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SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1894.

DEPARTED WORTH.

Had the king said unto his servants, Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel."

ONE closely linked with all the stages of our Province's history from pioneer days to the present has been called away. The carping critic can always detect faults in the greatest hero that ever breathed, but now in the hush of death, as the slow moving cortege with sombre drappings, muffled drum and measured, martial tread passes, the uncovered head involuntarily bends in reverential awe. Extravagant panegyric is uncalled for, and immoderate or any measure would be undeserved. Happily there is no occasion for the repression of facts pernicious in their very truthfulness. The biographer and reviewer in the comprehensive and impartial light in which a past event can be examined, will accord Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie his just due. I will only dwell for a brief space upon the more striking characteristics of our departed Chief Justice. His tall, manly figure and intellectual, thoughtful face would catch the eye anywhere, and even when the decrepitude of age had converted a military erectness into the unsteady gait and bent appearance of advanced years, there was a certain majestic and courtly presence that instantly invited respect. Sir Matthew's mind was a singular blending of the natural and the artificial. His thoughts flowed in logical sequence and with mathematical exactitude. His conclusions were rapidly formed, and, if he erred at all in his reasoning processes, the

fault lay principally in premature premises, a tendency naturally biasing his learned deductions.

The psychologist, in analyzing his mental traits, would also be struck by the fearless independence with which he voiced his views. This independence was entirely removed from dogmatism, and proceeded from conscientious conviction. His written judgments do not bear the stamp of that academical profundity and broad sweep of intellect that one would naturally expect from his studious habits and collegiate training. He was a man of wonderful versatility, fond of scientific research, revelling in the metre of stately epic and cheery sonnet, and equally carried away by the melody of a popular strain or the sublime harmony of a cantata or oratorio. There was something pathetic associated with the occasion when Premier Davie congratulated the Chief Justice at the fall opening of the court. In responding, Sir Matthew was visibly affected. There was a tremor in his voice and the suspicion of a tear as he confessed his waning powers of mind and body. And now, in closing this brief sketch of a notable figure, peep with me into that ivy-guarded, high-walled enclosure of verdant, velvety lawn and shady spreading oak, and glance at a man of noble stature bending with fond, loving gaze over a budding bloom, over which he has watched with tender care from its earliest formation. He wanders from flower to flower, his æsthetic soul glorying and marvelling in the intricate coloring and varied foliage of nature's handiwork. Amid the peaceful surroundings of his loved garden, his life slowly went out on the ebb tide that rolls on another shore.

S. D. SCHULTZ.

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

"I must have liberty,
Withal as large a charter as the wind—
To blow on whom I please."

IF the reports in the Mainland newspapers are to be credited, the Opposition has at last decided upon a policy, which is to prevent, by shouting and hooting, Government speakers from getting a hearing. At a meeting at New Westminster, early in the week, nine-tenths of those present were pledged supporters of the Government, but the other tenth succeeded in making it almost im-

possible to hear the remarks of the speakers.

The other evening, the candidates for Victoria in the Opposition interest held a meeting in Philharmonic Hall. Although the meeting was fairly divided between Government and Opposition supporters, it is said to have been one of the most orderly political meetings ever held in Victoria. Instead of adopting the tactics of the Opposition supporters on the Mainland, the Government supporters, when they grew tired of the speakers, vacated the hall, with the result that there were very few left when Mr. Dutton began his address. Hoodlumism will not win this election. What the average man wants is a plain, truthful statement of facts, and the only way to accomplish this is by giving attention to both sides of the question. It is to be hoped that in Victoria, where the votes for the Government will be as 10 to 1, that the few followers of the Opposition on all occasions will behave themselves as becomes good citizens.

Vancouver possesses a trio of political parsons—Revds Baer, Maxwell and Buchannan. I infer from the utterances of the rev. gentlemen that it is not so much which party may get in power as which party will go the furthest in the direction of reducing Victoria to the dimensions of a village. I have always labored under the impression that the clergy were maintained to provide their flocks with spiritual food and not for the purpose of instructing them how to vote. Church attendants generally are willing to be guided by their clergy in spiritual matters, but their own common sense will influence them in the exercise of the franchise. I have frequently noticed that once a clergyman descends to the level of a pot-house politician he forever loses the respect of his flock.

Mrs. Hansel, a resident of Vancouver, has tendered her services to nurse the Chinese lepers on Darcy Island. In doing so she is encouraged by a Rev. Mr. McLaren, of the Terminal City, who, the other evening, waited on the Vancouver City Council and urged them to accept the offer of Mrs. Hansel. Among other things, the rev. gentleman remarked that while in the east he had stated the proposition to the Governor-General and asked him to use his influence in order to