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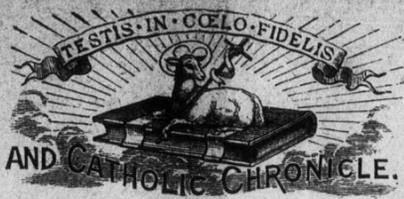
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The True



Witness

Vol. LVI., No. 13

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 21, 1907

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Death of Sir William Hingston.

The Distinguished Physician, Businessman and Philanthropist.

Montreal Mourns Its Great Loss.

The city of Montreal was thrown into profound grief on Tuesday morning, when, like a thunderbolt from a cloudless sky, came the announcement that Sir William Hingston had suddenly passed to his eternal reward.

All Montreal grieves at his loss. Every shade of religious belief; every nationality, deeply mourns its great loss. Dr. Hingston was the friend of all humanity.

In all circles, in the courts, among business men, in the medical profession, at the hospitals where he had been wont for many years to carry on his useful and Christian work, there was grief, heartfelt and bitter, at the sudden calling away of the man who has left his mark so deeply on people and affairs in Montreal.

Despite Sir William's advanced age, his erect bearing, his active walk, his continual freshness, led those who knew him to think of him ever as younger than he was. The suddenness of his demise made the shock a painful one to the many friends who looked to see the great physician live for many years to come.

His friends realized that he was breathing in a more than usually heavy and abnormal manner. Efforts were made to arouse him, but without avail.

Medical aid was at once summoned and he was conveyed to his home, where his son, Dr. Donald Hingston, and several other physicians did all in their power to revive consciousness. Sir William still continued to sleep peacefully, however, until half-past nine, when he passed quietly away.

On Sunday Sir William attended High Mass at St. James Cathedral as usual, with Lady Hingston, and afterwards called at the Jesuits' College to see his son, who is in holy orders there. At dinner he was observed to be drowsy, and at one time fell asleep, although the circumstance did not alarm his friends.

Acute indigestion is ascribed as being the cause of his death.

SIR WILLIAM'S GREAT RECORD.

"Everyone concedes Sir William Hingston the first rank of the pro-

the mother's side, to the old family of the Careys. When the number of regiments was reduced after the close of the last American war (1812-14) the 100th became the 99th, and was only disbanded several years afterwards, when Colonel Hingston selected a pretty spot on the banks of the Chateauguay river, near Huntingdon. There he organized a militia force. Lord Dalhousie giving him command of the county of Huntingdon, and subsequently, Sir James Kempt, of the county of Beauharnois. The wounds he had received in action, however, especially one through the groin, at the battle of Chippewa, which had lamed him, terminated his life early, when the subject of this notice—one of six children—was only 18 months old.

William Hales Hingston was born near Huntingdon, January 29, 1829. He was educated at the Montreal College, entering McGill University and taking courses in arts and medicine, completing his university career at Edinburgh, where he received his diploma as surgeon. He returned to Montreal and in 1853

McGill University. He graduated at the end of four years, and immediately left for Edinburgh to obtain the surgeon's diploma of that university. While practicing the most rigid economy he succeeded in visiting England and Ireland also, as well as Europe, spending the greater part of his time in the hospitals, and bringing back with him diplomas from Scotland, France, Prussia, Austria and Bavaria. One, the membership of Leopold Academy, purely honorary, and given only to authors, was the first ever obtained by a Canadian, Sir William Logan and T. Sterry Hunt being the next recipients of the honor. He had almost made up his mind to settle in Edinburgh, as assistant to Prof. Simpson, but yielding to the well understood wishes of his mother, and returned to Canada.

As stated, Dr. Hingston began the practice of his profession in the city of Montreal, in 1853, taking up his residence in McGill street. His urbanity of manner, his punctuality, promptitude, strictest attention to the minutest details of his profession, and his uniform kindness and gentleness of disposition towards all with his generosity to the suffering poor, soon won for him the good will of those with whom he came in contact, and secured for him a rapidly extending practice. Cholera visited the city in 1854, and was most severely prevalent in Griffintown. Dr. Hingston was the nearest physician to that locality, and he won the love of all by the devoted way in which, at the peril of his own life, he ministered to the relief of the afflicted.

A few years afterwards he moved into a house of his own, in Bonaventure street. Afterwards he removed to Beaver Hall, where he resided until 1872, when he purchased a residence, the corner of Union avenue and St. Catherine street. His house, and the block in which it was, have since been pulled down to make room for Morgan's Colonial House block. The doctor then removed to Sherbrooke street, where he continued to reside until the time of his death.

AT THE HEAD OF PROFESSION.

