barrie Examiner* a sketch of the life of the Rev. Geo. McDougall, "Hero of the Saskatchewan," by the Rev. John McLean, M.A., Ph D., which is full of interest. Our boys are ever seeking for books and papers devoted to travels and adventures, and we know of no more healthy and inspiring reading for the young than the lives of our early Methodist ministers and missionaries, who "in labors abundant," wielding the "sword of the Spirit" with weighty power, made history which the Church has a right to glory in, and hand down to children's children. Among the many of whom we, as Methodists, have a right to be proud, there is not one more worthy of all honor than the heroic Geo. McDougall.

Editorial and Contributed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

STANLEY'S wonderful march through Africa is an epoch in the history of heroic exploration. The difficulties encountered and surmounted are almost inconceivable, and the success of the undertaking admits of but one explanation—the hand of God was in it. This is devoutly acknowledged by Stanley himself, and the acknowledgment is justified even by the secular press. All that has been accomplished thus far, however, is to let in a transient flash of light upon a realm of gross darkness. It now remains to be seen if the Church of God is prepared to follow the explorer's footsteps, and, lifting high "the lamp that never fails," herald the coming of the morning to benighted Africa.

CHINA is attracting no small share of attention from missionary organizations at the present time. This is to be attributed in part to the striking results of the Canada Presbyterian Mission in Formosa, and the China Inland Mission, founded and supervised by the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor. Mr. McKay, of the Formosa Mission, is a man of apostolic zeal, and he is following the "Pauline method" of utilizing the native converts in the work of evangelization. The necessity of a self-supporting native Church is recognized, if only to silence the taunts of the heathen, who say, "You preach the foreigners' doctrine because you eat his rice." Let it not be forgotten that the Methodist Church has a work to do in China, and Providence is indicating that the time has come to begin.

SINCE the present Chinese Emperor ascended the throne, a succession of disasters have befallen the

country, creating in the superstitious minds of the people the belief that the Emperor and Empress are "unlucky." There is a good deal of uneasiness and discontent throughout the empire, and should some ambitious adventurer raise the standard of revolt, it is quite possible the result would be different than in the Taiping rebellion. Among the Chinese there is little love of the foreigner, and in case of tumults the various foreign missions would be in great danger. The *North China Herald* strongly urges that no treaty-port should be left without a man-of-war for some time to come.

BISHOP TAYLOR, of Africa, was in England during the past winter, completing arrangements for his mission steamer for the Congo. As a preliminary to the planting of extensive missions in the heart of the continent, he contemplates a chain of missions, with transport facilities, extending from the coast along the Congo, and occupying a densely populated region belonging to the Congo Free State, 100 by 250 miles in extent. These missions would be on the north side of the river, and as the older missions are on the south side, they would not interfere with each other. The steamer will be taken out to Africa in sections, and put together at Vivi, on the Congo. A steel launch is also to be built for up-river work, and another small steamer will be required for the Kassi and Saukura rivers.

THOSE acquainted with the name and work of the Pundita Ramabai will be glad to learn that she is prosecuting her work with undaunted courage at Bombay. A woman of rare ability, she is devoting her life to the elevation of her countrywomen in India, by seeking the removal of those disabilities which in the past have made them little better than slaves. In a word, she would raise the status of women in India to the level of true womanhood. It is well known that in India the birth of a daughter is regarded as a calamity; but in protest against this degrading idea the Pundita named her little daughter Manoram, or "Heart's Delight." Her chief enterprise of founding a home for Indian widows is yet in the experimental stage, but promises well.

NOT long ago the secular press was teeming with the praises of Father Damien, who died after devoting many years to the care of the lepers of Molokai, Hawaii. The impression conveyed by the newspapers was that Father Damien alone had cared for these poor lost sheep, and many were the sneers flung at the Protestant churches and missionaries for their lack of devotion and self-denial. The last report of the Hawaiian Board of Health gives the number of lepers in the district of