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Death of Mr. Richard Wilson-Smith.

MR. RICHARD WILSON-SMITH, proprietor of "The Chronicle", died yesterday afternoon at his summer home at Ste. Agathe.

Mr. Wilson-Smith had filled a prominent place in the business and public life of Montreal. By his great financial ability and eminent common sense, and by his wide and varied experience in financial and business matters, he was naturally indicated for high responsibilities in the business world. His loyalty and public spirit compelled him to take an active part in every movement for the welfare of Canada, and especially of Montreal, and for the honour and prosperity of the Empire. His warm heart, his benevolent disposition, his keen human sympathy, as well as his deep religious instinct, impelled him to devote himself unstintedly to the improvement of the condition of his fellow-men. His earnest devotion to his own church, the Church of England, made him all the more appreciative, rather than tolerant, of other people's sincere religious convictions.

The mere list of principal offices he filled or had filled is enough to show the vast and varied scope of his ability and to explain the constant demand for his services in connection with matters of public interest. No man ever rendered Montreal more efficient service as chief magistrate than did Mr. Wilson-Smith when he occupied the mayor's chair. He was or had been president or director of many of the leading business corporations, including the Lachine Rapids Hydraulic and Land Company, the Montreal Water and Power Company, the Abbey Salt Company, the Canada Accident Company, the Guardian Assurance Company, the Montreal Trust and Deposit Company, the National Security Company of New York, and the American Surety Company. He served for some years as a member of the Board of Protestant

School Commissioners of Montreal, was a governor of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, and a Trustee of the University of Bishops College, Lennoxville. He was a warden of St. George's Church and a member of the synod of the Anglican diocese of Montreal, president of the Montreal Horticultural Society, a governor of the Protestant Hospital for the Insane at Verdun, and of the General, the Western and the Notre Dame Hospitals, and honorary president of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society. Mr. Wilson-Smith was also honorary lieutenant-colonel of the 2nd Regiment Canadian Artillery and took a very active and beneficent interest in the regiment.

Many public institutions will miss his guiding hand or wise counsels. Many of the poor will be the poorer for his loss. A great number of personal friends will miss his sympathy and encouragement. Widely esteemed by his fellow citizens, there was an inner circle of personal friends to whom his death means a great personal bereavement. The best indication of the sincerity and heart-felt sympathy of the man is that those who knew him best loved him best. Taking their inspiration from his own example of faith and hope in the hours of greatest trial, and even in the presence of the last enemy, those whose loss is the greatest, will emulate his manly courage and Christian submission. In the language of Wordsworth they will, as far as in them lies:

"grieve not; rather find
Strength in what remains behind.
In the primal sympathy,
Which having been must ever be;
In the soothing thoughts that spring
Out of human suffering;
In the faith that looks through death;
In years that bring the philosophic mind."