

Sir John Macdonald. But when a man is struck down, when he has hardly reached the summit of middle life, when he has attained the full measure of his power, when his friends and his country could look to him for years of useful work, then, Sir, death carries with it a sense of inexpressible bitterness. Such was the death of Sir John Thompson. In that respect it is, perhaps, one of the saddest, perhaps altogether the saddest that our history records. In other respects I look upon it as one of the most glorious. This Canadian Minister, this colonial statesman died under the roof of the old Norman Kings, when he had just been sworn in as a member of the Privy Council of that mighty Empire, of which the old Norman kings laid the foundation, but which has reached dimensions which their wildest dreams of imagination never, I am sure, contemplated. Perhaps it is that such a death, under such circumstances, sad as it be, may be looked upon as a sacred consecration of the majestic principle of the unity of the Empire; unity, not only of land and water, unity not only of islands and continents, but a unity of all the creeds and races embraced in that mighty Empire, giving to all while preserving their individuality, a common aim, and a common aspiration, and teaching to all the salutary lesson of tolerance and mutual forbearance. If the death of Sir John Thompson were to result in such a lesson being learned by the Canadian people, I am sure we must all agree that glorious indeed would be his death, and I am sure that for all ages, his name would be surrounded with a halo of imperishable fame."

In the course of the same debate, the Minister of Finance,

HON. GEO. E. FOSTER,

said:

Now, Sir, I have but one word more to say, and I commence that by thanking my Honourable friend for his allusions to our late lamented leader, Sir John Thompson. So hearty and so eloquent a tribute as he paid to Sir John Thompson's memory shows us, and shows us in a most pleasing manner, that whatever may be the bitterness of party and political life, whatever may be the strifes between different camps and on different sides of political questions, there is yet deep in the heart of Canadians this feeling that ever and anon there arise amongst us on one side or the other men who do not belong entirely to any party, but