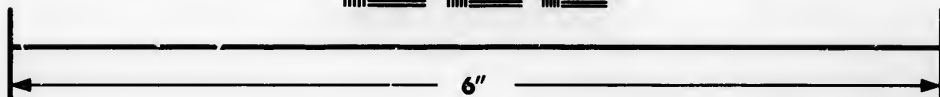
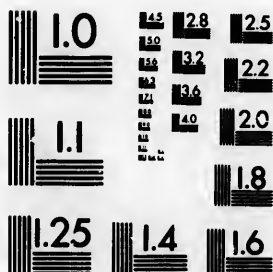


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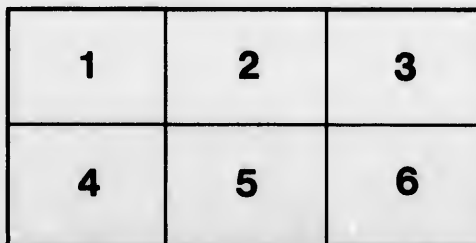
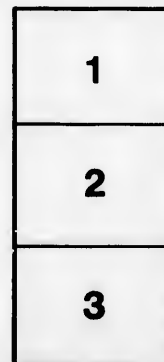
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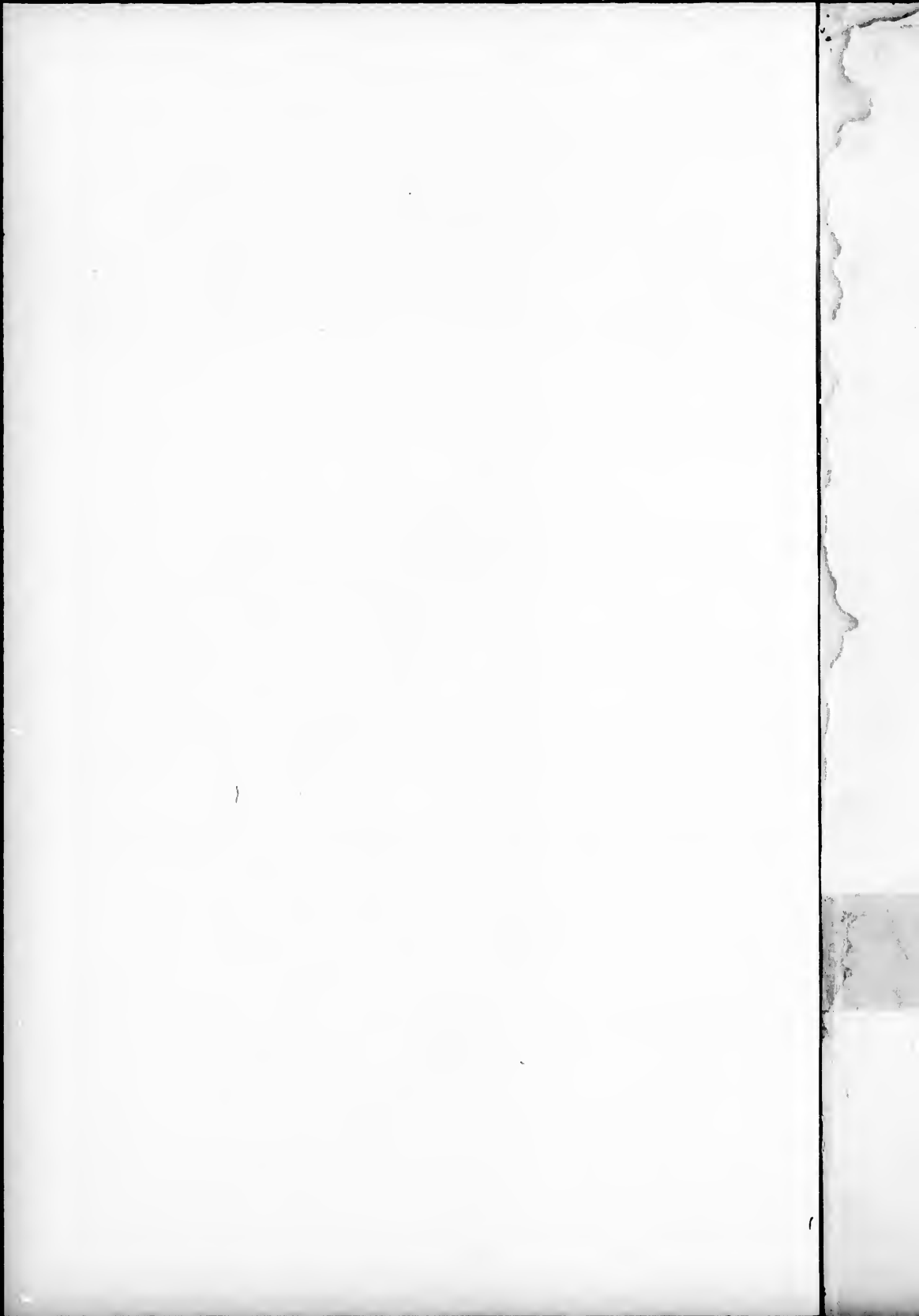
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NOTICES

OF THE DEATH

OF THE LATE

LORD SYDENHAM

BY THE

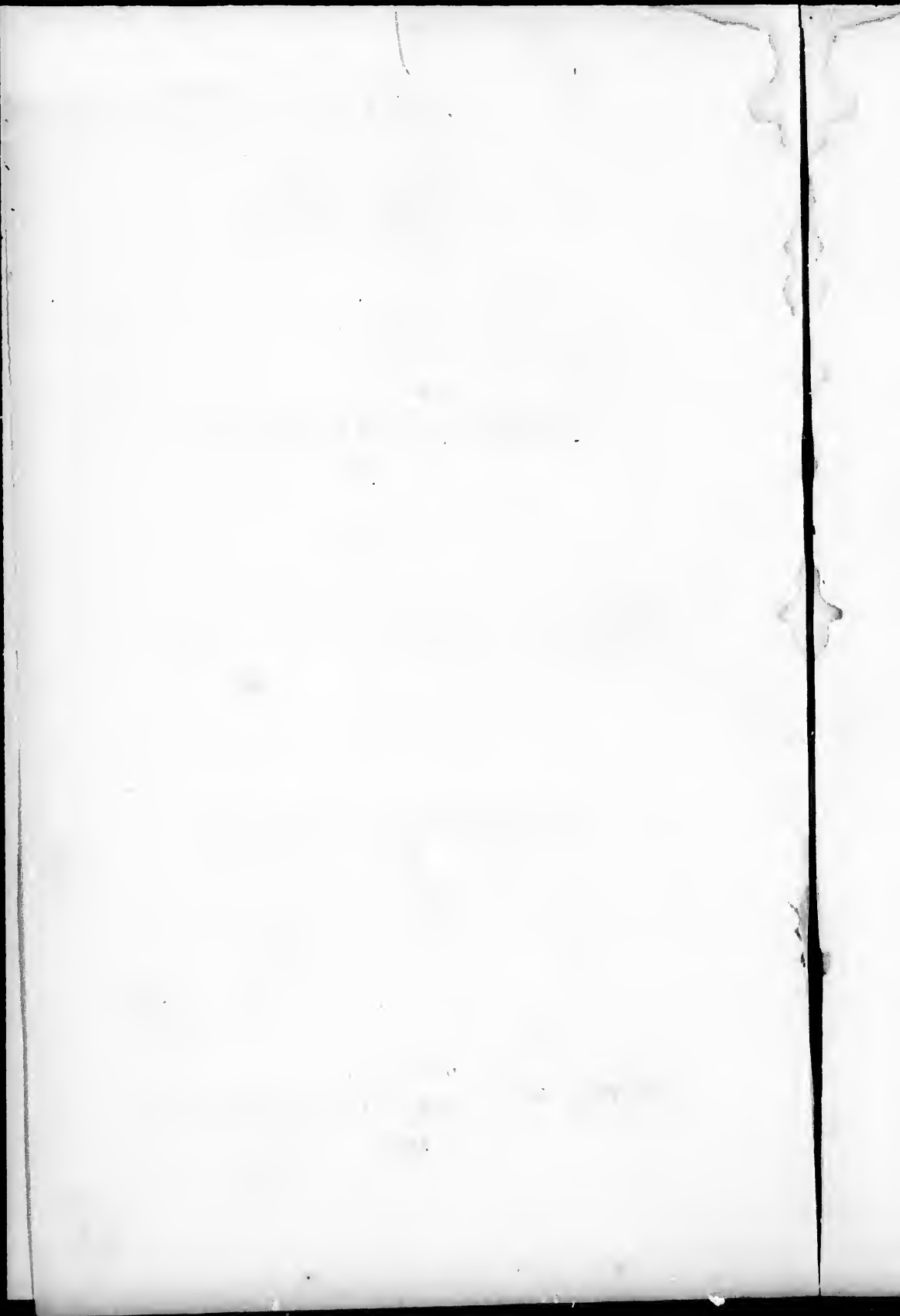
PRESS OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

WITH

PREFATORY REMARKS.

TORONTO :
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED AT THE EXAMINER OFFICE.

1841.



P R E F A C E .

The following notices of the death of the late **GOVERNOR GENERAL** have been collected from the **Press of British North America**, and reproduced in their present form at the suggestion of several admirers of the deceased Statesman. There would be motive enough for this publication, if it served no other purpose but that of affording to friends and relatives far distant from the scene of **LORD SYDENHAM'S** sufferings, the consolation of knowing that he died amidst an attached and grateful people. But the inhabitants of **United Canada** have a deep interest in preserving the record of a tribute thus spontaneously and universally offered to the memory of the illustrious person whose last energies were spent in the service of their country.

However much politicians may differ either on abstract theories of government, or on those questions of local interest which have agitated the country, few persons, if any, will be inclined to dissent from the following propositions :—That **LORD SYDENHAM** assumed the Government of the **Canadas** at an eventful crisis ; that his task was one of great difficulty ; that on his arrival among us, he found the country convulsed with political excitement ; that at his death, he left it perfectly tranquil ; and that the

PREFACE.

principles on which his administration was conducted are sanctioned by the unequivocal voice of the people, no less than by their great results. These are facts which should be as well known in England, if possible, as they are in Canada, and there is no better mode of diffusing authentic information on the subject, than by giving increased publicity to the feeling expressed on the late melancholy occasion by the Journals of British North America, in all their various shades of political or religious opinion.

NOTICES.

[*From the Official Gazette.*]

Kingston, Monday, September 20, 1841.

PROVINCE OF CANADA.

Sunday, 19th September.

It has pleased Almighty God to call to His Mércy, His Excellency the Right Honble. Charles Baron Sydenham, of Sydenham in the County of Kent, and of Toronto in Canada, one of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and of the Island of Prince Edward, &c. &c. &c.

He expired this morning at 5 minutes past 7 o'clock, at the Government House in this Town, after an illness of 15 days.

[*From the Kingston Chronicle.*]

DEATH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

It is with feelings of deep sorrow that we announce to our readers this mournful event, which took place at Alwington House yesterday morning at 5 minutes after seven o'clock.

