

SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

Warm Tribute of the Liberal Conservative Club to the Deceased Statesman.

Message of Condolence With the Widow and Family—Confidence in Mr. Bowell.

At a special and important meeting of the executive of the Liberal Conservative Association, held last evening, with Vice-President George S. Russell in the chair, Mr. R. F. Tolmie was elected a member of the executive committee, vice Mr. William Jensen, resigned. The business of the evening was the discussion of the following resolution, which was adopted and referred for preparation and engraving to a committee consisting of Messrs E. Crow Baker, D. M. Eberts, Q. C., M. P. P., H. D. Helmsken, Q. C., M. P. P., A. E. McPhillips, George S. Russell and P. A. Vidler.

"The Victoria Liberal Conservative Association in meeting assembled, in common with all the associations of Conservatives in Canada, sends a special mission of condolence to Lady Thompson and family. We mourn the loss of our great leader, the late Sir John Sparrow David Thompson, P. C., K. C. M. G., Q. C., who to-day bereft of one of his greatest sons, if not her greatest—the Premier—is no more. Sir John Thompson followed in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor, Sir John A. Macdonald, who had the whole life into making Canada a united Dominion, and so wonderfully succeeded that the words of Milton recur to our memory: 'A noble and puissant nation—rising like a strong man and shaking his invincible locks.'"

"Sir John Thompson was a leader of whom Canada was proud, and whilst on the bench his decisions were characterized by scholarly learning. He was not, however, unmindful of his duty to his country, and in obedience to that call and the arena of active politics to battle for the common cause. It may be said that he impressed all with the depth of his learning and did much to elevate with nobler principles of honesty and with a sterner morality the politics of Canada. It may be said that he was a summary of the life of our late Premier, that he served and influenced individuals, communities, and the country as a whole, as only men of large gifts can.

"A large minded policy was ever his, and Canada in him had one who with diplomacy seized opportunities, and with judgment of power and debate broke down all opposition by the force and sincerity of his arguments. He was an unflinching reverer for religious truths and a love of country which made his heart burn and his lips overflow with eloquence. A commanding position, even the first position in the gift of the people, was his, and Her Majesty in recognition of his worth had just called him her councillor. Who can wonder that his endowments, his industry, his achievements and sturdy and manly activities should be looked at as the record of a life fairly estimated as that of a great man?"

Mr. T. Bowles moved, seconded by Mr. Roper, and it was resolved unanimously, "That we, the Victoria Liberal Conservative Association, do hereby express our absolute confidence in the Honorable Mackenzie Bowell as Premier, and pledge to him and to his colleagues our active support, feeling at the same time that in Hon. Mr. Bowell the party has a veteran statesman always loyal to the traditions of our country, and always true to the principles of Liberalism, and that with such a leader, even after the great loss so lately sustained, the success of the party is assured."

The meeting then adjourned without transacting further business, out of respect to the memory of the late Premier.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

The "Empress of India" Completes a Rough and Uneventful Passage From the Orient.

The R.M.S. Empress of India, O. P. Marshall, R.N.R., commander, arrived here yesterday with a full cargo of silk and tea from Hongkong and Yokohama. She had a rough trip across, but luckily the watery mountains were rolling with instead of against her, and the damage done by the storm was not very considerable. The crew did not fare so well as did the ship, for two of the sailors during the run over had limbs fractured and bodies bruised by being dashed by the blow against the houses on deck. The passengers to Victoria included Mr. A. B. de Guerville, the New York Herald's war correspondent, who after witnessing the storming of Port Arthur is now returning to New York; he has as a traveling companion a clever and affable little Chinese dog, whose owner was one of the Chinese crew who was at Port Arthur. The faithful little animal would have shared the master's fate had not Mr. de Guerville intervened for it. Mr. A. J. H. Carill, of the well known shipping firm of Carill, Carill & Co., has come over on the Empress, and will spend a few days in Victoria. Mr. A. H. Lobb, who also comes from Hongkong, is to assume the position of naval storekeeper at Esquimalt, vacated by the resignation of Mr. J. E. Miller. He will enter upon his duties at once. Mr. M. Biggally, Mr. Quackenbush and Mr. Flood are prominent tea merchants travelling for trade as well as pleasure. The other names appearing on the passenger list are: Miss Cartwright, Mr. and Mrs. Davis and family, Captain Dewar, Miss C. A. Downey, Mr. T. W. Duff, Mrs. Gregory and children, Rev. W. K. Hoy, Miss Howe, Mr. Charles Schlegel, Mr. E. R. Smith, Mr. Stevens, Miss C. Sullivan, Miss S. Sullivan and Mr. and Mrs. Tait and family.