Dr. Hingston occupied for many years a most prominent position in Montreal, as the leading member of his profession—especially in surgery—"his first love," as the Canada Medical Journal states; and had at the time of his death, besides a large city practice, one of the largest consulting practices in Canada, calling him frequently to visit outlying towns and cities, and, not infrequently, the neighboring states.

Soon after beginning practice, Dr. Hingston received unsolicited the appointment of surgeon to the English-speaking department of the Hotel Dieu Hospital, and was unremitting in his attendance upon the suffering inmates of that institution, up to the very end. There he had one of the largest fields in this country for the exercise of his calling, and had acquired a dexterity and precision in operating which was unusual. Many of the more difficult and hazardous operations in surgery have been there introduced by him, to the profession of Canada, such, for instance, as excision of the knee-joint, acquired deformity, and the successful removal of the tongue and lower jaw at the same time.

Even when attached to no medical school, Dr. Hingston availed himself largely of the material at his disposal in the hospitals for practically instructing the medical students who attended it. Every day for many years, clinical instruction was given—the doctor receiving no pecuniary reward therefrom. But as the young gentlemen whom he instructed graduated, and scattered themselves over the country, they gave many evidences of their gratitude to and confidence in their generous instructor, and largely aided in building up his reputation.

Again visiting Europe in 1867, one of his masters, Professor (afterwards Sir James) Simpson, paid a high tribute to Canadian surgery in the person of Dr. Hingston, by inviting him to perform a surgical operation of difficulty on one of his (Sir James') patients; and on speaking of him a few weeks afterwards, in a British medical journal of the time, Sir James styles him "that distinguished American surgeon, lately amongst us." He should have said Canadian, but to this day in the eyes of many of the Old Com-

Abbey's Effervescent Salt

A few kind words from The Sisters of Misericorde.

"Having made use of Abbey's Salt for some time in our Hospital, we are pleased to say that it is a very good medicine in cases of indigestion."

ALL DRUGGISTS, 25 and 60c. BOTTLE.

people, although the generic term American with them is applied to the United States, Canadians are classed with their republican neighbors.

As a graduate of McGill University he was one of a few gentlemen to organize the McGill University Society, and to educate and secure the appointment, from among the graduates of Convocation, Fellows of the University. The late honorable Alexander Morris, Mr. Brown Chamberlain, and himself were the first office-bearers in the McGill University Society, a society founded chiefly for the purpose named, but he alone, it is understood, never occupied that position in the University he was instrumental in obtaining for his fellow-graduates.

PROFESSOR IN BISHOP'S COLLEGE.

When Bishop's College Medical school was organized by the late Dr. Smallwood and Dr. David, Dr. Hingston was named professor of surgery, and afterwards Dean of the Faculty, both of which, however, he was forced to resign, as the duties were incompatible with his position at the hospital. He received the degree of D.C.L. from the University of Lennoxville in 1871.

When the Dominion Medical Association was formed, Dr. Hingston was appointed for its secretary for the province of Quebec; and later he was unanimously elected representative of the profession for the same province.

During his connection with the association, he contributed several papers on medical subjects. He was unanimously elected Governor of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Lower Canada, in the place of the late Dr. Smallwood.

One of the founders of the Medical-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, he several times held the position of vice-president and of president, no small honor in a city where the profession stands so high, and a fair indication, it may be presumed, of the estimation with which he was held by his professional brethren; while the unanimity with which he was called upon to accept and apparently with great reluctance on his part, the civic chair, by the members of his own profession as well as by the public at large was the best testimony that could be given of the esteem in which he was held by all classes and conditions of the community. The boldness and frankness of the inaugural address of the new mayor was of a character to call forth the warmest encomiums; indeed, it was spoken of as equalling Gladstone's efforts in clothing the driest material in poetic language.

DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP.

Notwithstanding the demands of such a busy professional life, he found time to devote to other duties of citizenship. He was formerly president of the City Passenger Railway Company, and has long been a director, and at the time of his death was president of the Montreal City and District Savings Bank. He was also a director of the Montreal Trust and Deposit Co. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Montreal Centre in a by-election of 1895 for the House of Commons, being defeated by Hon. James McShane. The following year he was called to the Senate of Canada, and was appointed a member of the Ottawa Improvement Commission in 1902. In politics he was a Liberal-Conservative.

Sir William Hingston is survived by his wife, Lady Hingston, one daughter, Miss Eileen, and four sons. The eldest son is at present studying for the priesthood; the second is Dr. Donald Hingston, of the Hotel Dieu; while the third, Mr. Basil, is with the firm of W. P. O'Brien & Co., stock brokers. The youngest is a student at Laval.

ARCHBISHOP BRUCHESI'S TRIBUTE.