The following note was yesterday addressed by Mr. Secretary Murdoch to his Worship the Mayor :

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Sunday Morning, 19th September.

Sir :—It is my painful duty to communicate to you the melancholy intelligence of the decease of His Excellency the Governor General. His Excellency breathed his last at five minutes after seven o'clock this morning.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

T. W. C. MURDOCH.

The Mayor, Kingston.

His Excellency within the last few days suffered greatly from spasmodic attacks. He was sensible to the last, and appeared quite resigned to his fate. His Excellency was attended by the Rev. Mr. Adamson, who administered the Sacrament shortly before he expired. We understand His Lordship expressed a wish to be buried in Kingston. Friday last was His Excellency's birthday, having then completed his 42d year.

Our readers will perceive by the following communication that the mortal remains of His Excellency Lord Sydenham are to be consigned to the tomb on Friday next. We understand that the chancel of St. George's Church is selected as the place of interment.

Hall of the Common Council, }
Kingston, September 21, 1841. }

The following official communication addressed to His Worship the Mayor, was laid before the Council :

Government House, }
Kingston, 20th Sept. 1841. }

Sir :—I have the honour to inform you that it is intended that the Funeral of His Excellency the Governor General should take place on Friday next. The procession will leave Government House at 11 o'clock, A. M., precisely.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

T. W. C. MURDOCH.

His Worship the Mayor.

Whereupon the Common Council passed the following resolution :

“That Friday next, the 24th instant, being the day appointed for the *Funeral of His Excellency the Governor General*, the Common Council do recommend to all the Inhabitants of the Town, to observe that day as a

“DAY OF MOURNING,

with every suitable solemnity, and that all shops and places of business be closed, and all trading and mechanical operations cease during the day.

“J. COUNTER, *Mayor.*”

It was on Friday night that His Excellency asked one of his friends whether there was any hope of his ultimate recovery, when the gentleman to whom the question was put burst into tears, the meaning of which His Excellency immediately understood. From

that time he turned his attention to a future world—but still omitted no part of his duty to the affairs of this. When he had partaken of the Sacrament, which he did in company with every member of his family, he took an affectionate leave of each of them individually. He was in great pain all night, but in full possession of his faculties. During the intervals of the spasmodic attacks he engaged fervently in prayer, and one of the medical attendants says he never saw so much collectedness of mind accompanied by such agony of body. He expressed a wish to be buried in Kingston only a short time before he died. He executed his Will on Saturday morning, and made presents of a variety of little things to his confidential friends.

On Saturday evening he asked a gentleman in attendance if Parliament was prorogued, and on being answered in the affirmative, replied—then all is right. The speech which had been dictated by the late Governor General, and which he intended to have delivered himself, has been shewn to several of his confidential friends. The last paragraph—and it is the last he ever dictated—breathes a prayer for the prosperity of Canada.

(From the Kingston British Whig.)

It is our melancholy duty to announce the Death of the excellent and much respected Governor General of Canada, His Excellency Baron Sydenham, who departed this life at the Government House of Kingston, on Sunday morning last, at a few minutes past seven o'clock. This sorrowful event was announced to the public by a letter to the Worshipful the Mayor, from the Chief Secretary, Mr Murdoch, a short time after the decease. The news although expected for several days previous, has filled all hearts with consternation; for whatever had been the difference of opinion between his Excellency and the people he governed, as to the local politics of the country, his amiable life, extreme affability, readiness of access, and other excellencies in a good and great man, had gained him the love of all. Kingston has received a blow by this death from which she may never recover; and independent of kinder feelings, her inhabitants are overwhelmed with sorrow and mortification.

NOTICES OF

From the Kingston Chronicle.

FUNERAL OF
LORD SYDENHAM.

The rites of sepulture were yesterday performed over the remains of the late Governor General. Upon this melancholy occasion crowds of persons flocked into Kingston from the neighbouring country, and with the town population lined the road in dense masses from Alwington House to St. George's Church, the numbers collected amounting at a low calculation to between six and seven thousand.

At eleven o'clock the procession left Alwington House in the following order.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE.
THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,
AND SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, PALL BEARERS.

THE BODY.

Upon a frame erected on a Gun Carriage, drawn by six horses, with Artillery Drivers.

THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GOVERNMENT AND MR. BARING.
THE STAFF OF THE LATE GOVERNOR GENERAL.
THE STAFF OF THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GOVERNMENT.
THE MEDICAL GENTLEMEN WHO ATTENDED THE LATE GOVERNOR GENERAL.
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
THE JUDGES—PYKE, HAGERMAN, AND MACLEAN.
MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Messrs. Robertson,	Messrs. Roblin,
“ Simpson,	“ Gilchrist,
“ Derbishire,	“ Smith,
“ Small,	“ Cartwright,
“ Hincks,	“ Dunlop,

De Salaberry.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING THE DISTRICT.
AND
STAFF.

THE COMMODORE.
HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS.
THE HIGH SHERIFF.

THE MAYOR OF KINGSTON AND COMMON COUNCIL.
THE MAYOR OF TORONTO AND SHERIFF OF THE HOME DISTRICT.
OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.
OFFICERS OF THE NAVY.

THE CLERGY.
THE BAR.

THE GRAND JURY.
OFFICERS OF THE MILITIA.
THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.
DEPUTATIONS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES.
INHABITANTS OF KINGSTON,
&c. &c. &c.

The Procession on entering town, was headed by the Band of the 14th Regt. who added much to the solemnity of the occasion, by performing Handel's sublime requiem.

The Bells of the different churches tolled from an early hour in the morning, and minute guns were fired by the Royal Artillery stationed on the Common until after the interment.

The Gallery of St. George's Church having been reserved for the Ladies was filled at an early hour, the Body of the Church being left for those forming the Procession.

The Funeral service of the Church of England at all times sublime, this melancholy occasion rendered peculiarly solemn, eliciting the strongest emotions from all present—was read by the Archdeacon assisted by the Rev. R. D. Cartwright and the Rev. W. A. Adamson, Chaplain to the Legislative Council, and Domestic Chaplain to his late Excellency the Governor General.

After the Domine Refugium, the following beautiful Anthem was chanted by the Choir.

Unveil thy bosom faithful tomb,
Take this new treasure to thy trust,
And give these sacred relics room,
'To slumber in the silent dust!

Nor pain, nor grief, nor anxious fear,
Invade thy bounds. No mortal woes
Shall reach the tranquil sleeper here,
Or wake him from his last repose.

So Jesus slept;—God's dying Son
Pass'd through the grave and bless'd the bed,
So may we rest, till from His Throne,
The morning break and pierce the shade.

Break from His Throne, illustrious morn!
Attend, O Earth, His sov'reign word!
And thou, O Grave! restore thy form,
In trembling hope, to meet his Lord!

The Military, composed of the Royal Artillery, the Kingston Volunteer Artillery, Magrath's troop of Dragoons, the Dragoon Guards, the 14th and 43rd Regiments of Infantry, in chain order, lined the road from the Common to St. George's Church. On the approach of the corpse each soldier rested on his arms reversed, presenting an effect worthy of the occasion.

All places of business were closed during the day, and every countenance wore an expression of sadness—and although thousands came to pay their last tribute to the illustrious dead, all passed off without accident, and in the most perfect order.

Lord Sydenham came to this country charged with the execution of a commission of surpassing difficulty and delicacy. During the two years that he laboured incessantly through good and evil report, and through the anguish of a sick bed, he met and conquered every obstacle that rancorous political prejudice and self-interest, superadded to the insidious workings of secret political conspiracy could present to the attainment of his object. His experience in the great world of Imperial politics armed him at all points—he was never unprepared. He knew too well human nature, and the springs of action and motives of public men, to be taken unawares by any event or combination of influences calculated to thwart his measures, or drive him from his course. If to this experience we add those rare personal qualities known to all who laboured with Lord Sydenham,—a firm and settled purpose, unswerving resolution, indefatigable application to business, and, sustaining all, an inconceivable energy in promoting the execution of his plans, we shall have the secret of his mastery over men and over events. All who have marked the recent progress of public affairs in this country will be impressed with the conviction that had the directing mind been endowed with qualities of any lower grade,—had the “man at the helm” possessed a less firm hand, than were displayed in the administration of the Nobleman whose melancholy decease we have just witnessed, the Union would not have weathered the storms and rude buffets to which it has been exposed.

THE BAR.

The members of the Bar residing in this District held a meeting in the Court House in this place on Wednesday the 22nd day of September, 1841, and unanimously adopted the following resolutions. We hope the example will be followed by the learned profession throughout the Province, in paying this mark of respect to the illustrious individual, whose loss they, in common with the rest of the inhabitants of Canada, have so much reason to deplore.

Resolved—That the members of the Bar do attend the funeral of the late Governor General, as a body, in their robes.

Resolved—That as a mark of respect for the memory of the late distinguished Representative of Her Majesty in this Province, the profession wear mourning for the period of thirty days.

Resolved—That the Attorney General be requested to communicate these resolutions, in order that a place may be assigned to the Bar in the procession.

Signed by J. S. CARTWRIGHT, Esq., Queen's Counsel,
and eighteen other Barristers.

[*From the Kingston Chronicle.*]

SECOND EDITION.

We stop the press to insert the following interesting communications which have just been handed to us by the Hon. the Speaker of the Legislative Council :

Kingston, 21st September, 1841.

MY DEAR SIR,

It will I am sure be satisfactory to yourself and the other Members of the Legislature, to be made acquainted with the terms of the Speech which had been prepared by the late Governor General, to be delivered on the prorogation of the Legislature ; but which his lamented illness prevented. It was the last public document ever dictated by him, and breathes throughout those sentiments of attachment to this country, and of anxiety for its advancement, which he ever felt and expressed. The last few words—the concluding prayer for the happiness of Canada—were dictated on Friday morning, at a time when the hand of death was upon him.

As this document is entirely of a public nature, you are of course at liberty to communicate it to the other members of the Legislative Council, or to the public, in any way you think most proper.

I have the honour to be,

My dear Sir, Faithfully yours,

The Speaker of the

T. W. C. MURDOCH.

Legislative Council, &c. &c. &c.

COPY.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

In relieving you from further attendance in Parliament, it affords me the highest gratification to be able to congratulate you on the important results of your labours during the present Session.

Called together under a new Constitution, and representing interests so various and extended, it was impossible but that difficulties should arise on your first meeting, but those difficulties have been overcome by your prudence, while the new measures which you have perfected, and the improvements which you have introduced into the existing law will remain as a memorial of your industry and zeal. I have also to thank you for the attention that you have paid to all those measures which were submitted to you by my direction.

