

The Honorable Philip VanKoughnet died at Toronto, on the 7th November, 1869, after a short illness.

At the time of his death the Honorable Mr. Mowat was one of the Vice-Chancellors of his Court. He was at that time holding the Court at Cobourg. On receiving intelligence of the death of the Chancellor, he pronounced the following eulogy, which, coming from one who had known him at the Bar, was his partner in business, and colleague of the Bench, has especial value. Vice-Chancellor Mowat said :

As a Judge he was most conscientious, he had a profound love of justice, and an exalted sense of judicial duty. In the discharge of his office he acted without fear, favor, or affection, if any Judge ever did. He was from the first prompt in deciding, and that he was generally accurate as well as prompt is shewn by the fact that his decrees were generally (I believe) as seldom appealed from as those of any Judge we ever had. Whatever those opposed to him, politically, may have thought of the measures or proceedings of the Government of which he formed part, nobody doubted the purity of his motives or the soundness of his patriotism. He loved this Canada of ours, which was the land of his birth, and he earnestly desired to promote its interests.

Mr. Mowat had not been of the same political party as the Chancellor, had indeed often found occasion to differ with him on political subjects. The estimate he formed and expressed of him as a Judge, was but voicing the opinion of the opinion of the whole Bar, and of the public. His too early death was a great loss to the Bench. He was not 47 years of age when he died. If it had pleased providence to prolong his life, there was open for him a career of great usefulness. Personally, he was to me one of my most special friends, and it was with pain and sorrow that I joined the cortege which followed him to his last resting place in St. James's Cemetery.

" Friend after friend departs,
Who has not lost a friend ?
There is no union here of hearts,
That finds not here an end."