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We regret to record the death of Chief Justice Davie of the Province of British Columbia. Having been born in March, 1852, he was in the prime of life, a young man for so high a position. It was thought that he had many years of usefulness before him, but he had been in bad health for some time, and the end was not entirely unexpected. Mr. Davie was called to the Bar in 1877. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1882, and in 1891 became Premier of British Columbia. He retired from politics in 1895, and succeeded Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of that province.

Sir Herbert Stephen, Barrister-at-Law and Clerk of Assize for the Northern Circuit in England, has recently written on the subject of Prisoners on oath, present and future. He argues strongly and well against the proposal that all prisoners should be allowed to give evidence on their own behalf. His contention is that, under the proposed system, a number of innocent persons will be convicted, and it is his opinion that even at present several innocent prisoners are annually convicted on the Northern Circuit alone, in consequence of giving evidence themselves. His views apparently coincide with those of Mr. E. F. B. Johnston, Q.C., who recently wrote an able article in these columns (33 C.L.J., p. 667) under the caption "The prisoner as a witness," and he lays it down as a general rule, subject of course to all just exceptions, that the accused should never be put in the witness box. These views expressed by two gentlemen so eminently qualified to give an opinion on this subject, one in England and one in Canada, must carry great weight.