To some of the Bills which you have passed, I have had particular pleasure in assenting, feeling as I do that they will confer the most important and permanent benefits on the people of this Province. The Bill for the establishment of District Councils, while it assimilates the system in this section of the Province to that which I had previously established in Eastern Canada, through the Special Council, affords to the people the most ample security for the proper management of their local affairs, and presents at the same time the best means of instructing them in the advantages and responsibilities of a representative form of Government. The Bill for the promotion of Education is a measure of great value. It has ever been the anxious desire of the Queen to extend to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects the blessings of Education, and having received Her Majesty's commands to bring this question under your consideration, I shall have peculiar satisfaction in reporting to the Queen the assent I have been enabled to give to a Legislative enactment upon the subject. The Bills for the establishment of a Board of Works and for carrying on public improvements, are of vital interest to the commercial prosperity of this country, and I consider that the system established by those measures will constitute a new era in the trade and agriculture of the Province.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

I thank you in the name of Her Majesty for the readiness with which you have voted the supplies for the current year, and for the

large, and I trust an ample provision which you have made to support the credit of the Province, and to provide by an increased Revenue for the augmented charge which will be caused by the works which you have sanctioned. In the exercise of the powers with which you have invested me for the raising of Funds and for their application, when raised, it will be my earnest endeavour so to shape my proceedings as to ensure to the Province the greatest possible advantage.

Honourable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

Having received Her Majesty's gracious permission to return to England, for the recovery of my health, it is probable I may not again have an opportunity of meeting you in Parliament.

I take this occasion, therefore, to express to you my sincere gratitude for the confidence you have shewn me, and for the support which I have throughout received from you. While I cannot look back on the two last years without feelings of the deepest emotion—my anticipations for the future are full of hope and confidence. In the manner in which the present Session has been conducted, and in the results which it has produced, I feel the fullest assurance that the anxiety of the Queen and the Imperial Parliament for the welfare of Canada will not be disappointed,—that the Constitution which they have bestowed on this country will be productive of peace—of happiness and prosperity. To me it must ever be a source of the highest gratification, that in the accomplishment of these great measures I have been permitted to bear a part. It now remains for you to carry out in your homes the good work you have so well begun;—to obliterate past dissensions—to co-operate in giving effect to the new Institutions—and to inculcate that spirit of enterprise and contentment which is essential to the well-being of a community.

May Almighty God prosper your labours, and pour down upon this Province all those blessings which in my heart I am desirous that it should enjoy !

(From the Kingston Chronicle.)

The prominent feeling of every well regulated mind in Canada will be deep though unavailing sorrow for the death of His Excellency Lord Sydenham. There may be different degrees of intensity of this feeling, but in the heart of every man who values the

prosperity of Canada, and whose feelings are not blunted by utter selfishness, whatever may be his political creed, the feeling must exist.

His melancholy death is rendered peculiarly impressive and deeply interesting, not only from the circumstance which was its immediate cause, but from the present posture of the affairs of the Province. A new and most important experiment had been determined on, the carrying out of which must have required in the management of its details no small degree of intellectual energy, practical knowledge, and active and persevering industry. Considering the materials the late Governor General has had to work, the successful issue might well have been matter for deep anxiety. That issue has been made apparent—the experiment has so far succeeded beyond the expectations and almost beyond the hopes of the most sanguine. All His Excellency's measures have proved successful up to the hour of his death—and however some may be disposed to question his policy, none can or do deny that he was possessed of talents for governing of the highest order, and peculiarly so for controlling such discordant materials as he had to do with in the two Canadas. But while a glorious course of victory was before him, death arrested his progress, and deprived United Canada of the Pilot who had so successfully weathered the storm, and so far steered the vessel in safety through channels before un-navigated, and hitherto deemed impracticable.

[From the Kingston Herald.]

DEPLORABLE EVENT—DEATH OF HIS EXCELLENCY
LORD SYDENHAM.

All is finished!—Parliament is prorogued and the Governor General is no more!—“*sic transit gloria mundi.*” Let us now be calm and reflect on these occurrences as men and Christians.

The first Parliament of United Canada has ended well—well beyond all expectations, and much good has been achieved. The labor was arduous, and could not possibly be completed in one session; but the main positions of the new Government have been sustained, and some of the most essential measures of reform effected. Conflicting opinions have not been carried out to injury in any way, and all have parted in good humour.

What most concerns the people's liberty—the institution of District Councils—is secure ; and secured, may be amended. The Board of Works is established ; and an improved system of Education will be introduced. Fiscal regulations of a critical nature, are very properly suspended till well adjusted in all their bearings. We say this much merely to proclaim our feelings on the eventful occasion ; reserving for the future, details and strictures.

The death of Lord Sydenham, when it happened, seems as if the Almighty decreed that matters so momentous should be sealed with the utmost solemnity. No sooner had the hand of His Excellency performed its most important offices—subscribed his will, & superscribed all the instruments of the Legislature,—than it ceased to move ; and there was but time for the effusion of affectionate feeling, thoughts of a better world, and for administering the Holy Sacrament to the dying man before his spirit returned to him who gave it.

The death of Lord Sydenham, thus strikingly marked, can leave but one impression on the public mind—submission to the All-wise Disposer of events ; and a humble trust, that God will never abandon those who are worthy of His regard.

As an instrument, Lord Sydenham will be looked back to as specially appointed and singularly efficient. In business he was indefatigable ; and what he accomplished in this way must have been great indeed. As a Statesman, he was undoubtedly wise and prudent ; for, however some, who have heretofore basked in favor, may complain of neglect to them and of promoting others whom they looked upon with prejudice, yet sure we are, nothing else could have secured peace ; and, peace secured, this noble Province needs but time to be prosperous and happy.—So be it.

(From the Kingston News)

His Excellency's death has cast a melancholy gloom over this city, as we are satisfied it will throughout the length and breadth of this Province. That in Lord Sydenham Canada has lost a *friend* the most bigoted politician will not deny. His vast talents and indomitable energy were devoted to establish in Canada a system of government the best calculated in his judgment, to advance its interests, and to bind more firmly the connection with the Parent

State. None will question the purity of his motives, although some may have differed with him in the course which he pursued, and in the principles of many of the measures which emanated from him. He has, however, made the "experiment," with complete success. The Union has been effected, a representative government restored to a portion of the Province, and, although the United Legislature has been composed of rather discordant materials, he has received its support and co-operation in providing a system of government for the whole. Whether this system will produce the effects intended, time alone can tell; but the mind which originated and directed these changes ceases to animate the body. Lord Sydenham is no more!

His Excellency having requested to be buried in Kingston, a vault underneath the Episcopal church is in the course of preparation for the reception of his remains, which will be deposited in their final resting place to-morrow.

AN ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA.

MEN AND BRETHREN—

He that giveth hath taken away. It has this day been the will of heaven to call away the soul of your early guardian—it has this day been the will of Holiness to take to himself the spirit of your country's genius! Repine not; murmur not at this great private and national calamity; but with hearts contrite, and humiliated spirits, say, as Christ told you "*Thy Will be done.*" Mysterious mysteries! who dare behold ye!

Britain will weep a Patriot and a Statesman gone—Canada will sigh for a Friend and Hero lost!

Canadians! He lived only for his country's good. In his childhood was imbued in him kind and liberal sentiments—in his youth he learned bold and comprehensive measures—in his manhood he showed consistent and vigorous actions. Still a young man when Member for Dover! His firmness of purpose, and depth of perception soon placed him in the Cabinet. Albion's commerce is her life's blood; and he was chosen as its guardian;—Manchester, the very focus of mechanical action, and spirited enterprise, sought his services—did he his duty? Let history answer.

Now to your own affairs, Canadians, and his conduct amongst you. A few years ago you had a fever amongst you. The infection, I believe, was brought to you; the morbid epidemic spread, and direful might have been its ravages—but England, ever watchful of the health and happiness of her children, sent you her best physician. My Lord Durham administered to you, and wholesome was his physic; but he left you ere recovery. Who then became your nurse and doctor? It was Sydenham. How has he treated you? Answer; I cannot speak. But—

“He is gone,
And his eyes are closed forever!”

People of Canada!—Revere his memory—respect his ashes—show to the Mother Land your grief for departed worth—your lamentations for by gone genius.

Men of Kingston!—Let us as one man witness the last rites of sepulture—let us mingle our tears o'er his dust—and hallowed be the ground that receives the relict!—Then let us

“No farther seek his merits to disclose,
Or drawn his frailties from their dread abode,
There they alike in trembling hope repose,
The bosom of his father and his God.”

Countrymen and Fellow Subjects!—Our interests are one—let our actions be the same. Our unity may be wanted; our energies demanded. The atmosphere of politics is o'erclouded; a storm of conflict menaces us. Then as children of the same womb, let us be linked—let us be rivetted. Generosity, Humanity and Religion forbid war, but if we are trampled upon, we must turn again.

Your Friend and Co-Subject,

A MANCHESTER MAN.

Kingston, September 19, 1841.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Kingston, 19th Sept. 1841.

Sir:—It is my painful duty to communicate to you the melancholy intelligence of the decease of His Excellency the Governor General. His Excellency breathed his last at five minutes after seven o'clock this morning.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

T. W. C. MURDOCH.

His Honour the Mayor of Toronto.

(From the Christian Guardian.)

It is with the deepest sorrow we give publicity to the foregoing Official announcement of the death of his Excellency the Governor General. A solemn and depressing gloom is over the Province, and an inscrutable Providence arrests and disappoints our attention, and we involuntarily ask, Why is it? That such an event should take place at the present juncture of Canadian affairs when, after deep anxiety and much deliberation, extensive plans have been devised, and only remain to be carried out; that such an event should take place when, at the close of the first Session of the Parliament of United Canada, the entire community are looking forward with the liveliest expectations for days of unprecedented civil, commercial, and religious prosperity; that at the very moment when his Lordship is about to enter on a splendid career for the achievement of what his wisdom designs; we say at such an eventful and interesting moment to have our hopes prostrated, is to be resolved into the actings of a sovereignty which befits Him only who is "Lord of Lords." How fugitive are sublunary anticipations, and how soon the brightest day may be overcast! Verily, O God! "thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return ye children of men. For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled." Wise shall we be if in the present melancholy exigence we learn without forgetfulness the lesson of our mortality, and wiser still, if we desire and prepare for "life and immortality."

The country has sustained an irreparable loss. As a Gentleman, Lord Sydenham was distinguished for his urbanity and condescension of manner; easy of access, and politely attentive to the poorest person who might seek an interview with him, he was beloved by all, and will long be remembered. As a Statesman, he had a clear perception of the extent and bearings of a subject, and was ever comprehensive in his views, ample and correct in his plans, practical in his purposes, and in the prosecution of his measures evinced "the stern exaltedness of zeal." As a Governor, his mind was expansive, taking in every object which claimed his consideration. The people whom he ruled were his care and their concerns he disinterestedly made his own. Selfishness was incompatible with his elevated station, and was a sin unconnected with his Administration. It becomes not us to state what there was to perplex and

confound a common spirit when he assumed the functions of his dignified office, but gratitude forbids our shunning to declare that at his death, he left harmony where there was discord, and brilliant hopes where brooded black despair. His fame as the Governor General of British North America will be transmitted to the latest posterity ; and if faithfulness to an important trust be the crowning virtue of a Representative, Royalty itself will deplore his loss.— The christian churches of the Province are his debtors, and not the least so the Wesleyan Methodist, for the valuable services he rendered them. The youth of our country have been deprived of a father ; and the lovers of civil and religious freedom of a conscientious and noble advocate. To say no more : the magnificent Public Improvements His Excellency projected, and was about to see accomplished, have rendered his illustrious name indelible in the hearts of a grateful, but now, alas, a bereaved people. Be this his highest eulogium, Lord Sydenham died as he lived, **THE FRIEND OF CANADA.**

(From the Christian Guardian.)

