

*THE LATE MR. JUSTICE KING.*

In the death of Mr. Justice King, which sad event happened on the morning of the 8th inst., the Supreme Court of Canada loses one of the ablest men who have as yet sat upon its bench.

The Honourable George Edwin King was born in St. John, N.B., October 3rd, 1839. He was educated partly in his native province and partly in the United States, taking the degree of B.A. at the Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., in 1859. In 1862 he received an M.A. from the same institution. He was admitted to the Bar of New Brunswick in 1865, immediately taking a prominent place in his profession. In 1867 he was returned as a member of the Legislative Assembly of N.B., and sat in that body until 1878, when he resigned to contest the city of St. John for the Dominion Parliament, but was defeated. He was Premier and Attorney-General of N.B. from 1872 to 1878. In 1886 he was made an Hon. LL.D., University of New Brunswick, and in 1893 Hon. D.C.L. of Mount Allison University. He received silk in 1873, during Lord Dufferin's tenure of the office of Governor-General of Canada. He was directly responsible for some of the most progressive legislation upon the statute-book of his native province. Among such legislation being the Controverted Elections Act of 1868, the first passed by any of the British Colonies for the trial of election petitions by Judges; The Free Schools Act of 1871, (which was the parent of the present excellent school system, that has been taken as a model for one about to be introduced into South Africa under the guidance of several New Brunswick educationists); the Abolition for Imprisonment for Debt Act; the General Assessment Act and the Municipal Act. In 1880 he was appointed a member of the Bench of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick; and on the death of Mr. Justice Patterson in 1893 he was elevated to the Supreme Court of Canada, this transfer being considered at the time as greatly strengthening the personnel of the Federal Judiciary. In 1895 he was appointed a Commissioner of Her Majesty in the matter of the arbitration of Great Britain's claims in connection with the seal fisheries in Behring Sea, in which office he acquitted himself with great ability.

The late Judge was a man of high ideals, both in public and in private life. His manner on the Bench was characterized by that