

exercise a greater influence over the conduct of many than abstract principles, however explicitly inculcated. Many lessons may be learned from the life of Sir John Thompson on which it is well to ponder on this day of our grief, so that we may derive therefrom the consolation of realizing that though dead he speaketh, and though removed from the scene of his earthly activity, the magic of his influence survives and is productive of good to his fellow-man.

Considered in a worldly point of view, no one will deny that his career was an unbounded success. From the modest position of an humble citizen, he rose rapidly from one height to another of public importance until finally he reached the highest office in the gift of the nation. At each successive stage of his upward course, he acquitted himself in a manner satisfactory to the public and gave a guarantee that to whatever further heights of national importance he might attain, he would be found equal to their responsibilities. But mere outward success is no criterion or measure of real greatness. This latter must be gauged rather by the manner of attainment than by the attainment itself. How, then, did the late Premier rise to the lofty eminence from which he was stricken down by the hand of death? It was not by the aid of the outward accidents of wealth and birth, much less was it by an unworthy pandering to the passions and prejudices of the people, or by the employment of cunning arts and devices by which a corrupt public man sometimes treads his way successfully to ambitious distinction. No! none of these lent him any aid in his upward course. A faithful observance of the law of labour imposed by the Creator on the human race, and from which no one