

Obituary.

THE LATE HON. JOHN HARRIS,
President of the Legislative Council
and Principal in the Firm of
Hearn & Co.

We record with feelings of deepest regret the passing of one of our most honoured and public-spirited citizens in the person of Hon. John Harris which sad event occurred on New Year's Eve, after a protracted illness. His friend and business partner in life for 35 years, Mr. John Henderson, predeceased him by a week.

Mr. Harris's health had been impaired for 2 years past, but he carried on his business uncomplainingly until he was compelled to go to Montreal during the last autumn season to receive special medical treatment. The ailment from which he suffered was of such a serious character that there was no hope of a cure. Yet with typical patience and courage he bore up well and returned home to await the inevitable. Despite his bodily affliction he transacted his firm's business in his sick chamber up to a week ago when he disposed of Hearn and Co.'s interest in the Butterfield Factory.

The late Hon. John Harris was a native of St. John's, having been born here in 1850. He studied at St. Bonaventure's College and after leaving school he entered the hardware establishment of the late James Gleeson. From 1877 to 1880 he was book-keeper for the firm of Hearn and Co. and in the latter year became a partner in the business. He was a man of fine business capacity, shrewd, industrious, painstaking and deservedly popular. He acquired a large amount of useful and practical knowledge through his extensive travels. He filled several important as well as responsible public positions in this country. In 1890 he was appointed Government representative in the Municipal Council, displaying great care, thought and attention to the varied duties of the position. In 1892 he was appointed a member of the Legislative Council and became the President of that Chamber a few years ago on the retirement of Sir Edward Shea. At the time of his death he was a member of the Board of Revenue and a Governor of the Savings Bank. He was unassuming and gentlemanly and he wielded much influence in his native town. He was a leading figure in the various sports of the city. No good work but found him an enthusiastic supporter. He was a charitable man and gave generously of much of his private means. His deep interest at all times in the Catholic Cadet Corps and in his Church was common knowledge and yesterday at the funeral obsequies the Corps paid a tribute to their deceased friend. Mr. Harris was Treasurer of the Marine Disasters Fund in 1912 and was President of the Sealing Disasters Fund and of the Permanent Organization. He was a man of wise counsel and he will be sorely missed by his colleagues on the various boards and committees. His wife, formerly Miss Mamie Jardine, known as the "Nightingale of Newfoundland," predeceased him 9 years ago. He was survived by three children, three brothers, Messrs. William, James and Thomas, and two sisters, Mrs. Mary and Mrs. W. H. Tobin, to whom the Telegram offers its sincerest sympathy.

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon and was one of the largest ever seen in the city. The Police, C.C.C. and Bands preceded the hearse, while immediately following was the immediate relatives at the embalming of the firm. His Excellency the Governor and the Premier, a life long friend and former schoolmate of the deceased came to pay their respects. The Members of the Legislative Council, the Civic Commission, the members of the House of Assembly, and a large concourse of citizens, including several clergymen. At the Cathedral the service of interment was conducted by Rev. Dr. Edgar Jones, S. J. Tucker, AT BISHOP'S COURT.

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