

OBITUARY.

DR. J. E. MARCH.

THE sudden death of Dr. John Edgar March, quarantine officer, which occurred on the evening of the 3rd inst., at his home on Partridge Island, was heard with grief and surprise by the citizens of St. John, to practically all of whom he was well known. He was a robust appearing man, of fine physique and splendid vitality.

That morning was a busy one for Dr. March. He had been on board the C. P. R. steamer "Montezuma" and examined her 2,312 passengers, and the 700 on the Donaldson liner "Cassandra." He returned home for dinner, and later went down to the wharf. While talking with some friends there he complained of a numbness in his side, and sat down. Some one remarked that he looked very ill, and he replied, "Yes, I fear it is all over." He no doubt realized the significance of the symptoms. He was assisted to his home and Dr. Scammell summoned. This was about 3 o'clock, and he passed away at half-past six. Hæmorrhage of the brain was the cause of death.

Dr. John Edgar March, eldest son of John and Mary Elizabeth March, was born in St. John on June 21st, 1860. He attended private schools until of age to enter the St. John Grammar School, which he attended under the mastership of James Hutchinson and Edward Manning. He read medicine with the late Dr. Earle of St. John, after which he took a full course at Bellevue Hospital, New York city. After graduation he came to Hampton and began his professional practice. He married Miss Clymene Kaye, daughter of the late Jacob and Mrs. Kaye, of St. John,

and worked up an excellent practice in the North End, then known as the town of Portland. He was very active in political matters for some years, and was appointed port physician by the conservative government, Dr. William Harding being retired from duty but retained in service on a pension until his death. During Dr. March's incumbency all the great works and improvements on Partridge Island have been perfected and carried out under his personal supervision. The burden has always been a very heavy one, and has entailed a great strain upon a system naturally very vigorous. A few years ago he sustained severe injuries from falling from the rail of a steamer to the deck of the quarantine steamer "Neptune" in St. John harbor.

When Dr. March went to Partridge Island, thirteen years ago, it was nothing but a bare rock with two small houses, a whistle house, a light station, and several rotting wharves erected in the old ship fever period, without one sign of material or accommodations sufficient to serve the wants of even one marooned sailor. It is possible that if there had been no Dr. March on that bare rock, planning and discerning the future, there would have been no St. John Winter Port, for what avail would be wharves, elevators and railways without the safeguards a properly equipped quarantine station would ensure?

Dr. March was one of the youngest graduates in medicine who ever secured his degree, and was medical officer of the 8th Hussars before he reached his 21st year. From then onward he had a definite plan mapped out for the perfecting of the militia