

A summer spent in Northern Canada cannot fail to open the eyes of the observer, not merely to what has already been done in this country of ours, but also to the vastly greater work still remaining for the pioneer and settler, the miner, the farmer, and the lumberman.

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DURING the short space of two years we have been called upon to mourn the loss of many of our public men, and even the highest office in the nation's gift has not been exempt. Sir John A. Macdonald and Hon. Alexander Mackenzie passed away amid the mourning of a nation, and now their successor in office, Sir John Abbott, has joined the great majority. He was born at St. Andrews, in the province of Quebec, and was a clergyman's son. His higher education he received at McGill University, Montreal, of which institution he was afterwards Dean of the Faculty of Law and a Governor. He early attained great prominence in his chosen profession of law, but also took an active part in municipal politics, being elected Mayor of the city of Montreal. Early in life he entered Parliament, occupying seats successively in the House of Assembly, the House of Commons and the Senate, and in June, 1891, became Premier, succeeding the late Sir John Macdonald. Unfortunately ill-health forced him to relinquish his arduous duties, and he retired into private life. His parliamentary career was distinguished by the attention he bestowed on commercial legislation. He stood very high at the Bar, was an able and useful member of Parliament, but above all, he was one in whom the public generally felt confidence. Canada can ill afford, in these times of unrest and anxiety, to lose these "Fathers of Confederation."

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THE literary world, and more particularly the classical portion, has lately had to assume the garb of mourning for two of her brightest sons. We refer to Prof. Nettleship, who was cut off so suddenly whilst touring in Switzerland during the past summer, and Prof. Jowett, of Oxford University, who passed peacefully away at the ripe age of seventy-six. Prof. Jowett was essentially a man who lived for others, and everything he owned he seemed to hold in trust for the service of scholars, of scholarship and of the college. To Englishmen generally he was dear on account of his great belief in the future of his country; and to the world of readers he was among the first of benefactors, for he made Plato speak nearly as golden a tongue in English as in Greek. His translation of the works of the great philosopher was certainly