

tomed rule on such occasions, adjourned, as a mark of respect to his memory, and many members proceeded to Montreal to attend the obsequies. The funeral was one of the largest ever witnessed in Montreal, and a general feeling of gloom pervaded the city on the solemn occasion, which bore eloquent tribute to the esteem and affection in which the departed statesman was held by his fellow-citizens. The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers:—Sir A. A. Dorion, Chief Justice of Quebec, Hon. A. Mackenzie, M.P., Hon. E. Blake, Q.C., M.P., Hon. L. S. Huntington, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Thos. Workman, ex-M.P., Mr. Thos. Cramp, Sir A. T. Galt, G.C.M.G., Sir Francis Hincks, K.C.M.G., C.B. The following estimate of Mr. Holton's character, taken from the *London Free Press*, seems apposite and just:

" * * * * * On the accession of Mr. Mackenzie and his friends to power in 1873, it was generally expected that Mr. Holton would assume in some manner the responsibilities of office, but he did not do so. Whether from disinclination to take upon himself what might be open to him, but not in accordance with his desires and habit, or for other reasons, he remained foremost in the foremost ranks of the private members who supported Mr. Mackenzie's Government, and faithfully and effectually fought their battles upon his own lines of action with a true loyalty, sometimes perhaps with personal opinions not wholly in accord with the course of the responsible leaders. His constant attention to the work of the House and its routine, which never escaped him; his infrequent absence, and his accessibility and readiness at all times to advise upon the questions which were his speciality, were remarkable. He seldom addressed the House at much length, but his brief speeches always commanded respectful attention, even in the midst of the highest excitement, and he had the command of a terse, incisive, vigorous and invariably accurate style—the result of much culture and extensive reading of the best English authors—which was enunciated in clear, deep, sonorous, well-modulated accents. His accurate and retentive memory enabled him to speak with an authority that was generally acknowledged on both sides of the House. He had logical powers of a high

order, which served him in applying general principles to special cases, and seldom misled him; and he always exercised a powerful, and on the whole, a restraining and conservative influence in the general legislation of the country, and the measures of his party. Notwithstanding the tenacity and inflexibility with which he advocated, in theory, certain political principles which were radical in tendency, his persuasions in that direction were rather those of sentiment and sympathy than of practical application; for he was at the bottom of strong conservative tendencies, which he evinced throughout his Parliamentary life, in all legislation affecting private rights. He entertained his principles and advocated them without a trace of bitterness, and in private life his relations with gentlemen who were not in accord with his party were always courteous and kind, and in many cases cordial and intimate.

Whatever he may have been in the earlier portions of his career, in later years his habits of mind and thought were rather judicial than controversial, and a wide and accurate knowledge of the procedure of the House, its precedents, and rules of order, gave him a recognized authority which greatly strengthened the hands of those with whom he acted, and was very seldom at fault. His range of general reading was extensive, especially of that which bore upon the great struggle for Parliamentary liberty which agitated England during the greater part of the 17th and 18th centuries. His mind was cast in a mould that put him in strong accord with the men who were the leaders of the Parliamentary party during the stormy years that closely preceded and immediately followed the overthrow of the Monarchy under Charles the First; and his conversation exhibited a close and thoughtful study of the causes and consequences of that momentous event. His genial temper and disposition made him in his hours of social intercourse and friendly relaxation a delightful and instructive companion. His loss to his party, now struggling in opposition, is truly irreparable. The loss of a ripe and wise and fair-minded adviser in Parliament is a most serious one to the whole House and the country. He will be long and sincerely mourned by hosts of friends, and it may be doubted if he had a political or personal enemy. Few men have been suddenly called upon to close their public or private record who had fewer pages that they might have wished to blot out than Luther Hamilton Holton."