

siness, undoubtedly aggravated his disorder. A fresh calamity was threatening him, his fourth son, the most promising in point of intellectual talents of all, fell into a consumption. "It pleased God," says this excellent man, "to take to himself my dear Stephen, and though "I had long expected this termination of his disorder, "I was not the less affected by it, when it did arrive. "Our children seem to entwine themselves about our "affections in proportion to their helplessness, and he "was withal so patient and considerate, that the separation was like tearing my heart strings asunder. "When I compare the present state of my family with "what it was but three short years ago, I am ready to "sink under those repeated visitations, which have destroyed my fairest prospects of earthly happiness."

Little more than a year intervened between Stephen's death and his own; yet during that period, he shrunk not from business; he attended his duties in the Legislature, he assisted at the Board of Claims, and while scarcely able to articulate, or to swallow food sufficient to support him, he continued to perform the most important functions. At length the progress of his disorder threatened his immediate dissolution. He was prepared to die, but always alive to the claims of his family, he was willing to try every means to continue a little longer among them. With this intention, he went to Kamouraska to bathe in the sea; this aggravated the symptoms, and on his return, he died in Montreal.