

*SIR HENRY CREASE.*

A strong and striking character, and one of the best known men belonging to the profession in British Columbia, has just passed off the scene. Henry Pering Pellew Crease was the eldest son of Captain Henry Crease, and was born in Plymouth, England, in the year 1823. In 1849 he was called to the English Bar. In 1858 he went to British Columbia, where he was the first practising barrister and "father of the Bar" in the colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia. In 1861 he became by Imperial appointment Attorney-General for the separate colony of British Columbia, and was also a member of its legislature until the union of these colonies on Nov. 10, 1886; becoming subsequently Attorney-General of the united colony of British Columbia. In that capacity he took a leading part in the revision of the provincial laws preparatory to his Province entering Confederation, of which he was a strong advocate. On May 13th, 1870, he received the Imperial appointment of senior puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, serving in that capacity until his retirement in 1896.

The administration of justice in those days and in that country required just such strong and forceful men as Chief Justice Begbie and Mr. Justice Crease. Many incidents are related of their judicial experience which tell of the unusual and often thrilling nature of the self-imposed duties and novel experiences of these judges in the somewhat lawless mining districts of that time and place.

Shortly before the retirement of Mr. Justice Crease from Bench in 1896, the Queen bestowed upon him the honour of knighthood. The letter of Lord Aberdeen, the then Governor-General, conveying to him the intimation of the Queen's pleasure, stated that he was "now the only remaining judge in Canada appointed directly by the Imperial Government."

His character is well expressed in the words of his obituary in the leading journal of the city where he lived: "During his residence his marked integrity of character, his energy, never failing courtesy and other estimable qualities won him general respect, and his loss will be deeply mourned."