

aid to every Sunday-School Teacher. See advertisement.

#### THE SITUATION IN IRELAND.

The firm action of the British Government in suppressing the Land League when its lawlessness and sedition made its toleration no longer a virtue, has had the effect of restoring a degree of confidence and calmness to the unhappy island which was fast plunging into anarchy. The despicable modes of assailing the law-abiding subjects who had the misfortune to incur the hostility of the League have been such as to alienate the sympathy of every honest heart. Midnight murder and assassination, the waylaying of bailiff or steward behind a hedge, or skulking in the darkness to the window to shoot him down by his own hearthstone, will not commend itself to the generous Irish heart. Still more despicable, if possible, is the practice of concealing needles in potatoes and hay to ruin the cattle of the rent-payers. The cowardice of the professional patriots, who live by fomenting strife and at the first sign of danger skip over to France and from the safe vantage ground of a foreign shore, hurl their insane denunciations at the Government, which, by the passage of the liberal Land Act has done more for Ireland than any Government ever did before, will show their deluded followers how hollow and selfish are their pretensions. The beneficial effects of the Land Act, we trust, will show the Irish tenants who their best friends really are.

For some time past it has occasionally happened that money letters addressed to the Methodist Book and Publishing House mysteriously went astray, and were never received by the Book Steward. This was a cause of great annoyance, as it was absolutely certain that the loss could not have occurred in this establishment. The mystery has at length been solved. A clerk in one of the large newspaper offices has been in the habit of going for the midnight mails and was allowed to go behind

the letter boxes and help himself to the mail matter. He availed himself of the opportunity to abstract letters from other boxes. Being suspected, a decoy letter containing marked money was addressed to the Methodist Book and Publishing House, and the money was found in the possession of the suspected party. He was summarily tried and sentenced to five years to the penitentiary.

In his late address before the Dominion Medical Association, at Halifax, Dr. Canniff deprecated the excessive use of technical language practiced by some physicians. Some idea of the extent of this practice may be gathered from the fact stated in the London *Lancet*, for October 8th, that the new Dictionary of Medical and Scientific terms already fills 800 closely printed octavo pages and only reaches the letter C. At this rate the whole work will fill 8,000 pages and contain 300,000 technical terms, and, at the present rate of manufacture of such terms, within twenty years an appendix bigger, possibly, than the parent book will be necessary.

THE November and December numbers of the *Missionary Outlook* are issued together and contain a very full report of the Anniversary Services and Missionary Breakfast. We regret to learn that this valuable periodical has been published at a loss of several hundred dollars, which has fallen entirely upon Rev. Dr. Sutherland, the Missionary Secretary. We hope that during the next year its circulation will increase to at least a paying point. It is only fifty cents a year and we believe is of much value in diffusing missionary information and fostering a missionary spirit.

The Rev. E. Armstrong Telfer, a distinguished minister of the English Wesleyan Conference, has been favouring this city and other places in Canada with his presence and services. As a preacher he is a man of remarkable power—by solid argument convincing the judg-