

*THE IRISH LORD CHANCELLORSHIP.*

Sir Edward Sullivan has been appointed to the office of Lord Chancellor of Ireland in succession to the Right Hon. Hugh Law, who died a few days ago. The Irish Chancellorship, it has been remarked, has been held by some famous men—men of the successful type. Of those who have had the custody of the great seal of Ireland since the Revolution, at least ten have founded families. Their representatives in the peerage of to-day are Lords Methuen, Normanby, Middleton, Roden, Lifford, Redesdale, Manners, Plunket, Stratheden and Campbell, and St. Leonards. The only two in the list who sat on the English woolsack—Lords Campbell and St. Leonards—succeeded each other as heads of the law in Ireland, though Sir Edward Sugden had been once Chancellor of Ireland before he took Campbell's place in 1841. Campbell's appointment has been spoken of as a "job" intended to give him a retiring pension of £4,000 a year: but it should not be forgotten that Campbell declined the pension.

The fame of the Irish Chancellor has been, as a rule, of a rather local kind. Lord Methuen, for instance, is known in history chiefly for his achievements as a diplomatist. He it was who negotiated the treaty with Portugal which bears his name, and which did more than anything else to make England for upwards of a century a port-drinking nation. John Fitzgibbon, Earl of Clare (Chancellor from 1789 to 1802), is also known on the English side of St. George's Channel. His last male descendant was killed at Balaklava. George Ponsonby (1806-7) became leader of the Whig party in the House of Commons on Lord Grey's ascension to the Upper House. He died in 1817. Thomas, Lord Manners (1807-27), had previously been a baron of the English Exchequer. Sir Anthony Hart (1827-30) had been Vice-Chancellor of England. Perhaps the greatest name in the list is that of the Irish Demosthenes, Lord Plunket, who was Chancellor from 1830 to 1834, and again in 1835 to 1841.

*THE LATE MR. EDWARD CARTER, Q.C.*

The bar of this Province has sustained a serious loss in the sudden but not altogether unexpected demise of Mr. Edward Carter, Q.C., who, like his late contemporaries, Messrs.

Andrew Robertson, Q.C., and T. W. Ritchie, Q.C., has died in harness. Mr. Carter was only 61 years of age, but nearly forty of those years were passed in the most active exercise of his calling. In both civil and criminal courts he was prized as a counsel ever vigilant over the interests of his clients, seldom or never allowing a point of vantage to escape him. In his arguments and addresses to juries he was rapid, almost voluble, but at the same time his delivery was agreeable and his reasoning acute and logical. He never failed to leave a clear impression upon the minds of his hearers of the points which he wished to urge. He was rather admired by his confrères at the criminal bar for the subtlety of his attacks upon indictments, and as a counsel for the defence was a terror to limping crown prosecutors. It would, however, be a great injustice to Mr. Carter to suppose that his abilities were restricted to ingenious defences. He was well read in all branches of the law, and as counsel for insurance and other corporations had a high repute. He would have adorned the bench, and the repose from the strenuous and exhausting contentions of the bar would probably have added ten years to his life. But it was not to be. Mr. Carter appeared in the Queen's Bench (Crown side) but a few days before his death, and argued with his usual energy and perspicacity, but his strength had long been undermined by chronic indisposition, and a brief illness, which a more robust constitution would have quickly shaken off, sufficed to carry him to the realm where contention is at an end.

In private life Mr. Carter was the courteous gentleman, and of a generous and sympathetic disposition. His only deviations from the hard line of professional work were his acceptance for a short time of the office of Clerk of the Peace in Montreal, and his subsequent representation of Montreal Centre in the Local Legislature. In 1871 he was defeated in a contest with the late Mr. Holton, but soon after he was elected by acclamation to the House of Commons for Brome, when the seat became vacant by the elevation to the Bench of the late Judge Dunkin. At the general election in 1872 he was re-elected and sat until 1874, when he did not again come forward.