

who appreciated how insufficiently he was paid for his herculean labors; but the dead man put the guilt from him lest a misunderstanding of its import might shadow his white honor and limit his usefulness. For the present, he could live; and, for the future, he trusted to Canada. The opportunity to test that trust has come sooner than most expected; but it has not found the sense of justice in our people asleep. To put it on no other ground, we owe it to Sir John Thompson to care for his family. And any provision we may make for them in the name of the nation should be generously worthy of that name—and in some way proportionate to the debt we owe the dead. Subscriptions are being handed in with encouraging spontaneity, but the "shower" has only begun. The total must tower far above any sum yet spoken of. This is a national undertaking, and Canadians can afford to do no little thing. Our public men should be convinced that they can pay no surer insurance "premiums" than faithful years of unselfish service to their country. Sir John could have left his family in the kindest comfort, and the people, now that they have taken up the task, can afford to do no less.

I rather agree with the five aldermen who voted against the proposition to engage a foreigner as consulting engineer for the filter beds. As stated by Alderman Harris, we have men in British Columbia who know quite as much as Mr. Hawkes, and Mr. Wilmot is one of them. The latter has had experience on the Vancouver and Westminster waterworks, and should be as capable a man as the former. Alderman Baker was probably correct when he said that Mr. Hawkes would go to the American side for workingmen and thus deprive our own people of the labor to which by long residence

in this city they are entitled. Just now it is the best policy to give employment to people who are already with us.

The announcement that Lord Randolph Churchill's health is beyond recovery will be shocking news to the admirers of the once brilliant young statesman. Lord Randolph only a few years ago gave promise of becoming one of the leading statesmen of the empire and was looked upon as a possible Prime Minister of Great Britain. It was believed by many who saw him during his visit to Victoria last summer that it was only a question of time when final dissolution would overtake him, but the tidings contained in the dispatches that he may not live a month will cause profound regret.

All the prisoners in the Vancouver police station were given a Christmas dinner, and it is stated that Ashford, the murderer of his wife and children, who was among the number, was the life of the whole party. While the dinner was in progress the funeral of Ashford's victims was taking place, which in all probability provoked further mirth on the part of the murderer. It is hard to believe that a man who could commit such a cold-blooded murder and find in it matter for amusement can be sane, but no doubt experts will decide that question when the time comes.

The friends of Dr. McGlynn will be pleased to hear that he has been restored to orders and assigned a church in New York. There have been few more ardent workers in the cause of humanity than Rev. Edward McGlynn, few imbued with such zeal to improve the condition of the masses. He will probably not be heard on public platforms again, when he assumes his priestly office, but he will be remembered long as one who took up willingly, as he expressed it, "the cross of the new

crusade," and did much towards turning attention to the deplorable state of the poor in the tenement district of New York, and ameliorated their condition as far as lay in his power.

The council of the Montreal Board of Trade having come to the conclusion that a Chamber of Arbitration, based on that of the London Chamber, is desirable, is now looking to the obtaining of such an amendment to its charter as will enable it to carry out the reform which it involves. It would appear that some doubt prevails as to whether the powers to be granted are within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada or the Provincial Legislature.

THE coal trade of Canada occupies a prominent place in a recent number of the *Coal Trade Journal* of New York.

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