THE INTERMENT, AND INTERESTING PARTICULARS.

The obsequies of the Governor General were performed on Friday last, as will be seen from a particular notice of them following this article. Mournful and solemn was the occasion, and marked, and, we verily believe, sincere the respect shown by the gentlemen forming the procession, and by the thousands met to witness it; and as it passed from Alwington House to the tomb this truth, we doubt not, was impressive on all—Man must die. Our hope is that the impression will remain, and every spectator consider *his* latter end.

The day of interment, we are gratified to know, was made one of public mourning at all the leading towns in the Province, and that deep was the regret manifested. The authorities in this City, in Kingston, and elsewhere, have acted on the unprecedented and sad occasion in the most becoming manner. The same, we are pleased to observe, is the case, without a single exception, with the gentlemen of the provincial press, whose journals we have received since His Excellency's decease ; and whose notices of it we insert to-day. There is a forgetfulness of political partizanship, and all simultaneously step forward with tears to mourn for the illustrious dead, and, of some kind or other, to place a wreath on his bier.—

This is more than refined humanity ; it is christianity ; and when his Royal Mistress shall receive the tidings of the death of her noble servant—SYDENHAM, while it will deepen the anguish of her heart caused by his loss, that same heart will be soothed by the solemnly delightful fact, that her faithful Representative in Canada died the subject of a *universal* lamentation.

We believe the following are among the most interesting of the circumstances attending His Excellency's last illness. We have understood, that a few days after the fatal accident on the 4th inst., he expressed his conviction that he should never again rise from his bed. His bodily pain was most intense ; but the powers of his strong mind were unimpaired to the last. His Lordship's own medical attendants,—assisted by Dr. Widmer of Toronto—were unremitting in their attempts to restore their patient; but in vain. His domestic Chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Adamson, watched and served him with a pious solicitude, which showed how much he wished the eternal interests of the suffering subject of his prayers to be secured ; and favourable is the report which the *Church* gives of the calm magnanimity with which his Lordship met his fate. On Friday he had a lingering hope that he would be able to prorogue Parliament; but though even this was in his heart, it could not be. On the same day he asked one of his friends, whether there was any hope of his recovery; when his friend burst into tears, and thus answered in a manner His Excellency well understood. On Saturday morning he executed his will, and made presents to his confidential friends. The same day he received the Sacrament in the presence of every member of his family, and took an affectionate leave of each individually. During the day and night he had many spasmodic attacks; but at intervals was heard fervently engaged in prayer. During the evening he inquired of a gentleman whether Parliament was prorogued, and on being answered in the affirmative, replied, "Then all is right." One of his last affecting requests was, that he might be buried in Canada ; as if he had said, "Where my Canadian people are buried, there will I be buried." The *Montreal Herald* says, that after His Excellency had received the last offices of religion he remarked, "I have no further interest in sublunary affairs ; I am about to appear in the presence of my Creator to answer for my conduct in this world: pray for me." In that presence

he now appears. May his death be instructive to the entire community! He is gone; and we cannot better close this imperfect notice of the termination of the exalted career of our ever-to-be-esteemed Governor-General, than in the language of the *Montreal Courier*:—"It is not three months since that he told Col. Prince he would '*die in harness and in carrying out those measures he deemed essential to the SALVATION OF THIS COUNTRY.*' Canadians should remember this. It should be recorded on his tomb—on the monuments that they should raise to his memory now that he has departed from among us."

[From the *Christian Guardian*.]

We had nearly all our editorials for this week in type when we received the following mournfully-interesting communication, dated Kingston, from the Rev Egerton Ryerson; nevertheless, we very willingly postpone the publication of most of them to make room for his. We have read many an article from the pen of our able and esteemed predecessor in office, and we have read and admired; but in our estimation this surpasses, in comprehensiveness, beauty, and power, everything he ever wrote. It is an honor to his head and heart, and is just, affectionate, and grateful enough, to be deemed the eulogy of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, on the great, but now, alas, departed Lord SYDENHAM,—the wise, ardent, fearless, and to the very last—generous friend of that Church.

THE LATE LORD SYDENHAM GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA.

Kingston, Sept. 27, 1841.

To the Editor of the Christian Guardian.

MY DEAR SIR,—I left Toronto on Monday, the 20th instant, on board the *Niagara Steamer*. A little west of Cobourg we met the *St. George Steamer*, from Kingston, whose flag, half-mast high, told us that "a prince and a great man had fallen." Though the mournful intelligence was fully expected, this silent announcement agitated my whole frame, and prompted the involuntary exclamation. "For the sake of my country, would that I could have died for thee!" Mr. Attorney-General DRAPER was on board, and Mrs. MURDOCH—lady of the Chief Secretary—a lady of a highly

cultivated mind, who had presided at His Excellency's table when ladies were invited to the Government House. Mr. D's countenance spoke the language of a sorrowful heart; and Mrs. M. wept as one who had lost a friend and a brother. The countenance of almost every person in Kingston bore testimony to some public calamity. The assemblage at the funeral was immense; the solemnities of the melancholy occasion were appropriate and deeply affecting. You will receive accounts of them in Kingston papers. This is a mournful conclusion of the first Session of the first Parliament of United Canada; and it is rendered still more affecting by the recent publication of the Speech with which the late Governor General had intended to prorogue Parliament characterized by the natural and simple elegance of his fine taste—the sentiments of which are noble and patriotic—and the conclusion of which breathes a suppliant effusion of the heart which one cannot but wish the lips might have been permitted to utter.

Unlike the close of any Session of the Legislature which was ever held in either Province of Canada, the termination of the late Session will produce throughout Canada the opposite feelings of grateful joy and melancholy grief. The same Post which conveys to the people of Canada the tidings of the harmonious and happy conclusion of a Session unprecedented in the productiveness of comprehensive and valuable measures for the general improvement and social and intellectual elevation of the Province, conveys to them the appalling announcement that DEATH has terminated the earthly career of the noble mind which conceived those improvements and originated those institutions which will form a golden era in the annals of Canadian history, by laying the foundation of Canadian prosperity and greatness. While blessings are multiplied upon us, the agent of those blessings is removed from us, and our country is at the same moment, thrilled with joy and consternation—and on the same day vocal with thanksgivings and clothed in sackcloth—luminous with hope and involved in mourning. Thus do the strokes of providential chastisement accompany the outbeamings of providential munificence; and the brightest picture of human life is shaded with disappointment, suffering, and bereavement. It is in heaven only that death is unknown, that pain is never felt, and tears are never shed.

Utterly incompetent as I am to offer an appropriate tribute to the merits of Lord Sydenham, I should violate the obligations of gratitude and be dead to the emotions of patriotism, were I not to express my deep sense and profound admiration of the priceless value of his labours, and the generous ardour of his feeling for the welfare of my native country.

Lord Sydenham belongs essentially to Canada. His nobility was fairly earned in her service ; the ripest fruits of his experience and acquirements are embodied in her institutions ; his warmest and latest sympathies are blended with her interests ; his mortal remains repose, by choice, among her dead ; and his name is indelibly inscribed in the affectionate esteem and grateful recollections of her inhabitants. Plutarch mentions it as the misfortune of Phocion, that " he came to the helm when the public bottom was just upon sinking." That which was the bad fortune of the Athenian General has, by superior skill, been made the good fortune of our late Governor General, as well as the salvation of Canada. The "public bottom" of our best interests and last hopes was, indeed, visibly and rapidly sinking when Lord Sydenham "came to the helm ;" but His Excellency has not only saved the sinking ship ; he has piloted her safely amid the rocks and shoals of party selfishness and ignorance, and made adverse winds tributary to the progress of his voyage.

It is not easy to determine which is most worthy of admiration, the comprehensiveness and grandeur of Lord Sydenham's plans, the skill with which He overcame the obstacles that opposed their accomplishment, or the quenchless ardour and ceaseless industry with which he pursued them. To lay the foundations of public liberty, and at the same time to strengthen the prerogative ; to promote vast public improvements and not increase the public burdens ; to provide a comprehensive system of education upon Christian principles without interference with religious scruples : to promote the influence and security of the Government by teaching the people to govern themselves ; to destroy party faction by promoting the general good ; to invest a bankrupt country with both credit & resources, are conceptions and achievements which render Lord Sydenham the first benefactor of Canada, and place him in the first rank of Statesmen. His Lordship found a country divided, he left

it united ; he found it prostrate and paralytic, he left it erect and vigorous ; he found it mantled with despair, he left it blooming with hope. Lord Sydenham has done more in two years to strengthen and consolidate British power in Canada by his matchless industry and truly liberal conservative policy than had been done during the ten previous years by the increase of a standing army, and the erection of military fortifications. His Lordship has solved the difficult problem, that a people may be colonists and yet be free ; and, in the solution of that problem, he has gained a triumph less imposing but not less sublime and scarcely less important, than the victory of Waterloo ; he has saved millions to England, and secured the affections of Canada.

In the way of accomplishing these splendid results, the most formidable obstacles opposed themselves. At the foundation of these lay the hitherto defective theory and worse than defective system of Colonial Government ; a system destitute of the safety-valve of responsibility, of the attributes of freedom and of the essential materials of executive power ; a system which was despotic from its weakness, and arbitrary from its pretences to representation ; a system inefficient in the hands of good men, and withering in the hands of mistaken or bad men. There were the wrongs, and abuses, and public bankruptcy which had grown out of this system ; there were the party interests, and the party combinations and hostilities, which this system had fostered : there were the prejudices of one portion of the population, and the fears and suspicions of another ; there were the prescriptive assumptions of long possessed power, and the clamorous demands of long exclusion from power ; and worst of all, the conflicting claims of ecclesiastical pretensions ; there was the absence of public confidence, and the absence of any one man or body of men able to command that confidence. To lay the foundation of a government adapted to the social state and character of a population thus depressed, divided and sub-divided ; to provide for the efficient administration of all its departments ; to create mutual confidence and induce united action among leading men of all parties, without sacrifice of principle on the part of any, was a task difficult and hazardous to the last degree, and for even attempting which Lord Sydenham has been frequently ridiculed by persons of reputed knowledge and experience. It has often been

said of his Lordship, as it was said of the Earl of Chatham, that he "had made an administration so checkered and speckled—had put together a piece of joinery so crossly indented and whimsically dove-tailed; a cabinet so variously inlaid; such a piece of diversified mosaic, such a tassellated pavement without cement; here a bit of black stone, and there a bit of white; patriots and courtiers; king's friends and republicans; whigs and tories; treacherous friends and enemies; that it was indeed a very curious show, but utterly unsafe to touch, and unsure to stand on." But Lord Sydenham's acute discernment distinguished between the former and present state of things; he knew that a difference of opinion or of party under the former constitution of either Upper or Lower Canada, did not necessarily or fairly involve a similar difference under the new constitution of United Canada; he possessed the requisite energy and patriotism to act upon his convictions, and commenced the illustration of his advice to obliterate the differences of the past, by selecting his advisers and public officers according to individual fitness and merit, irrespective of former personal opinions or party connexions. The individuals of widely discordant parties who opposed Lord Sydenham's government upon the ground of former party associations, have been signally disappointed in their plans and expectations; whilst his Lordship's success equally redounds to his own honour and the public benefit. Few administrations of government in any country have acted so harmoniously and cordially on so great a number of important measures as the new administration formed by Lord Sydenham. An old writer has quaintly but truly observed—"If a man should see a large city or country, consisting of great multitudes of men, of different tempers, full of frauds, and factions, and animosities in their natures against one another, yet living together in good order and peace, without oppressing and invading one another, and joining together for the public good, he would presently conclude there were some excellent Governor, who tempered them by his wisdom, and preserved the public peace, though he had never yet beheld him with his eye." Never was the maxim of a great statesman more strikingly illustrated than in the Government of Lord Sydenham, that "The wisdom of government is of more importance than the laws."