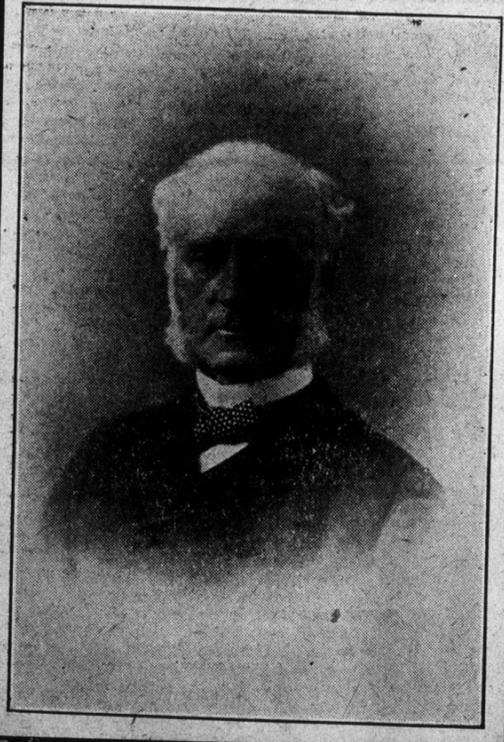
"It is only a few days ago that I saw him and spoke with him," said Archbishop Bruchesi, "and he seemed to be in good health and spirits. I never was more shocked than to hear of his death. It means to me the loss of a dear personal friend whom I had known almost from my childhood. To the Church in this city it means the loss of one of the most devoted of her children; and the whole population of Montreal have to regret the death of a leading citizen, a brilliant and successful worker in his chosen profession, and a man of simply boundless charity.

"He will be a great loss to Laval University," said the Archbishop, "for he was not only one of its founders and great promoters, as well as its most distinguished teacher of medicine, but he was a powerful influence for good in the institution by his example and by the aid and encouragement he gave the students. At the Hotel Dieu, where he had been an attendant physician for half a century, he was little less than revered. His services to that institution are simply incalculable."

Sir William Hingston, though a member of St. Patrick's parish, was a regular attendant at St. James Cathedral, and Archbishop Bruchesi said that it was his practice when engaged in a very serious operation to pay a visit to the church and spend some time in prayer before undertaking it.

"I have myself frequently noticed him do it," said His Grace, "and he was in this respect, as in so many others, a model for the faithful. His charity, too, was as warm as his faith, and there are hundreds of poor people on whom he expended the best of his skill without ever taking a cent in payment. I myself have sent many to him and he always treated them with the same kindness and attention as the most wealthy people with whom he came in contact."

(Continued on Page 8)



THE LATE SIR WILLIAM HINGSTON.

DEATH CAME SUDDENLY.

Death occurred at half-past nine Tuesday morning at the residence, 460 Sherbrooke street west. Although taken slightly ill after dinner on Sunday, death was by no means considered near, and the end came as a most sudden and unexpected shock to all.

Monday morning Sir William was up and about as usual and lunched with a party of friends at the Mount Royal Club in the middle of the day. It was noticed that, although he endeavored to retain his usual pleasant and interesting exterior demeanor during the meal, there was something amiss. He did not complain of any illness nor pain, but seemed to find it hard to keep awake. After luncheon, in the smoking-room, he dozed off, and it was not until some time had passed that

session he has so long and faithfully followed," said the New York Medical Record. The praise was worthily deserved and a true expression of the high esteem and respect in which was held this great medical figure.

Sir William Hingston was Mayor of Montreal in 1875 and 1876, at a time when grave troubles menaced the welfare of the community. For the coolness and calm judgment exhibited during these trying times, he received the most hearty thanks of Lord Dufferin, who was at that time Governor-General of Canada.

Sir William Hingston was the son of the late Lieut.-Col. Hingston, formerly in Her Majesty's 100th Regiment. The Hingstons had been established in Ireland for centuries, and are allied with the Cottiers of Cork, the elder Latouches of Dublin, and the Hales family, and on

began the practice of his profession, a practice which extended so rapidly that in a few years the name of Dr. Hingston was a household word throughout the city. In March, 1875, he married a daughter of the late Hon. D. A. Macdonald, formerly postmaster general of Canada, and Lieutenant-governor of Ontario.

EARLY EDUCATION.

He was only thirteen when he was sent to Montreal College, where at the end of the first year he obtained the prize in every branch, carrying three firsts and two seconds, while his chief opponent, the late Superior of the College, obtained the remaining two firsts and three seconds. He afterwards spent a couple of years in studying pharmacy, with R. W. Baxford, before he entered upon the study of medicine at