

voted, and I told him that by getting somebody to challenge him he could have it recorded in the *Hansard*, and that would be a sufficient reply to parties who might imagine that he had shirked the vote; and the pair was agreed to on those terms.

THE DEATH OF LIEUT.-COL. WILLIAMS.

Mr. CARON. It is with the deepest pain and sorrow that I have to-day to make an announcement to Parliament which I know will cause as much mourning and affliction among hon. members on both sides of the House as any announcement which has ever been made to Parliament, conveying the information of the death of one of the members of this House. Sir, I have to announce the death of Lieut.-Col. Arthur Williams, in command of the Midland Battalion. I can say that during all the troubles which are now very nearly ended in the North-West, Col. Williams has shown himself to be a brave and gallant officer, honoring his profession, and possessing those qualities which would make any arm of the service proud of possessing him as an officer. I can state, Sir, that it is only a few days ago that I received from him a despatch giving me minute details of the battle of Batoche. It will be remembered by every hon. gentleman that on that memorable occasion, which practically broke the backbone of the rebellion, Col. Arthur Williams was the hero of that day. At the head of his men he gallantly forced the rifle pits and made that charge which is one of the most brilliant actions of a campaign which has distinguished so many of our brave volunteers. He led the men on that day, and the result of that brilliant charge secured the success of the day, and the practical ending of the armed insurrection. In a despatch which was sent to me by the Major General, and which will be read with interest by the hon. members of this House, he mentioned the name of Lieut.-Col. Williams as being one of those who distinguished himself, and to whom was due the honors of that day. I can only tell you, Mr. Speaker, how shocked I was when I received the first sad tidings of his illness, and shortly afterwards of his death. The shock was greater still from the fact that from the recent despatches he had sent me I had little reason to suppose that in the very hour of victory, when he was on the eve of coming home to receive the honors to which he was entitled for having fought so valiantly the battles of his country, I had little reason to suppose that he would never return with his companions in arms to receive the congratulations of their grateful countrymen, and the admiration which every good citizen of Canada must feel for the brave volunteers. Sir, last night I received from the Major General, from the camp at Fort Pitt, the following telegram, dated July 5th:—

"I deeply regret to have to say that Col. Arthur Williams is dangerously suffering from inflammation of the brain. He is on board the *North-West* steamer, and the doctors say he must be left at Prince Albert.

"(Signed), FRDK. MIDDLETON,
"Major General."

Shortly afterwards I received the following telegram.—

"Steamer *Marquis*, *via* STRAUBENZIE, N. W. T.

"It is with the deepest regret that I have to say that Col. Williams is sinking, and that the doctors have little or no hopes. They now say that besides the affection of the brain, he has pneumonia and symptoms of typhoid fever. He has been quite unconscious since this morning.

"(Signed), FRDK. MIDDLETON,
"Major General."

This morning I received another telegram, stating that he was dead. Sir, I have spoken of him as a soldier. Those who know him as an intimate friend feel more deeply the loss which is suffered by a large circle of devoted friends. As a friend we always found him generous and true. I can speak of him as such, because it has been my privilege, ever

Mr. ORTON.

since I have been in Parliament, to count Lieut.-Col. Williams among my friends. We all remember his geniality and his unselfishness. Whenever it became a question of meeting the views of his friends he was always ready to make the sacrifice of his own personal feelings. He was one of those whose loss will always be remembered. As a public man, he has always been true to the party to which he belonged, and those whose privilege it has been to act with him in politics know how true he has always been to the principles which he considered best, and to the leaders whom he loved and followed so faithfully. I only regret that, on this occasion, some one who would, better than myself, have spoken of the qualities and virtues of the man whose loss we deeply regret, should not have been entrusted with the task which it has been my duty to fulfil to-day.

Mr. BLAKE. I am sure we all heartily concur in the observations just made, expressive of the deep regret with which both sides of the House have heard, as we did hear some hours ago, the sad news, and which has now been officially communicated to us. The friend whom we have lost was, as the hon. gentleman has said, well known to all of us. He had been for many years in Parliament, and his unswerving fidelity to his party was entirely consistent with the exhibition of kindness and most friendly feeling towards those of his colleagues who did not share his political views, and in the discharge of the not unimportant duties which he performed on behalf of his party, we always had to recognise the courtesy and kindness with which he met the views of hon. gentlemen on this side, and he exhibited, in the delicate arrangements which have to be made, that sense of high honor which was a peculiar characteristic of him. For myself, I speak with unfeigned personal sorrow, when I recollect the loss which we have sustained. Col. Williams was an old schoolfellow of mine; he was an old and attached personal friend of mine; he was my colleague in the representation of the county of Durham. We met first in political life in the Local Legislature, to which he was elected a short time after my own election; and we have met since that time for many years, never harmonising, unfortunately, in our political views, but maintaining uninterruptedly our personal friendship. We know his devotion to military duties. He was no holiday soldier, but he exhibited for many years an earnest devotion and an intelligent interest in that important branch of the public service; and I know for myself how eager he had been, if it were at all possible, to exhibit his devotion to the cause of the Empire in the Egyptian campaign, and how anxious he was and how rejoiced he was when the prospect opened of serving his country in the campaign which is now ended. I know for myself of those anxieties, and it strikes one painfully to remember how cheerfully and joyfully he went out; how warmly he shook our hands with that hand which is now cold in death. I regret the event the more because of the incidents to which the hon. gentleman has referred, because of the brilliant part which, from all accounts we have received, our late friend played in the battle of Batoche; and we can only say of him that, though it was not his fortune to fall in that struggle, yet he none the less fairly *mort sur le champ d'honneur*.

FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS.

Mr. VAILL. May I ask the First Minister when he will lay on the Table further papers in connection with the fisheries matter. We are drawing very near the close of the Session, and it is very important we should obtain them as soon as possible. I may, at the same time, ask the First Minister if his attention has been drawn to a paragraph which appeared in the papers on Saturday, with respect to some order passed at Washington relating to goods passing free through Canada. Will the hon. gentleman state what