By extreme partizans of all shades Lord Sydenham has been the object of unsparing abuse; but, as BURKE has beautifully remark-

ed, "obloquy is a necessary ingredient in the composition of all true glory ; and it was not only in the custom of the Romans, but it is in the nature and constitution of things, that calumny and abuse are essential parts of triumph."—Lord Sydenham's Government was instinct with energy, yet equally characterized by impartiality, mildness and liberality. The dying PERICLES is reported to have said to his applauding admirers, "You forget the only valuable part of my character : none of my fellow-citizens was ever compelled through any action of mine to ASSUME *a mourning robe.*" Lord Sydenham has, indeed, left Canada clad in sackcloth and mourning, yet not for any act of his Government, but for the sacrifice of his own life in it.

Lord Sydenham had finished the forty-second year of his age on the day but one before that of his decease. The death of such a man at such an age would, under any circumstances, be a mournful event. He had lived just long enough to develop his great powers, while there seemed, according to all human calculations, enough of life remaining to afford ample space for their matured exercise. "The tree was old enough to enable us to ascertain the quality of the fruit which it would bear, and, at the same time, young enough to promise many years of produce." But the peculiar circumstances under which we have lost him,—at such a time, so unexpectedly, when so much was still expected from his future efforts, and so much gratitude felt for his past efforts—add to every feeling of regret, and make the disappointment more severe and poignant to all thinking minds. But "the Judge of the earth will do right," although "His ways are in the great deep, and his paths past finding out."

To genius Lord Sydenham possessed no pretensions ; but what has been said of Charlemagne was true of his Lordship. He possessed "a great understanding, a great heart, and a great soul."—His mind was eminently practical, and habitually active ; he was a shrewd observer of men and things ; his knowledge was various and extensive, and always ready for practical application, and he descended to the minutest details of public business with astonishing quickness and accuracy. The interests of the country which he governed engrossed all his care, and seemed to form the element of his daily being. His plans were bold, comprehensive, and energe-

tic; and, having been deliberately adopted, he would not suffer prejudice or clamour to turn him aside from the pursuit of them. He valued prerogative only as the means of protecting and promoting public liberty and happiness. His despatches to the Secretary of State for the Colonies explaining the principles and objects of his measures breathe the most ardent and generous feeling in behalf of the civil and religious freedom and growing happiness and prosperity of the people of Canada. The publication of them will furnish the best eulogium upon his motives and character, while the operation of his magnificent plans will form a lasting monument of his wisdom and patriotism.

What Mr. Fox remarked of his friend the Duke of Bedford, may be said of Lord Sydenham—"He died, it is true, in a state of celibacy; but if they may be called a man's children whose concerns are dear to him as his own—to protect whom from evil is the daily object of his care, to promote whose welfare he exerts every faculty of which he is possessed; if such are to be esteemed our children, no man had ever a more numerous family."

I have time to add no more; nor to correct what I have written. When I commenced this unpremeditated and hasty sketch, I intended nothing more than to give vent to the feelings of my heart in a couple of paragraphs. But the subject has grown upon me—rather has overwhelmed me; and what I have said seems but a passage where there might be a volume—but a sickly ray, when there ought to be meridian splendour. Lord Sydenham's political conduct belongs to history; and I rejoice to learn that a most suitable and able historian has been selected by His Lordship, himself in the person of his Chief Secretary.

At the commencement of His Lordship's Mission in Upper Canada, when his plans were little known, his difficulties formidable, and his Government weak, I had the pleasing satisfaction of giving him my humble and dutiful support in the promotion of his non-party and provincial objects; and now that he is beyond the reach of human praise or censure—where all earthly ranks and distinctions are lost in the sublimities of eternity—I have the melancholy satisfaction of bearing my humble testimony to his candour, sincerity, faithfulness, kindness, and liberality. A few days before the

occurrence of the accident which terminated his life, I had the honour of spending an evening and part of a day in free conversation with His Lordship; and on that, as well as on former similar occasions, he observed the most marked reverence for the Truths of Christianity—a most earnest desire to base the civil institutions of the country upon Christian principles, with a scrupulous regard to the rights of conscience—a total absence of all animosity against any persons or parties who had opposed him—and an intense anxiety to silence dissensions and discord, and render Canada contented, happy, and prosperous. I am told that, the day before his lamented death, he expressed his regret that he had not given more of his time to religion. His mind was perfectly composed; he was in the full possession of his rational powers until he “ceased at once to work and live.” He transacted official business in the acutest agonies of suffering, even “when the hand of death was upon him;” the last hours of his life were spent in earnest supplication to that Redeemer in humble reliance upon whose atonement he yielded up the Ghost. Those who were most intimately acquainted and connected with Lord Sydenham are most warmly attached to him and most deeply deplore their loss; and few in Canada will not say, in the death of this lamented Nobleman and distinguished Governor—I have lost a Friend.

Yours very truly, E. RYERSON,

(From the *Christian Guardian*.)

LORD SYDENHAM'S DYING PRAYER FOR CANADA.

“May Almighty God prosper your labours, and pour down upon this Province all those blessings which in my heart I am desirous that it should enjoy.”—*The conclusion of the late Governor General's last public document.*

In another column will be found a letter from T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., Chief Secretary, to the Speaker of the Legislative Council, with a most interesting document accompanying it;—“the Speech which had been prepared by the late Governor General, to be delivered on the prorogation of the Legislature; but which his lamented illness prevented.” The Secretary's letter is beautifully simple and touching: the Speech produces a powerful emotion: and the

conclusion of it is perfectly irresistible, dedicated as it was "at a time when the hand of death was upon" the noble writer. If it be true, that the ruling passion is strong in death, our distinguished, but departed, Governor General loved Canada; and this Speech, which he dictated but did not—could not deliver, is remarkably confirmatory of the opinion we expressed last week:—"Lord Sydenham died as he lived, the Friend of Canada." Canada was on his Lordship's *heart*. Two years ago he left his native land, at the command of our beloved Sovereign, and arrived in the Colony at a time when the affairs were repulsive rather than attractive; and we believe it is beyond the power of any person to allege, that he did not live resolved to please his Sovereign and benefit her Canadian subjects. A difference of opinion has been expressed on some of His Excellency's measures, of the merits of which it is not our province to speak; but only one sentiment can be uttered respecting His Excellency's unreserved devotedness to our interests; a devotedness which no obstacles could dishearten, no bodily afflictions limit, and which death only could terminate. And when this was inevitable, his request was, that he might be buried in Canada;—the land of his attachment, the land of his undying solicitude, the land of his glorious deeds. He died blessing Canada. Undisturbed be his ashes till the morning of the resurrection!—Canada was in his Lordship's *plans*. It is even a hackneyed saying, "The Governor General attempts much for the country." The truth is, he thought much, and was ever occupied with projects intended for our good. A catalogue of the Bills which have been passed in Eastern and Western Canada under his administration, with the reasons which led to their adoption, and the results which have followed, or are likely to follow their adoption, would say much in favour of the greatness, originality, and wisdom of his mind; and all he did, he did for our country.—Canada was in his *prayers*. "May Almighty God . . . pour down upon this Province all those blessings which in my heart I am desirous that it should enjoy!" What "all those blessings" were we may without mistake suppose from his lofty and liberal official course;—blessings civil, commercial, educational, and religious, for the old and the young, the poor and the rich, the untaught and the accomplished, the pious and the profane, to latest generations;—blessings which we believe it was the desire of his heart should be universally diffused. This then was our dying

Chief Ruler's prayer, when the heart was ceasing to beat—when the hand had nearly forgotten its cunning—when earth was receding—when the veil of eternity was being drawn; in that dread moment he remembered—CANADA. Never did patriotism utter language invested with a deeper pathos, or breathe a spirit more befitting the bed of death: and of the regretted intercessor, and all like him whose stupendous public acts are their triumph and their praise, we affirm,

“ They never fail who die
In a great cause.”

To his Lordship's last prayer we say, AMEN : and from the Atlantic to the Huron, in every human dwelling, and deep in every British heart, and loud on every fervent tongue, will be heard the solemn response.

(From the British Colonist.)

It becomes our painful duty to convey to our readers the melancholy intelligence of the lamented death of His Excellency, the Right Honorable Lord Sydenham, Governor General of British North America, who departed this life at Alwington House near Kingston, on Sunday morning last.

The memory of Lord Sydenham will always be revered by the people of Canada, and no tribute of respect which they can shew to his departed worth, can express the debt of gratitude which the country owes His Lordship. From the period of the first arrival of the late Governor General, (then the Right Honorable Charles Poulett Thomson) at Quebec, in October 1839, to the day of his death, he not only evinced the greatest anxiety for the welfare of the country, the government of which he had been charged with by his Sovereign, but even when labouring under severe bodily affliction, his government was distinguished by a degree of vigor and energy, unusual under former administrations, and which did not fail to unite the great body of the people in his support, and to call forth the marked approval of his Sovereign. Looking back to the first proclamation issued by the late Governor General, on his assuming the government at Quebec, on the 19th October, 1839, we find that his most anxious wish was declared to be to promote to the utmost of his power the welfare of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects,—

to reconcile existing differences,—to apply a remedy to proved grievances,—to extend and protect the trade, and enlarge the resources of the Colonies entrusted to his charge—and above all, to promote whatever may bind them to their mother country, by increased ties of interest and affection. The progress of his government from that period, to the close of the first Parliament of the Province at Kingston, is the best evidence that can be pointed to, to shew the faithfulness of his adherence to his first announcement,—and that too amidst difficulties and obstacles which few could have summoned the courage to contend against, far less the ability to overcome.

The tranquility and contentment which now prevail throughout the country, are in striking contrast with the unsettled state of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, when the late Governor General first assumed the Government ; and were there nothing further to be grateful for, than the progress that has been made in reconciling differences, that is of itself sufficient to endear to the Canadian people, the memory of their departed Ruler.