A sensation was caused by the return of Pilot Eberhardsen's small boat, bottom up, to Vancouver on Monday. When leaving that port with the Ladstock in charge on Monday the pilot, as usual, took with him his small boat in case it was to return. The boat's condition when found and the fact of his non-arrival it made his friends very uneasy until they received a telegram from Port Townsend stating that the boat broke adrift and that Pilot Eberhardsen had gone on to Townsend.

Steamer Ewing arrived in last night heavily laden with produce from Dunsmuir. Included in the cargo were sixty fine Christmas turkeys, purchased by H. Lipsett for the Victoria market.

Steamer Capilano arrived at Vancouver from the Northern halibut fishing grounds Monday night with 7,000 pounds of fish.

THE CITY.

On Friday evening a children's social and Christmas entertainment will be given in the Baptist Mission church, Tennyson road. A specially fine programme is being prepared for the event.

There will be an entertainment and Christmas tree in the James Bay Methodist Sunday school Friday evening. A good programme has been provided, and there will be solos and recitations by the scholars.

The Teachers' Institute met yesterday afternoon, and elect officers as follows: President, Mr. E. V. Paul; vice-president, Miss Lawson; secretary, Mr. D. Ross; executive, Miss A. D. Cameron, Miss Harrison and Messrs. Tait and Muir.

The Presbytery of Victoria meets at the General Presbyterian church, James Bay, for the induction of the Rev. P. McLeod this evening at 7:30 p.m. Rev. T. H. Rogers is presiding, Rev. J. Macdonald is preaching, Rev. Dr. Campbell is addressing the minister, and Rev. Dr. MacRae to address the congregation.

HERBY SLADE, who was committed by the police magistrate for assaulting James North with attempt to rob him on the O.H. instant, yesterday, the Colonial Metropole, came up for speedy trial yesterday before Mr. Justice Walker. Slade pleaded guilty, but the evidence was too strong and he was given six months in jail with hard labor. Mr. Daub appeared for the Crown.

It is the stubborn witness in the Lem Van robbery case, was again in the witness box yesterday. He told his story all right this time, at least his version of it, and swore to it on the blood of an unfortunate chicken which was slaughtered on the court steps in front of the majesty of the law and a few amused onlookers. The case was then removed for a week and an information charging Ying Yok with receiving the stolen money was laid. Yok and Yem are locked up till the case comes up again.

Mrs. SAUNDERS' restaurant was where the members of the Northern Light football team O.E. gathered for their full strength of sixty or more and were banqueted last evening by the Companions of the Forest. The boys were marshalled from their lodgings by a fine spread they received in a room adjoining the restaurant and there held a general jollification, recitations and songs being the order of the evening. Master J. Cohen made the speech of the occasion very creditably. Mr. E. J. Salmon and other officers of the senior lodge were present.

THOSE of the Chinese gamblers rounded up on Monday night who decided to plead guilty when arraigned in the police court yesterday, were fined \$20 or 30, or 40, or 50, or 60, or 70, or 80, or 90, or 100, or 110, or 120, or 130, or 140, or 150, or 160, or 170, or 180, or 190, or 200, or 210, or 220, or 230, or 240, or 250, or 260, or 270, or 280, or 290, or 300, or 310, or 320, or 330, or 340, or 350, or 360, or 370, or 380, or 390, or 400, or 410, or 420, or 430, or 440, or 450, or 460, or 470, or 480, or 490, or 500, or 510, or 520, or 530, or 540, or 550, or 560, or 570, or 580, or 590, or 600, or 610, or 620, or 630, or 640, or 650, or 660, or 670, or 680, or 690, or 700, or 710, or 720, or 730, or 740, or 750, or 760, or 770, or 780, or 790, or 800, or 810, or 820, or 830, or 840, or 850, or 860, or 870, or 880, or 890, or 900, or 910, or 920, or 930, or 940, or 950, or 960, or 970, or 980, or 990, or 1000, or 1010, or 1020, or 1030, or 1040, or 1050, or 1060, or 1070, or 1080, or 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