

The "Western Cavaliers" bears some resemblance to our beloved brother Carroll's "Case and his Contemporaries," a sort of biographical history of the men who laboured as Methodist preachers in the wilderness of Kentucky from 1832 to 1844. All are mentioned. The deeds of some are necessarily dwelt upon at great length, as they were, like Saul, higher than any of the people. During the years here particularly narrated, the Church in Kentucky made rapid progress, inasmuch as the ministers increased from 114 to 174; the membership (white) from 22,308 to 42,608; (coloured) from 4,698 to 9,456.

Our limited space compels us to refrain from making such extracts as we would have been glad to make for the edification of our readers. Josiah Whitaker belonged to the class whom we call "the morally sublime." At one conference a brother said something which touched the old warrior, and he rose and launched forth as follows: "I have never asked any favour of your bishops; I have left old Sukey Honey (his wife) to scratch for the children, and have travelled a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles from home, to serve your roughest circuits for almost nothing. These thirty years I have been serving the Church, and in that time I have never complained. I have never located, nor stationed, nor supernumerated, nor superannuated, nor presiding elderated, and I have no favours to ask of any of you."

It has been said that the history of Methodism is a history of revivals. May it ever be so. Here is a brief excerpt of a revival in 1862. The presiding elder writes, "We are now in the midst of the most glorious revival I have ever witnessed. In the bounds of this district there have been, the present year, about two thousand souls converted to God and added to the Methodist Episcopal Church. The aged and the young have been brought in. One man, said to be one hundred and five years old, was powerfully converted to God. The wise and sage philosopher, with the humble African, has found peace in believing. We have but little opposition; all heads, hands, and hearts, unite in carrying on the glorious work. It would delight you to witness the glorious work, as it moves on to victory; to see the wily politician, the crafty lawyer, the stern judge, the industrious planter, the busy merchant, the towering orator, the military chieftain, with the young men and maidens, all coming to Prince Immanuel, and passing on their way to "the rest that remaineth to the people of God." All will agree with us that this extract has the right ring.

Some of the names in this volume have long been well known to all readers of Methodist literature, as Dr. Ralston, whose "Theological Lectures" had an extensive sale; Dr. Bascom, who afterwards became bishop, renowned for his eloquent orations and versatile talents; J. N. Maffitt, whose fame as a preacher far outshone most of his compeers. The account of this noble man is the most extensive we have seen; but surely few can be so stoical as to read the closing sentence without a tear. A *post mortem* examination was made of Maffitt's body, when the sad fact was revealed that, "on one side of the heart there were three holes, the other side had literally burst." Dr. Redford says, "His persecutors broke his heart."

No one can read "Western Cavaliers" without wishing to be better acquainted with the writer, and praying that "the bright succession may ever run."

E. B.