On the first arrival at Toronto of the late Governor General, addresses of congratulation were poured in from all parts of the Province, and these were conveyed and presented by deputations from the various districts. The last session of the U. C. Parliament followed, at which that great and important measure, the Union of the Provinces was agreed to ; and afterwards His Excellency having visited all parts of the country, the addresses that were presented to him by the people, confirmed their former declarations of confidence in his government, and conveyed their perfect acquiescence in the measure for a union that had been adopted.—The best proof of the success, and of the beneficial effects to the country of that change, is to be found in the many valuable measures that have been passed by the Parliament just prorogued, and the great good which, by proper management and care on the part of the people themselves, must inevitably result, from them.

To Lord Sydenham, the people of Canada are greatly indebted, for the establishment of those local municipal councils, which place the management and control of their affairs in their own hands.—This, under proper directions, and by the exercise of a prudent judgment, on the part of the people, is the greatest boon that has ever been conferred on them. His Lordship drew a broad distinc-

tion between the works that ought to be undertaken by the Province and those which ought to be performed by districts,—for which latter purpose these Councils have been established. This he thus explained,—“ I am of opinion that works of general utility should be undertaken by the Province, and are subjects for deliberation by the Executive and the Legislature,—but it is no less necessary that upon all the lesser matters affecting their interest, the people should acquire HABITS OF SELF-DEPENDENCE, and that means should be afforded them in each separate district, of effecting themselves that which they consider for their own interest.” The District Council Act may be regarded as a legacy from a great Ruler to a grateful people!

But in these cursory remarks, it is not our purpose to review the government of Lord Sydenham,—nor even to allude to the great leading measures of his administration,—but we have been led imperceptibly into the foregoing statements, which we trust may not be considered inappropriate.

Lord Sydenham, like all mankind, had his enemies as well as his friends,—but in this Province, the former were few in comparison to the latter. His great care has been to advance the public welfare, and that he should have had to encounter in the performance of so arduous a task, personal, or even the most bitter sectional opposition, is only what might have been expected. Under his Lordship's auspices the government of the country has been placed upon such a basis, as that, hereafter, to be successfully carried on, it must be cherished and supported by the people,—it must find a place in their affections.

Before his decease we understand that, Lord Sydenham suffered much bodily pain,—but he retained his faculties to the last. On Friday evening, in presence of the whole household, he partook of the Sacrament of the Lords' Supper,—he died on the Sunday following, and in him Canada has indeed lost a friend and benefactor.

Besides His Lordships' other medical attendants, Dr. Widmer, of Toronto, was sent for, and proceeded on Friday to Kingston, whence he returned on Sunday evening.

His Excellency having expressed a wish to be buried in Canada, we have been informed that the Funeral will take place on Friday next, and that his remains will be deposited within the Episcopal Church at Kingston. Lord Sydenham is dead! In peace rest his

ashes! He has been a benefactor to Canada,—and no true patriot can deny the fact!—But, we are a most ungrateful set in this country. Let every man who reads this, before he kicks up his heels, put the question to himself, and ask, whether we have not spoken the truth?

The administration of the government devolves upon Lieutenant General Sir Richard Jackson, Commanding the Forces in Canada.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, Monday Evening, Sept. 20, 1841.

To the City of Toronto :—It is with feelings of deep sorrow I have to announce to you the following Dispatch, this evening received from the Government House, Kingston.

GEORGE MONRO, *Mayor*.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, Kingston, 19th Sept. 1841.

Sir :—It is my painful duty to communicate to you the melancholy intelligence of the decease of His Excellency the Governor General. His Excellency breathed his last at five minutes after seven o'clock this morning.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

T. W. C. MURDOCH.

His Honour the Mayor of Toronto.

(*From the Examiner.*)

It is with feelings of the deepest regret that we give publicity to the foregoing announcement of the demise of the Governor General of British America. The sufferings endured by His Excellency since the occurrence of the late unfortunate accident have been intense, and were borne with the greatest fortitude. We understand that he was in the full possession of his faculties to the very last. On the morning of his death he took an affectionate leave of all his friends, who were most sincerely and devotedly attached to him. Whatever differences of opinion may have existed on particular measures of Lord Sydenham's administration, we feel assured that His Lordship's name will long be held in grateful recollection by the people of United Canada. His Lordship assumed the Government of these Provinces at a period of the greatest difficulty, and when we compare the present state of public feeling with that which then existed, we are bound to admit that his administration has on the whole been an eminently successful one. The result of the

first Session of the United Legislature, which we have elsewhere referred to, must have been in the highest degree satisfactory to His Lordship, confirming, as it has done, the hopes of some and dispelling the fears of others, as to the working of that Union which it was the especial object of his mission to carry into effect. His Lordship was on the eve of his departure for England, where he would doubtless have been rewarded with fresh marks of the favour of His Sovereign, when the accident occurred by which he has been cut off in the prime of life and in the full vigour of his intellect.— Well may we join in the common exclamation—“*Sic transit gloria mundi.*” We feel but little inclination at present, either to review the general policy of the distinguished nobleman whose loss we have now to deplore, or to speculate on the disasters which may befall this country in consequence of his death. We shall defer these topics till a more fitting opportunity offers. At present we shall content ourselves with joining our cotemporaries, and the public at large, in expressing those feelings of sincere sorrow, which, we are well assured, pervade all classes of society. In this City, most of the principal Merchants shew their feelings by partly closing their windows. We presume that there will be due regard paid to the event in all our Churches next Sunday; and are pleased to hear of one Clergyman who intends to deliver a discourse upon the subject on the evening of that day.

(*From the Examiner.*)

We have copied elsewhere, from the *Kingston Chronicle*, an account of the Funeral of the late lamented Governor General, and we have also transferred to our columns some of the notices of his Lordship's death by the cotemporary press. In this section of the Province political hostility seems to have been entirely forgotten, and there is one general acknowledgment from all quarters not only of the great talents of the deceased nobleman but of his unwearied exertions for the interests of Canada. It was our misfortune very frequently to be compelled to dissent from the line of policy adopted by Lord SYDENHAM, more especially from that followed in the Eastern section of the Province; but we have been ever ready to make allowances for the difficulties with which he was encompassed, and we should be ungrateful indeed were we to withhold our

humble acknowledgments for the many essential services which he has rendered to our adopted country. During his Lordship's brief administration the Union of the Canadas was matured and carried into full operation. True, the Union Bill is far from perfect in its details, but we are justified in asserting that public opinion has quite sufficient influence in the House of Assembly to ensure the amendment of all objectionable provisions, and that too at no very remote period. The principle of Responsible Government has been fully recognized. The members of the administration, all of whom were Heads of Departments, distinctly avowed on the floor of the House, their responsibility to Parliament for the measures of Government. They acted together in perfect harmony and concert with regard to those measures, and although there were occasional deviations from British practice, yet that practice was always acknowledged as their rule, and a more strict adherence to it in future may be anticipated.— Whatever political differences there may have been in the House it was felt by every one that there was an administration, and that its existence depended on the support of a Parliamentary majority. Were we to pause here we feel that we should have said enough to prove that the name of Lord Sydenham should ever be held in grateful remembrance by the people of Canada. But we are bound further to acknowledge, that we are indebted to the energy and practical talents of his Lordship for the most important measures of last session, more particularly for the magnificent scheme of public improvements, and the favourable arrangements relative to our debt. It is not, in all probability, at the present moment that full justice will be done to the administration of Lord Sydenham, although, as far as the press is an indication of public opinion, there has never, we believe, been a more general expression of regret for the loss of a public man. Widely extended, however, as is that feeling, it will, we are assured, be much more so after the lapse of a few years. The existing political asperities will then have entirely subsided, and Lord Sydenham will only be remembered as the founder of our constitution, and as the individual who brought into practical operation that sound British principle of Responsible Government by means of which alone the connection between the Colony and the Parent State can be preserved.

(From the *Toronto Patriot*.)

It is with feelings of no ordinary regret and solemnity that we have to announce the untimely death of the Representative of our Sovereign, the GOVERNOR GENERAL of British North America.— This melancholy event took place on Sunday morning after seven A. M.

His EXCELLENCY's health, which had never been strong, was rapidly improving up to the happening of the accident by which his leg was lately fractured. The effect produced thereby on his weak constitution was fatal. Two or three days since the spasms of his old disease again attacked him, but until Friday no positive alarm for his life was felt—all that night his strength rapidly failed and on Saturday his death was hourly looked for. His own physician, Dr. Farncombe, Dr. Samson and Dr. Widmer were in constant attendance. Towards noon, the hour fixed for the Prorogation of Parliament, he continued to sink with fatal swiftness. The Rev. Mr. Adamson, Chaplain to the Legislative Council attended him almost without intermission and administered to him those last consolations of our Holy Religion which we are assured by a constant eye-witness of the melancholy scene were deeply and sincerely appreciated by the dying sufferer. On Saturday evening he received the Sacrament in company with most of his house-hold, and appeared calmer and better after that holy rite. During the night his sufferings are described to have been of the most agonizing and trying description, and his fortitude under their cruel pressure remarkable & determined. A few minutes before 7 on Sunday morning he was released by death from his agonies. He was perfectly sensible and collected to the very last moment. The Rev. Mr. Adamson, by his especial desire, never quitted him to the last.

Thus died in the prime of life and the full vigor of an active mind and strong intellect the *Governor General* of British North America. Throughout the vast dominions that he Governed the occurrence of such an event cannot fail to give rise to feelings of no ordinary nature. His sojourn amongst us has been marked by unprecedented and marvellous changes. His name has little prospect of being forgotten, and to another period, and perhaps another generation, may be devolved the task of writing the epitaph of the departed Representative of Royalty.

We believe His EXCELLENCY expressed a desire to be buried in Canada.

[*From the Patriot.*]

We perceive by the official notice in the *Kingston Chronicle* that the Funeral of the late Lord SYDENHAM takes place this day, Friday, at 11 A. M.

The Mayor of Toronto on receipt of the melancholy tidings of his Excellency's death issued an official notification thereof to the citizens couched in terms suitable to the occasion. The inhabitants almost universally testified their sense of the unhappy event by half closing their shops and have continued so to do till the present day.

His Lordship is to be buried in the Episcopal Church, Kingston.

His Worship the Mayor of Toronto has just issued a proclamation well befitting the solemnity of the occasion, which we have no doubt will be universally obeyed. We believe that had the funeral taken place on Saturday as had been first mentioned, the Corporation of Toronto would have gone down to attend the melancholy ceremonial and offered that last tribute of respect to the departed Representative of Royalty.

(*From the Church.*)

Lord Sydenham breathed his last at Alwington House, near Kingston, on the morning of Sunday last, the 19th September, at five minutes past seven o'clock.

