

gret his absence. We have also lost another gentleman whom we all respected, the Hon. Mr. Villeneuve, from Montreal. He was a man, also, of strong views and hesitated not, when in health, to express them. He was a good business man in every sense of the word. He will also be missed. And the latest among us who has passed away was the hon. gentleman from Prince Edward Island (Mr. Prowse), who died suddenly in what might also be termed the vigour of health, about middle age, and one who was least expected to be called away to his long home. Those who knew him more intimately than I did, his political opponents as well as his political friends, speak of him in the highest possible terms. He might be a little brusque, as some of the rest of us are occasionally, in giving expression to his opinions, but a more honest straightforward man I do not think ever held a seat in the Senate of Canada, or in the legislature. I could not help, before addressing myself to the questions before the House, making this slight reference to those hon. gentlemen whom we all respected, who have passed from among us. In looking at this address I was a little amused at the remark made by the seconder, that there were a great many important questions referred to in the address which we are now considering. It strikes me—as I think it will most hon. gentlemen who have had any parliamentary experience—that the address is noted more for what it does not contain, than for what it does contain.

Hon. Mr. McCALLUM—Hear, hear.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—There are one or two important points in the address to which I shall call the attention of the House before closing, and there are some paragraphs in it which have my most cordial support, because they indicate on these points a policy similar to that which has characterized the present government since they have been in power, and that is, following in the footsteps of their predecessors. So long as they do that I doubt not, the country will continue to progress as it has done during the last few years. I might refer to some changes. Most of us will regret that the late Minister of Justice (Hon. Mr. Mills) has been removed from this House. He is a gentleman with whom I had the pleasure of sitting in the

House of Commons since Confederation, with the exception of a few months during his absence, and also during the time he occupied a seat in this chamber. I doubt not that he will fill the new position to which he is called—at least I hope so—with credit to himself, and benefit to the country. Whether my hon. friend who is sitting in front of me just now (Hon. Mr. Templeman) and occupies the seat of the late Minister of Justice, is to become the leader of the Senate on behalf of the government, we have not yet been informed. It has been reported, at least through the newspapers, that the hon. gentleman was to accept a seat in the government—he probably has from the position that he has taken; however, that has not been explained yet—and that he was to become the leader of the Senate. Whether that is true or not, the Secretary of State will be able to inform us. If it is not true, the Secretary of State will permit me, in all humility, to congratulate him upon the long struggle through which he has passed in attaining to the position which I thought six or seven years ago, when they came into power, he was entitled to. He occupied a seat as leader of the Opposition for seventeen or eighteen years. He was a vigorous opponent of the national policy, of the John A. Macdonald government, of the Sir John Abbott government, of the Sir John Thompson government, and of the government over which I presided for a short time, and I thought from the ability and fighting qualities he possessed at that time, that he would surely aspire—not only aspire, but occupy, probably he did aspire—to the position given to Sir Oliver Mowat. Then when the hon. gentleman (Sir Oliver Mowat) passed over to the gubernatorial chair of Ontario, I thought the hon. gentleman (Hon. Mr. Scott) would become master of the situation. But, oh no, another gentleman was put over his head. Whether my hon. friend from Victoria is to follow in their footsteps I cannot say, but we will know probably before the session closes. In the meantime, the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Mills to a position on the Supreme Court bench, is only another evidence of the flagrant violation of the principles laid down by the hon. Secretary of State and his colleagues when they were in opposition.