

no man can deny to him the most intense and sincere desire to carry out and administer the affairs of that great territory with which he was charged with the most thorough impartiality, and with one view, namely, to protect the public interest and promote the settlement and development of the country, and I really believe that the strain which then came upon him, the necessity he felt that all the duties of the office should be thoroughly and properly fulfilled, laid the foundation of the illness to which after many years he has at last succumbed. Few persons could know Sir David intimately without being exceedingly impressed with his sound judgment and the care and deliberation with which he approached any subject before arriving at a decision. In him the country has lost one of her soundest advisers, and this House one of the most useful members, to whose opinions we all looked up with respect. The Premier has alluded to Sir David's affection for his country. There is no doubt that Sir David's engrossing idea, his strong wish, was to return to Canada while he yet lived. It was not given to him to have this wish fulfilled or see these shores again. On the voyage he passed away in peace to another home—a better one than this—but I am quite sure that his memory will always be held in this country in the greatest respect as an upright and pure statesman, who had thoroughly the welfare and the interests of his country at heart.

Hon. Mr. MACINNES (Burlington).—I cannot refrain from saying a few words to express my sympathy and sorrow on the death of Sir David Macpherson. It was my good fortune to have the advantage of his friendship for many years. The honourable senators who have preceded me have left but little for me to add. All that I can say is this: that I cordially endorse every word that has been said. He has left behind him a stainless name and a high example to those who come after him.

Hon. Mr. CLEWOW—I hope it may not be considered presumptuous on my part to say a few words respecting Sir David Macpherson. I probably knew him longer than any other man in this Chamber. When he came to this country he was first employed as a clerk with myself in the large forwarding establishment of Macpherson, Crane & Co.

By his perseverance he became a partner in that concern and managed the business until misfortune overtook the concern by the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway. Then he went into railway construction. I may say, from personal knowledge of Sir David, that he was a man who was eminently qualified to perform any duties which he undertook. As you all know, the firm of Crane and Company at one time did a very large business, which Sir David managed to the entire satisfaction of the members of the firm and the country at large. I know it was with great reluctance that he was obliged to abandon the operations of the forwarding company to enter into the construction of the road of which you have heard so much. His disposition was, as has been described by the hon. member from Richmond, genial in every way. He had the confidence of his employers and the success of the undertaking of that great firm to a great extent was due to the manner in which he discharged his duties as a junior partner. Being, as I said before, a clerk with him for many years, I knew him intimately, travelling with him from one end of the country to the other in the winter season, and I had a personal knowledge of his character and his business qualifications.

Hon. Mr. POWER—It has been customary on occasions like this that the House should content itself with hearing from the leader of the House and the leader of the Opposition; but that practice has been departed from on the present occasion, and I think with propriety; and as it has been departed from, perhaps the House will pardon me if I add a few words to what has been said. When I came into the Senate in 1877, there were hardly any more conspicuous figures in this House than the two Senators whose death we now deplore. The Hon. Robert Read, generally known as the hon. gentleman from Quinté, sat where the hon. member from Calgary sits now. His voice was a very sonorous one, and was heard very distinctly and to very great purpose in this chamber. Hon. gentlemen who knew Mr. Read only during the last few years can form no conception of his vigour and energy in early days. The hon. gentleman claimed—and I believe with a good deal of foundation—to be the man who initiated the National Policy in this country; he was the first, at any rate, to bring that