His Lordship came to this country with a shattered constitution, and even had not the accession of Sir Robert Peel to power entailed upon him the necessity of returning to England, the severity of the climate would not have permitted him to remain. Accordingly he had prepared for his departure on the close of the Session, and had even heard of the arrival of the frigate at Halifax which was to convey him home. His health, which not long before had suffered a severe shock, was gradually improving, when the fatal accident occurred, which, from the first, gave rise to uneasy apprehensions, and ultimately terminated his existence. It happened, we believe, in the following manner:—His Lordship, on the 4th September, was riding a spirited horse near the Parliament House, but could not, for a long time, get the animal to pass that building. After a severe application of spur and whip, however, the horse proceeded, but immediately after put his foot upon a large loose stone lying in

the road, and not being able to recover himself, fell and dragged his rider with him, fracturing the leg and lacerating it above the knee. Assistance was immediately procured, and Lord Sydenham was placed in a cart that happened to be near, and taken home.— All that medical skill could do, of course, was done; his own physician, Dr Farndon, and Dr Sampson were in constant attendance; and it was generally supposed that the patient was slowly recovering. The symptoms, however, in time became alarming, and Dr Widmer, who had been sent for, arrived on Friday, the 17th, from Toronto. But all human aid proved unavailing. His Lordship felt conscious of the approach of death, and prepared himself to meet it with a calmness and fortitude which have deservedly commanded universal admiration and respect. Though racked with pain, he continued to devote the energies of his active mind to the public business. He arranged all his worldly affairs, and, with a minute thoughtfulness which every kind-hearted man and every lover of animals will appreciate, made a present of his dogs to Mr. Baring, his nephew and aide-de-camp. His faculties remained unimpaired by the paroxysms of acute pain with which he was visited; and, though our principles forbade us to use the language of eulogy with reference to His Excellency, when living, we can now sincerely say that every circumstance, connected with his last moments, of which we have heard, was such as became the death-bed of a Christian. The Rev. W. A. Adamson, the Chaplain to the Legislative Council, who seems, even before the hour of sickness, to have won the confidence of His Lordship, was unremitting in his attendance and spiritual consolations, when the danger became certain and imminent. On Saturday evening the reverend gentleman administered the Holy Sacrament to the noble sufferer, and to the several members of the household, whom His Lordship had invited to unite with him in the sacred ordinance, and most solemn farewell. After this for a time, Lord Sydenham felt somewhat relieved; but excruciating agonies again overtook him; and having previously taken a tender leave of his sorrowing friends, and continuing earnest at his devotions, in a firm and clear voice, he met death with a tranquil and collected mind; and, in the presence of Mr. Adamson, resigned his spirit to the merciful God who gave it.

Such a melancholy termination to a splendid and prosperous career of human greatness must excite a deep and general sympathy;

and the most determined opponent of Lord Sydenham's administration, will, if he be worthy of the name of man, bury all personal animosity in his tomb. We do not ask any one to suffer emotions of compassion to overpower his judgement, and alter his conscientious opinion of His Lordship's character as a statesman; but we trust that his memory will be treated with that forbearance, which is consistent with a love of truth, and with that gentleness and pity, which the circumstances of his mournful departure suggest. Far away from his native land with few of his kindred about him, in the very hour when success had crowned his administration, and when he was about to return home, and, for the first time, take his seat in the noblest and most august legislative assembly in the world, the House of Lords, death came, and in a few days, levelled to the ground the fabric of prosperity and grandeur, which had just received its completion.

We understand that the leg of Lord Sydenham, which was bruised by his fall, was opened, after death, by some of the medical men, and did not exhibit the slightest appearance of healing, remaining exactly in the state which it must have been immediately after the accident. The other leg was afflicted with gout; and spasmodic affections, resulting from that dreadful disease, and almost approaching in intensity to lock-jaw, aggravated the bodily torments which His Lordship endured with so much resignation and meekness.

The funeral is announced to take place at 11 o'clock, on the morning of Friday, the 24th instant. It is said that the Executive Council wished that the body should be interred at Toronto, as the city whence His Lordship derived one of his titles, and as he had expressed a wish to be buried in Canada, not specifying any particular place. The Executors, however, Major Campbell, the Military Secretary, and Mr. Dowling, who was Lord Sydenham's private legal adviser, have determined otherwise, and His Lordship's remains are to be deposited in St. George's Church, at Kingston. Mr. Murdoch, the Chief Secretary, it is currently reported, is to receive a legacy of £500 under His Lordship's will, for writing an account of the administration of the deceased Governor General.

Every proper mark of respect, such as the melancholy event requires, has been paid by public authorities, and private individuals. The Mayor of Kingston has recommended that the day of the fu-

neral be observed as "a day of mourning with every suitable solemnity, and that all shops and places of business be closed, and all trading and mechanical operations cease during the day." In this city the Mayor, upon being apprized of his Lordship's demise, officially notified it to the citizens, and almost all the shops have since been partially closed. His Worship has since issued a proclamation to the same effect as that set forth by the Mayor of Kingston, with this addition, that he requests all Masters and owners of Vessels in the Port of Toronto to cause their colours to be hoisted half-mast high, and to discontinue their loading and unloading, or other business, until sun-down of the day of the funeral. Preparations are being made to put up black hangings in the Cathedral, and nothing, we are sure, which decency and good feeling require, will be left undone by the whole community.

Lord Sydenham is the second person who has died Governor General of Canada. The Duke of Richmond, alone of his predecessors, departed life while holding that high station. His Grace perished from the bite of a fox, which caused lock-jaw. The Earl of Durham, who died about a twelvemonth ago, did not long survive his return from Canada. Except the Marquis Cornwallis, who breathed his last in India, while Governor General, we recollect no other representative of Majesty, dying in the colony which he was appointed to govern. It is rather a strange coincidence that Lord Sydenham's decease should so speedily have followed that of General Harrison, the late President of the United States.

Of the early life of Lord Sydenham, we are not well informed, but we believe that he was the son of an eminent English Merchant, and that, as a young man, he resided for some time at St. Petersburg, extensively engaged in that most valuable branch of commerce, the Tallow-trade. He subsequently was returned to the House of Commons, and became a Member of that Liberal Administration, which, with some changes, has for the last eleven years, held the reins of power, and only just resigned them to the more able and conservative hands of Sir Robert Peel. His conduct in this capacity is thus spoken of in the *Random Recollections of the House of Commons*, an ephemeral work of no very great credit or ability. The account, however, of Lord Sydenham, then Mr. Thomson, seems tolerably correct :

“Mr. POULETT THOMSON, Member for Manchester, and President of the Board of Trade, is chiefly distinguished for his free-trade notions. He is intimately acquainted with commercial subjects, and is tolerably informed on most political questions. He is a man of very considerable talents; but his manner of delivery greatly mars the effect of his speeches. He invariably speaks in a drawling melancholy sort of tone, as if labouring under great dejection of spirits. There is a twang about his voice, especially at the conclusion of his sentences, of which it were impossible to convey any idea by mere description, but which has a saddening effect on his hearers. His enunciation is notwithstanding, very distinct; and though he does not speak very loudly, he is generally audible in all parts of the house. His personal appearance is of a pensive serious cast. Nature, I think, must have intended him for the pulpit. He uses very little gesture when speaking, and that little is as monotonous as the tones of his voice. He slightly moves his right arm, and from the beginning to the close of his speech, turns his face, first to the members of the Opposition on his left hand, and then to those on his right. He appears to most advantage in a set speech, though I have seen some of his replies very happy. He is of a mild disposition. He never indulges in coarse abuse or personal vituperation of an opponent. When he speaks he is always listened to with attention. His utterance is rapid, and he speaks seemingly with much ease. His language is correct, but there is no appearance of its being studiously polished.

“In person Mr. Poulett Thomson is rather above the middle size, and of somewhat slender make. His hair is dark—so is his complexion. He rejoices in whiskers of goodly proportions. His nose is large, and of a form approaching the aquiline. His features are strongly marked; so much so that any one who had seen him once would be sure to recognise him again. He is about forty years of age. He is always plain in his dress.”

In the Autumn of 1839, Lord Sydenham succeeded Sir John Colborne (the present Lord Seaton) as Governor General of British North America. Having effected the Union, he was rewarded in 1840 with the peerage, as Baron of Sydenham in Kent, and of Toronto in Canada. But a very few weeks before his death, if indeed it was so much, he received, as an additional mark of royal favour, the order of Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. The *Kingston Herald* states, and we believe correctly, that His Excellency had commenced his 42nd year on the Friday preceding his decease. His title expires with him.

Since the above was written, we have received the *Kingston Chronicle*, from which we take the following additional particulars:—

“It was on Friday night that His Excellency asked one of his

friends whether there was any hope of his ultimate recovery, when the gentleman to whom the question was put burst into tears, the meaning of which His Excellency immediately understood. * * When he had partaken of the Sacrament, which he did in company with every member of his family, he took an affectionate leave of each of them individually. * * * He executed his Will on Saturday morning, and made presents of a variety of little things to his confidential friends. On Saturday evening he asked a gentleman in attendance if Parliament was prorogued, and on being answered in the affirmative, replied—"then all is right."

(From the Mirror.)

The death of the Governor General has cast a gloom over all parties. Singularly coincident with the prorogation of a Parliament which had shown the most extraordinary readiness to carry out his political views, his death happened at the very moment when he saw his almost every scheme in the full tide of successful accomplishment—another striking lesson on the vanity of human hopes. He dies lamented by his political supporters, as the good genius of Canada, and by all as a great man, and one of the brightest ornaments of English statesmanship.

(From the Toronto Herald.)

Opposed as we have always been to his Lordship's policy, we should be wanting in the attributes of humanity did we not sincerely deplore Lord Sydenham's untimely end, and, in common with our cotemporaries, manifest that respect which is due to his Lordship's memory. We merge all political considerations in the general sympathy for his Lordship's premature death—suddenly cut off as he was in the flower of his life and the vigor of his intellect—and though we cannot honestly join in the eulogies penned by Lord Sydenham's admirers, far be it from us, while his unburied corpse lies cold in its winding sheet, to originate a single remark either derogatory to his abilities as a statesman, or disrespectful to his character as a gentleman. The Representative of our Sovereign has been called, by an inscrutable Providence, from time into eternity, and every British subject will unite in paying proper respect to his memory.

(From the Montreal Courier.)

LORD SYDENHAM IS DEAD.—The energetic mind from whose labours Canada has received so much, and to whose untiring genius and skill she yet looked to receive so much more, is stilled and powerless. The lips which dictated the wisest policy this country ever knew, are mute and motionless. The high intellect which could comprehend the most intricate questions, and unravel as by magic the entangled interests of the country, has ceased to exist ; and all that belonged to the man has been swallowed up by death, leaving enough to cause us ever to regret that intentions so vast, designs so important, determinations so firm, talents so transcendent, should thus pass away, as it were in the face of their own glory.

We can scarcely bring ourselves to write the words that announce this event. It has come on us like a thunder clap. It is the saddest conclusion to a mighty triumph that the imagination can picture. Wolfe conquered and died—his was the victory of the Soldier. Lord Sydenham has done no less—but his is a peaceful victory—and yet his fate is the same.

If there was ever a man who fell a martyr to his principles—that man was Charles Poulett Thomson. Canada has had the best of him—his last parting energies were exerted in her cause, his last breath yielded for her. It is not three months since that he told Colonel Prince he would “*die in harness and in carrying out those measures he deemed essential to the salvation of this country.*”—Canada should remember this. It should be recorded on his tomb—on the monuments that they should raise to his memory, now that he has departed from amongst us.

