

The Colonist.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST

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ROBERT GARNETT TATLOW

Only a few days ago he was with us, sharing in our hopes and pleasures, full of optimism, proud of the province in which he lived and looking forward to the enjoyment of the fruits of an active, enterprising and honorable career. He had surrounded himself with those things that make life worth living, a family that knew him as a loving husband and father, and a host of friends to whom his name stood for all that is worthy in good fellowship. He had acquired the esteem and confidence of us all, and had gained what he valued less a competency sufficient to his needs. Now he is only a memory, but it is a memory fragrant to all.

His very large circle of personal acquaintances esteemed the late Captain Tatlow very highly, for he had qualities of mind and character that attracted men to him. He was a simple-hearted gentleman, ever inspired by honorable motives and never attributing to others objects and intentions that he would have scorned to entertain himself. Honest, he expected honesty from others. Sincere, he did not look for insincerity in others. Active in public life for many years, while he had of course his political opponents, he had no enemies. Said a gentleman yesterday, who at one time occupied a very high position in this province, "Tatlow was all right," and this is the verdict of the community.

He was better known to the people as a public man, than as a private citizen, for he was personally somewhat retiring and kept his own affairs pretty well to himself; but in his public capacity he was very prominent and for some years lived in the fierce light of party politics. He was a man of him with truth that he played his part in a manner that won for him universal confidence. As a private member of the Legislature he was painstaking and industrious; as a cabinet minister, charged with the important departments of Finance and Agriculture he was a conscientious success. And yet he had little taste for public life. Just before the provincial election at which he was a candidate for the last time, in conversation with a friend he said that he wished to retire from politics, for which he had no great liking, and that he only consented to ask the voters of Vancouver to once more elect him, because the Premier wished him to do so, and because he believed he could, by continuing office, carry on a little further the work in which he was engaged. As a Finance Minister he was cautious and conservative; as Minister of Agriculture he was bold and aggressive. It was an unusual combination of qualities, and the province was exceedingly fortunate in having such a man in office during the critical years which followed the formation of the McBride cabinet. He brought to the discharge of his official duties a trained business intelligence and an analytic mind. He possessed few of the graces of an orator; but he had the faculty of seeing the essence of a proposition and of stating it with a clearness and conciseness that few could equal. His Budget speeches and the addresses which he was accustomed to give annually to the Victoria Board of Trade were veritable mines of useful information and were widely quoted all over Canada and the United Kingdom. As a financier he was inclined to economy and he kept the treasury purse strings pretty tight; for he realized that the chief thing to be done in British Columbia was to re-establish the credit of the country, and he entered upon that work with zeal and excellent judgment. It will be remembered of him that he became Finance Minister when the affairs of the province were on the verge of confusion, when there was a large deficit and the revenue was discouragingly low, and that he retired from office after having paid off one loan and accumulated a surplus to be measured only in millions. It is a fine record.

Captain Tatlow's appreciation of the agricultural possibilities of the province was very high. His work as Minister of Agriculture was a labor of love. A few years ago he went to Great Britain for what he was pleased to call a rest, and the way he rested was by prosecuting a campaign to make known the capabilities of the province from the orchardist's standpoint, the good results of which are being felt every day. Fruit-growing, stock-raising, dairying, in short every branch of husbandry found in him its earnest and well-informed advocate. He re-organized the Agricultural Department and broadened its sphere of usefulness. He made the province more widely known than it ever had been, and he did much to attract very desirable classes of settlers. In all this work, as well as in financial matters, he was singularly unobtrusive. He was always anxious that others should receive credit for what they had done,

but was content for himself to be passed by unnoticed. His industry was phenomenal. No employee in the public departments worked as long and as steadily as he. He was ever at his post, and he never seemed so happy as when he had what to others would appear far more than enough to attend to. As a departmental chief, he was regarded with affection by all under him, and to those of the public who were brought into contact with him, he was ever a courteous gentleman. His retirement from office led to no interruption in his friendly relations with his colleagues.

