

June 3, 1872

employed at Quebec, it would be known by hon. gentlemen who sat in the last Parliament of Canada, and up to the present time, that objection had been taken to the votes for the water police at Quebec and Montreal, and the force had been considerably reduced; but upon representation from Quebec, the Minister of Marine (Hon. Senator Mitchell) had authorized that the force be increased to thirty men.

The subject was then dropped.

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### BRIDGES

**Hon. Mr. LANGEVIN** introduced a bill respecting bridges, and explained that its object was to apply those clauses of the Railway Act respecting the inspection of bridges to public bridges not under the control of the Government.

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### DEATH OF HON. JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD

*[Editor's Note: The Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald (Cornwall) died on June 1, 1872, as did Robert MacFarlane, a Liberal Member from Perth South.]*

**Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Peel)** desired, before the orders of the day were called, to say a few words respecting the death of Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald (Cornwall). It was understood there would be no adjournment of the House upon the death of a member except he was a member of the Government, and one of the members who had been most prominent in getting that rule adopted was Mr. Macdonald himself. He did not intend to propose any departure from that rule, but he desired to mention to the House that he had sent a telegram to Mr. Brydges asking him if he could place a special train at the disposal of those members who wished to attend the funeral tomorrow which would enable them to return in time for the evening session.

He wished to know if the leader of the Government and the leader of the Opposition would agree not to bring up tomorrow afternoon any matters that would excite discussion. He hoped this suggestion would be agreed to, so as to allow members to pay a last tribute to a gentleman who had been in public life since 1840.

**Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD** was sure the Government would be ready to pay every respect in their power to the memory of Mr. John Sandfield Macdonald, as an old and respected member of the House, as a well known person in public affairs, and as a gentleman who had held a high position in the Provinces of Canada and in the Province of Ontario. He had no doubt that every hon. gentleman in the House would join cordially in a tribute of respect to his memory. It was rather a strange coincidence that Mr. Macdonald himself should have been one to move the abolition of the custom of adjourning at the death of a member. That rule having been established he thought it wise to adhere to it, and when special

circumstances arise and the House felt it its duty to pay respect, they could adopt some other course than that of adjournment. The Government would willingly concur in the suggestion of his hon. friend.

He would take the opportunity of expressing for himself the deep and sincere regret that he felt at the loss the House had sustained. Although Mr. Macdonald for the major part of his life had been opposed to him (Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald), he would heartily accord to his lamented friend and his memory the tribute that he was sincerely attached to his country and its best interest. He was heart and soul a Canadian. Whatever might have been his course with his party or by his party, still he was actuated by a desire to promote the best interests of Canada. All who had known him for the many years he had been in Parliament would concur in that opinion. He regretted exceedingly that the necessities of public business would prevent his proceeding to Cornwall and having the melancholy pleasure of paying his last respects.

**Hon. Mr. CHAUVEAU** wished to add his tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Macdonald. He regretted that so stringent a rule had been adopted as prevented the House from adjourning.

**Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE** was sure that every one on his side of the House would do anything which they could mutually do in honour to the memory of the departed statesman. The Hon. Mr. Macdonald had long been his personal friend, and though on political grounds they had of late years differed, that difference never extended beyond political matters, and nothing would give him more pleasure than if possible to get away, in order to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory.

All knew that, whatever might have been his political course, he was, as the Minister of Justice (Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald) had said, at heart and soul a Canadian, and as such it would give the utmost gratification to every one to do anything that would show to his relatives and to the country that they appreciated the position he held in the country without regard to party. He suggested that the estimates should be taken up on the afternoon of the following day, and any disputed items passed over.

**Hon. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD** said the course suggested was quite satisfactory.

**Hon. Mr. DORION** was glad to hear expressions of such marked respect towards one in whom they all had the highest confidence. He for one intended to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory, and he thought few had deserved so well a mark of respect from those who had known him.

**Hon. Mr. BLAKE** was very glad arrangements had been made to allow a great many to pay the last mark of respect to the memory of the departed gentleman. During the short course of his (Hon. Mr. Blake's) political life he had been in opposition, and speaking from that point of view, he rejoiced to hear the statements expressed from both sides of the House as to the manner of regarding political