

PERSONALIA.

SIR HENRY PELLEW CREASE.

On the 17th of January last, the Bench and Bar of British Columbia said good-bye to Sir Henry Pellew Crease, on his retirement from the Bench of that Province; and he was congratulated on the honour of knighthood recently conferred upon him as a tribute to his long and faithful services. The Judges of the Supreme Court were present, as well as a large number of the Bar, and many friends of the retiring Judge. Chief Justice Davie, on behalf of the Bench, paid a graceful tribute to the services of Sir Henry during a judicial career of more than 25 years, and expressed a hope that he might live for many years in the enjoyment of his well-earned repose. The Attorney-General, on behalf of the Bar, voiced the feeling of the Bar and the people of the Province, expressing similar sentiments. The retiring Judge made a feeling reply.

In referring to this event, a leading paper in Victoria thus speaks of it: "Sir Henry P. Pellew Crease is one of the pioneers of British Columbia; he has witnessed the development of the Province from a mere trading post to a comparatively large and flourishing community, which promises in the not distant future to be still larger and more flourishing. He has done his share towards making this far Western Province peaceful and law-abiding. Its Bench, on which he has long occupied a seat, has been remarkable for its integrity and the courage, firmness and ability with which it has administered the laws of the land. The new Knight's ability as a judge has gained for him the respect of British Columbians generally, and his uniform courtesy, his geniality and his amiability secured for him hosts of friends in every part of the Province. Sir H. P. P. Crease carries with him in his retirement the esteem and the good wishes of all who have had the privilege of making his acquaintance in any capacity."

We would add our tribute to that of the Bench, Bar and Press of British Columbia. Sir Henry has always been a warm friend of this Journal, and we are indebted to him for many acts of courtesy and helpfulness. We would add, that whilst we may, speaking generally, congratulate the people of the various Provinces of the Dominion upon the ability and integrity of their Judges, not among the least favored is the Province of British Columbia.

Sir Henry Crease was born in 1823, in Cornwall, England, educated at Cambridge, and called to the Bar of the Middle Temple in 1849. In 1858 he went to the gold-fields of the West, and was the first practising Barrister and father of the Bar of Vancouver Island and British Columbia. After serving for some years as Attorney-General and as member of the Legislative Council, he was appointed, in 1870, senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, whose Chief was then Sir Matthew Begbie. Like his Chief, he was strong in head and hand, but with a warm heart; and they were just the men for the position which they occupied in a country in which, at that time, prompt justice, rigorously enforced, was as necessary as sound law.