And now it is all over. His busy life has come to its close. Just when it seemed as if life held more for him than at any other time, he was suddenly called away. In common with thousands we deeply mourn his death. Our recollections of him are all pleasant ones. Newspaper men get to know public men as few others do. They have many confidential talks of which the rest of the world never hears, for newspaper men respect confidences. Knowing Captain Tatlow in this way we learned to esteem him as the very soul of honor, as a patriotic Canadian, as a loyal citizen of the Empire, and above all things as a man of single-mindedness of purpose and straightforward integrity, inspired by the charity that thinketh no evil. There is little that can be said under such circumstances to those that have been bereaved, but it may be some slight consolation to his widow and children to know that the whole province mourns with them, and that he has left them a legacy of honor and worth more precious than anything else could be.

WATER AGAIN

The Citizens Committee recommended that an expert should be employed to report upon the relative merits of Sooke Lake and Goldstream as sources of water supply for the city, but as yet no action has been taken upon the recommendation. It occurs as a matter of fact that a number of gentlemen were invited by the Mayor to investigate this subject, the least that can be done is to act upon their recommendation. The months are slipping round. We shall soon be in the middle of April, and almost before we realize it half the year will be gone. Surely there has been enough delay about the water supply.

The people of Victoria have had abundant opportunity to think over the various issues involved in the water question. We think that they are in a much more reasonable state of mind than they were a year ago, and are better able to reach a wise conclusion on any project that may be submitted to them. The personal element, always the first thing to come up in this city, has largely been disposed of, and it would not be difficult to secure a decision upon the merits of any proposal that is laid before the ratepayers in such detail and with expressions of opinion as ought to be a safe guide.

It is refreshing to be told that the spring is not in point of fact unusually backward; but the florists say it is not.

The spring flower show at the Empress was a great success. The enterprising ladies who had it in charge deserve every congratulation.

The decline of drunkenness in England is very noticeable. Surely this is great cause for congratulation, for over-indulgence in intoxicants has been one of the greatest evils in Britain.

It is announced that the saw mills of Puget Sound are choked with orders. This is evidence of a great and general revival of business. The United States seems at last to have recovered from the financial scare of 1907.

The wire tappers are said to have cleaned up \$1,000,000 in Philadelphia the other day. We can hardly sympathize with the losers, for the man who is fool enough to put up his money with a gambling ring has no cause to complain if he loses it.

Speaking of the King, a contemporary says "There is no peer of ancient Lords to precipitate a constitutional lineage in his entourage." No doubt this is a serious state of things, but we are not very clear just what is to be understood by it.

The evening paper has found its courage again now that the Royal Commission has concluded its labors. It was brave before the Commission was appointed, but it made a very poor

showing when called upon to make good its insinuations.

The nearer a gentleman by the name of Roosevelt gets to home, the more active, politically, does a gentleman by the name of Tatlow become. Of course, it is only a coincidence. Perhaps the thought that anyone in the White House believes in "his return from Elba."

There is a good deal of discussion as to why Lord Kitchener did not come to Canada. We see no reason why his explanation should not be accepted. He says that he was summoned home by important business. As he has the reputation for telling the truth, why is it necessary to suppose that there is some other explanation, which cannot safely be made public? The habit of making a mystery of ordinary things may make sensational reading in newspapers, but it almost always has mischievous results.

After all the only true remedy for the various kinds of social evil is the reform of individuals. You may keep your finger from intruding itself upon public affairs, but you may make vicious practices dangerous before the law, and thus deter young people from indulging in it. You may make temptation less glaring. But when it comes to prevention, you must begin with the individual. Put an end to the teaching of the pernicious doctrine that young people must sow their wild oats, and social evils will die out. In the meantime there is, of course, much that the police can do.

Speaking of a very old lady who died recently, a contemporary says her ancestors figured in Colonial times. Come to think of it, most of us had ancestors who were living in those days and even earlier. How would you like to know how many of your ancestors were among the ferocious crew that overran Europe a long time ago, and just what sort of people they were. And did it ever occur to you that if you could trace back far enough you would find one of your progenitors sitting in a cave gnawing raw meat from a bone and thinking he was having a pretty good time.

