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When a little more than three years ago, Mr. Fielding was compelled by a sudden illness to pass from our midst to the retirement of his home, our sense of deep regret at his enforced absence was relieved by the hope that he would soon recover his health and return to his accustomed place in the House. Although the subsequent progress of his illness compelled us to abandon this hope, the news of his passing comes with no less a shock to those who on both sides of the House were associated with him over a long period of years.

To its elder members, the House of Commons has never seemed quite the same since his departure. His long career of public service had given him a unique place among us. He was a living link with the great past of our history. He had known Howe, MacDonald, Blake and Tupper. When the Dominion of Canada came into being in 1867, he was already engaged in journalism in Halifax. When the Canadian Pacific first spanned the continent, he was Premier of Nova Scotia. His political recollections embraced the entire history of Canada as a united Dominion. For forty years he was an outstanding figure in the public life of his native province of Nova Scotia and of Canada.

Fortunate indeed is the country that can produce a public servant of the character and attainments of Mr. Fielding. It is given to few men to leave behind them a record of service so conspicuous for its duration and for its enduring success. In his private and public life he was an example of the highest virtues. Kindly by disposition and generous in his attitude to political opponents, he was a strenuous fighter and unswerving in his devotion to the principles in which he believed. Through all the vicissitudes of his political career he never for a moment lost faith in the future of his country. Faith was the

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