

opposition to the Manitoba Remedial School Bill, by which Sir Charles Tupper's Government sought to coerce Manitoba into the restoration of separate schools. Mr. O'Brien and Mr. McCarthy were read out of the party by the Conservative leader, thus depriving him of his two most independent followers, and who were among the most useful members in the House.

Many notices of the late legislator have recently appeared in the public press. It seems fitting that some of these should be quoted, illustrating, as they do, the regard in which he was held by all shades of politics. It also seems more suitable that, owing to his close association with the personnel of this JOURNAL that the thoughts of others should be given rather than our own.

Of him the *Toronto News* said: "Independent, honest, public-spirited and of high integrity, he was as good a type of public man as ever sat in a Canadian Parliament."

The *Toronto Star*, referring to his death, said: "Col. O'Brien was a Canadian of a good type. Born in the forest of Simcoe he may be fairly classed with the pioneers, the men who loved Canada and had faith in Canada when it was small and obscure. In the House of Commons at Ottawa he won a reputation for genuine, sturdy independence. When he differed from his party he seemed to do so because he was constrained by his honesty or sense of fair play. He never became a popular hero, though he might have been one if he had chosen to advertise himself. His independence made him rather a lonely figure at Ottawa. Popular feeling against the Jesuit Estates Act was stronger than the Parliamentary vote would indicate. But Col. O'Brien never attempted to make capital out of the popular feeling. He voted with the thirteen because he thought it was right; and he would have cast his solitary vote against all the rest of the House with the same firmness and with the same modesty. He was an Imperial Federationist when the movement was regarded as a fad. He sought no prominence when the movement became popular. He was an early advocate of a British preference, to be effected by a reduction of the Canadian tariff, and although a Conservative he was not an ardent protectionist. But the important thing is not the nature of the views which he held, but the manner in which he held them; his civic courage and his strong sense of public duty, his unselfishness and his indifference to praise or blame."

The *Toronto Globe* said that "during his entire Parliamentary career of unceasing and strenuous party strife, he never lost