Immigrants are coming into Canada at the rate of a thousand a day, and there is a prospect that the rate for the year may reach fifteen hundred daily. This is a matter of tremendous import. These peaceful invaders are in a sense picked men. Few of them are of the better sort. Few of them are wastrels, very few of them have not the qualities which make for good citizenship. Most of them have some means. All of them are animated by a spirit of enterprise and a determination to do what honest industry can achieve in a new country. They are not here to be successful, for there is no certain to be a percentage of failure in all efforts, but the very great majority of them will make good Canadians. At least we hope they will, for sometimes when we are asked what will we do with all the newcomers, we are disposed to ask in reply what will they do with us.

A Washington despatch says that the United States administration foresees great difficulties in the way of negotiating a reciprocity treaty with Canada, not so much because of the problem presented by the trade between the two countries, as because of our treaties with France and Germany, which stand in the way of any agreement with Washington. The despatch says that by the terms of these treaties France and Germany are entitled to any trade advantages that may be extended to any other countries, and this would render any concessions which Canada might give to the United States of little real value to that country. For ourselves we are inclined to think that the negotiation of any useful reciprocity treaty with the United States is almost out of the question, and the fault certainly does not rest with Canada, which only looked across the ocean for markets, when it found a barrier erected all along the Forty-ninth parallel.

Farewell to Mr. McLeod
A group of his Greenwald friends surprised Mr. J. P. McLeod, now a resident of the capital and occupant of the new provincial position of Inspector of Legal Offices, by presenting him with a most complimentary and appreciative address, accompanied by a handsome gold watch, while to Mrs. McLeod was given as a souvenir of her Greenwald residence, a dainty purse of gold.

Mr. R. S. Wees, from Seattle, is in town on a business visit.

Ladies:
Use Our
Rest Room
2nd Floor

WEILER BROS

FAMED FOR FINE FURNITURE

Send for
Our Big
Catalogue
FREE

The Smartest Styles in New Bedroom Furniture



WE WANT YOU TO SEE THESE NEW ARRIVALS.

DURING the past week we have received and put into stock some of the most attractive pieces of bedroom furniture it has ever been our good pleasure to price. We want you to come in and see these latest additions. We know you'll like the "smartness" of the designs, and we are making the prices such that they'll also interest you.

If you have planned to make any additions to the furniture of the bedrooms, don't fail to see this display before investing a cent. There's a style and a price that'll please you. The choice is splendid—several carloads having been received during the past few weeks. Welcome to come at any time.

HERE'S SOMETHING REAL NEW IN OAK

Here is something real new and very attractive in golden oak bedroom furniture. This suite is finished in that pleasing "wax" or "dull" finish, and this finish combined with carefully selected quarter cut oak and neat design, combines to make a most attractive suite. There are four pieces—chiffoniere, dresser, dressing table and somnoe. The four pieces for \$140.00.

Chiffoniere—Has 4 full length drawers and 2 smaller drawers. Has a shaped bevel plate mirror. Oak drawer pulls.
Dresser—The dresser has a large bevel plate mirror of best quality, 2 large and 3 small drawers. Oak drawer pulls.
Dressing Table—Has 3 drawers and bevel plate mirror. Oak drawer pulls.
Somnoe to match.

A MAGNIFICENT SUITE IN POLISHED MAHOGANY.

If you are partial to mahogany as a bedroom furniture, we strongly advise that you see this very attractive suite in polished mahogany. A three-piece suite—dresser, dressing table and chiffoniere. All attractive designs and made of selected, well finished wood. The three pieces priced at \$150.00.

Chiffoniere of this suite has 4 full length drawers and 2 small drawers. Has an oval bevel plate mirror. Satin brass trimmings.
The Dresser of this suite has 2 large drawers and 3 smaller drawers. Has a large oval bevel plate mirror. Satin brass trimmings.
The Dressing Table of this suite has 4 small drawers and a large oval, bevel plate mirror of best quality. Satin brass trimmings.

