

# The Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXVII.

JUNE 16, 1891.

No. II.

THE Right Honorable Sir John Alexander Macdonald, Q.C., D.C.L., LL.D., K.C.M.G., G.C.B., a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council, sometime Minister of Justice, and for thirty-four years the first Minister of the Crown in Canada, died at Ottawa on Saturday, June 6th.

So heartfelt, spontaneous and full have been the countless tributes to his memory from all parts of the British Empire and elsewhere, that there would seem to be nothing left for us to do but record the sad loss Canada has sustained in the death of the greatest of her sons.

A learned lawyer, with a ready mind and retentive memory, deeply versed in constitutional law; a far-seeing and wise statesman; genial and large-hearted, whom to know was to love; with a knowledge of human nature to a degree surpassed by no man of his time; capable of inspiring the confidence and affection of all classes; with an attractive power, irresistible though unexplainable, and, in that respect alone, not merely wielding an immense influence over his own political supporters, but often disarming his opponents; with no selfish aim, save the ambition to be a leader among men, which, *facile princeps*, he was; not without his faults and failings (for none are perfect, and the supposed exigencies of party politics may have left some blots on the page), but a man who would have been a great man in any part of the Empire; above all, to be remembered as one who passionately loved his country, with unswerving faith in the destiny of Canada, devoting his life and powers to what he considered her best interests—living and dying in harness, and in her service—such was the man who was on Thursday, June 11th, laid to rest at the old city of Kingston, amid the sorrow, not merely of his own land, but of all parts of the Empire, and of his Queen, whose loyal subject he ever was.

Great as is the loss the Dominion has sustained, it would be a poor tribute to his memory for us to call his loss irreparable, for *he* believed in the Canada whose future he so largely moulded, and she has still many sons who love her well. May it be that those who shall succeed him will work as faithfully and loyally for her welfare as he has done.

In a humorous yet pertinent letter to the *London Times*, Mr. Inderwick suggests that the judges of the Divorce Division, in cases in which it seems to them just and reasonable to do so, be empowered to disregard the restraint on anticipation by which dishonest women are enabled to avoid satisfying their just debts. Experience shows that this is the purpose for which the restraint on anticipation