NEW CHIFFONIERES AND DRESSERS IN MAHOGANY AND OAK.

Many smart styles in chiffonieres and dressers have been added during the past week. New designs in mahogany and oak. All are particularly well finished. Selected woods used in every instance. The new style "swell" front is especially pleasing. We want you to come in and see these while the selection is at its best. All splendid value.—Third floor.

Chiffoniere—Polished mahogany style, with new style "swell" front. Has 3 full length and 2 small drawers. Also cupboard. Oval bevel plate mirror of best quality. Priced at \$40.00.
Dresser—A polished mahogany style, Has 1 full length and 2 smaller drawers. Has a large, oval bevel plate mirror. Priced at \$40.00.

Chiffoniere—Another mahogany style. Has 3 full length and 2 small drawers and cupboard. Oval bevel plate mirror. Finely finished. Priced at \$37.50.
Dresser—This is a golden oak style. Selected quarter cut oak, finely finished. Has new "swell" front. Two full length and 2 smaller drawers and an oval bevel plate mirror. Priced at \$37.50.

Chiffoniere—A neat and stylish golden oak style. Has 2 "swell" front drawers, 3 full length drawers and a cupboard. First quality oval, bevel plate mirror. Each \$35.00.
Dresser—This style has that pleasing "swell" front. Finely finished quarter cut oak. Has 2 short drawers and 2 full length drawers and an oval bevel plate mirror. Priced at \$40.00.

MANY OTHER PIECES SHOWN—SOME GREAT VALUES.

We have listed here but a very few of the latest additions to this bedroom furniture stock. Many more equally interesting pieces have been added during the past week. Just a couple of weeks ago we put into stock a carload of low-priced pieces in solid oak. If you wish something real stylish in a low-priced furniture piece, ask to see these.

When choosing bedroom furniture here, remember that we stock everything for the bedroom. Rugs, squares, curtains, draperies, brass and iron beds, etc.—even to manicure sets in sterling silver, etc. Best and broadest choice in all lines. Try us.

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Ex-Minister

THE LATE

SUCCUMBS TO HIS INJURIES

Captain Robert Garnett Tatlow
Late Finance Minister Dies
Yesterday as Result of Fall
Sustained Last Friday

HIS LOSS DEPLORED
BY ALL CITIZENS

Eulogies of the Late Member
of British Columbia Government
From All Sections of
the Community—His Career

Captain Robert Garnett Tatlow, for six years minister of finance and agriculture in the government of the Hon. Richard McBride, and a man who stood unusually high in the esteem of the citizens of British Columbia irrespective of politics, passed away at 12.30 o'clock yesterday morning at the Jubilee hospital after having lain absolutely unconscious since 6.30 o'clock Friday afternoon last when he was thrown from his trap near the corner of Vancouver and McClure streets.

Captain Tatlow was removed to the hospital as quickly as possible after the accident. Dr. O. M. Jones examined him there upon his arrival, but a very brief investigation was sufficient to convince the physician that there was absolutely no hope. Captain Tatlow never moved after the accident. Except for an occasional sharp breath he gave no sign of life, and when the transition took place it was peaceful and unmarked.

During Sunday afternoon and evening Captain Tatlow's children were at their father's bedside for a short time, and others of the family and connections visited the room, but when he passed away he was attended only by his wife and her father, Mr. H. J. Campbell, of Vancouver. Mrs. Tatlow had remained at the hospital constantly from the time the injured gentleman was taken there.

Cause of Death
The cause of death was concussion of the brain. So far as is known no one witnessed the accident itself. But the physicians' examination showed that Captain Tatlow had been thrown with terrific force to the cement sidewalk, striking on his head. One of the physicians stated yesterday that probably only the fact that he was an exceptionally strong, rugged man prevented instantaneous death. There were no marks visible save a slight bruise on the cheek and a fracture of the base of the skull, but the brain had been lacerated, and there never was any hope for his recovery.

Captain Tatlow was driving his own horse attached to a trap on Friday