It is now two years since Lord Sydenham arrived in Canada to carry out the plans which Lord Durham had done little more than suggest. Since the moment he set foot on our shores he devoted himself to the task with an energy which his weak state of health rendered it quite impossible he could sustain for a long period of time, and which latterly had reduced him to the last stage of weakness. Still he would not desist, and even had the state of political parties allowed him some time to unbend from the severe duties of his office it is possible that the man would have rejected the opportunity. None was less inclined to trust to others what he could do by

himself than Lord Sydenham. He combined in himself all the qualities of the man of business and the statesman, and had his bodily vigour been as powerful as his mental, nothing could have withstood him.

Lord Sydenham's name is for ever connected with the fortunes of Canada. The Act of Union was in a great part his work, and the success which has hitherto attended its practical operations all his. The reward of nobility which his conduct drew from the Sovereign could not have been better deserved. It was purchased with his life.

His Lordship has not been in one respect more fortunate than the meanest of his fellows; he could not escape slander. His enemies will now perhaps observe the motto—“*De mortuis nil nisi bonum,*” but their shafts could not touch him, and his policy, which will survive his body, offers the best defence to his memory.

(From the Montreal Courier.)

LORD SYDENHAM.—All the public journals we have yet seen—all persons with whom we have conversed—speak but one language respecting this deceased Nobleman. Party feeling is disarmed, and personal animosity falls away before a conviction of the deep loss Canada has sustained. The most virulent—the most offensive of his opponents dare not so far insult public opinion as to do violence to his memory, and those who conscientiously dissented from his policy are the loudest in their expressions of grief at his loss.

From the late information received from Kingston, we learn that his Lordship was sensible till a few hours before his decease, and prepared to meet death with that firmness of mind which was natural to him. Having ascertained from those around him that his medical attendants had relinquished all hopes, he dictated some alterations to his will, received the sacrament, and having particularly enquired whether Major-General CLITHEROW had prorogued the Parliament, exclaimed, on being answered in the affirmative,—“Now then I die content.”

His Lordship's remains will be conveyed to England directly that means are afforded for their transportation, and in the meantime will be preserved in a leaden coffin.

(*From the Montreal Courier.*)

OUR PROSPECTS.—The effects of the first shock which the tidings of the Governor's death occasioned have begun to pass away.—The events of a Session, the most important in the history of the Colony, are commencing to be appreciated, and the future gleams before us unobstructed by the clouds which a People's grief had cast upon the view.

LORD SYDENHAM has sunk to his eternal rest ; but out of his ashes there shall arise the glory and the strength of the land, raising his monument at every point to which he has extended her commerce, and reciting his epitaph in every white sail that studs the bosom of her waters.

That we revere his memory we seek not to conceal, nor is the avowal repressed by the forced frown of his foes, be they who they may.

“ Here's a sigh for those who love,
And a smile for those who hate,”

—he might well have afforded to say, ere the seal of everlasting silence was apposed to his lips, and while the light of another world guided his tongue to truth. With a talent for business of the very highest order, and far more untiringly and energetically applied than that of the meanest or most elevated servant of the public, none ever more unobtrusively employed his genius, while the faults of no man, who had so few, were ever more diabolically exaggerated for the basest of conceivable purposes.

From the creations of LORD DURHAM'S and LORD SYDENHAM'S minds, we believe this Colony will reach as high a state of prosperity as it is naturally and politically susceptible of. We believe it, in spite of the bugbears of alarmists, and selfish politicians :—we believe it, notwithstanding the projects of defeated envy and ambition, and regardless of the efforts of the disaffected.

Those who croak about the change of policy that may be expected from the successor of the late Governor General are woefully deceiving themselves, and pay a very doubtful compliment to their anticipated Patron. It is not because SIR HOWARD DOUGLASS may call himself a Conservative in England that we expect his policy will be opposed to that of a predecessor who in home politics happened to belong to another party. No ; there is but one way of thinking on Canadian matters both with Whigs and Tories. It is

not with reference to the side of the House of Commons which he may have supported in England, that Sir HOWARD DOUGLASS is called upon to shape his course : neither was it by any such senseless test that Lord SYDENHAM directed his Government, but it is and must be as Governor of Canada that he will be called upon, as his predecessor was, to act, and with reference to the interests of this Colony, and his administration of them he must be judged. If it were otherwise, it is evident that the most absurd consequence would follow, and we should in future be subject to the triennial transplantation of all the dissensions that rack the Parent State, without a prospect of once rising to the dignity of asserting rights of our own to be judged of independently of what Whigs and Tories are quarreling about at home.

It is, therefore, because we believe that the great plans of Lord SYDENHAM will be carried out by his successor, and because the opinions of the latter on English politics cannot affect in the least his judgment of what is good for this Country, that we repeat with an ardent hope for the verification of what we assert, that a high state of prosperity awaits the Province of Canada.

(From the Montreal Courier.)

We fully concur in the following remarks of the *Montreal Gazette*, and only trust that there is sufficient honesty and firmness in the Colony to insist that the course pointed out shall be pursued.— Indeed, without this is done we see little chance of better days for Canada :—

“ With respect to this Province in particular, while we have to lament the sudden and deplorable death of one whom we may denominate as the founder of a new and better order of things, there is every reason to hope and believe, that the enlightened principles by which his conduct and general policy were regulated, will not be deviated from either in the new Councils of the nation or of the Province. To anticipate the contrary, would be to anticipate our own ruin and destruction as a British Colony. To act otherwise would be madness, and pave the way to a speedy but final dismemberment of the Empire. Of these important facts, the great and influential body of the new Government of the nation are well aware; for they not only lent their almost unanimous sanction to the union of the Provinces of Canada, but to the necessary and incidental measures built upon it. Again we repeat, that these measures will not, and cannot be deviated from.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)

It is with deep sorrow that we perform the painful duty of announcing the demise of His Excellency the Right Honourable Charles Poulett Thomson, Baron Sydenham and Toronto, Governor General of all Her Majesty's Provinces on the Continent of North America. This Melancholy event took place at Alwington House, near Kingston, on Sunday morning, at five minutes past seven o'clock, to the general regret of all Her Majesty's subjects in the Province, and, we much fear, to the no small detriment of the public affairs of the country, with every branch of which his Lordship was intimately conversant, and which he uniformly conducted with a vigour of mind and decision of purpose, which will ever reflect lustre on his public character as Her Majesty's Representative in these Provinces.

His Lordship's last illness was severe, though of but short duration. On the 7th instant, while riding, for exercise, in the neighbourhood of Kingston, his horse stumbled and fell with him, by which his right leg was fractured near the ankle, and also received a severe contusion above the knee. The accident was unfortunate in every respect, and still more so in its fatal consequences; but it was not of a character to excite alarm, except in connexion with its anticipated influence upon the painful malady of the gout, to which his Lordship was, we believe, subject from early life, to which he had been a martyr almost ever since his arrival in Canada, and from a severe attack of which, he had scarcely recovered when the lamentable accident took place. The fears anticipated were but too fatally realized. The gout returned, as we are informed, with redoubled violence; and a painful illness of a few days, which his Lordship bore with fortitude, put an end to his mortal existence.

His Lordship, as Mr. Thomson, succeeded Sir John Colborne, now Lord Seaton, in the immediate administration of this Province, and arrived at Quebec on the 16th of October 1839. On the 10th, he assumed the reins of Government; and soon afterwards visited this city, and other parts of the country, holding Sessions of the then existing Legislatures of Upper and Lower Canada. On the 10th of August, 1840, Her Majesty was pleased to raise the late Governor-General to the Peerage of the United Kingdom, by the titles to which we have already alluded, as a distinguished mark of ap-

probation, no doubt, of the manner in which he conducted the important Government entrusted to his care. On the 20th of May last, His Lordship, while still in delicate health, left this city for Kingston, for the purpose of opening the first Session of the United Legislature of Canada, but which, from the alarming character his indisposition had assumed, he was only destined to close by deputation. It was intended that this ceremony should take place in His Excellency's apartment on Friday last; but his Lordship was unable to undergo the fatigue, and, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Union, a Commission was issued, appointing Major-General Clitherow to be Deputy-Governor for the purposes therein mentioned; which, we believe, were confined to the giving the Royal sanction to some of the Bills passed during the Session, referring others for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure, and proroguing the Provincial Parliament.

This is not the time to speak at large of the true character and merits of the various public measures, which will long render the short but important Administration of Lord Sydenham memorable in the history of this province. It will be sufficient merely to observe, that the whole of them were directed to the great national & cardinal point of cultivating the resources of the Province; of laying the foundation of free and liberal institutions, which, if administered in the spirit in which they were conceived, cannot fail to render it happy and prosperous; and of perpetually cementing its welfare and its interests with those of the Mother Country. Above all, the deep interest, the unquenchable zeal, the patriotic ardour, the firmness of purpose, and the undeviating resolution and perseverance which, at all times and on all occasions, were exhibited by his Lordship, in carrying into effect the grand healing measure of the Re-union of the Provinces, justly entitle his memory to the lasting gratitude and reverence of his countrymen both at home & abroad, and his tomb to be inscribed with the word "Union," as a beacon to direct a people, still somewhat divided, from the shoals and quicksands of jealousy and dissension.

In his official and private intercourse with the people of this Province, Lord Sydenham was of easy access, of unaffected manners, affable in conversation, which, without the least show of undue assumption or arrogance, he always, and almost instantaneously, di-

rected to the leading topic of business or discussion. As a practical man of business, it may safely be said that he had few equals. With these and other excellent qualities, which we stop not to discuss at the present moment, the death of Lord Sydenham will be sincerely and generally lamented in this Province.

The Administration of the Government now devolves on His Excellency Sir Richard Jackson, Commander of the Forces in the Province, until further instructions shall have been received from home.

(From the Montreal Herald.)

A special messenger, who left Kingston about nine o'clock on Sunday morning, the 19th, arrived in town yesterday afternoon about two, with the melancholy intelligence of the decease of His Excellency the Governor General.

This unexpected event has thrown a gloom over the whole community. Whatever shades of political or party feeling may have existed, and in all enlightened communities such will always exist, they appeared to merge into one full and only feeling of deep heartfelt sorrow. Every one spoke and felt as if a personal benefactor had been removed from among them.

The decease of His Excellency we look upon, as the greatest public calamity, whether we regard it as being, in the mean time, deprived of an energetic Governor, or of an intelligent and powerful advocate afterwards in the House of Lords. His administration whatever may have been its faults, has been characterised by a comprehensive conception of the interests of Canada, and an untiring assiduity to promote them. The province will continue to advance from the impetus which it has received, when the head that foresaw and the hand that directed it, are lying cold in the grave. If mistakes have been made, it will not be without advantage to party to reflect, when most disposed to violence, that all of us, those whom we praise and those whom we censure, are alike liable to the same errors, as we all are to the same accountability for our actions to Almighty God, our Great and Final Judge.

(From the Montreal Herald.)

It is a rare circumstance that a representative of Majesty closes his earthly career in a British Province, and the circumstances at-

tending the short but eventful administration of the Government of Canada by the late Lord Sydenham, have added to the pervading feeling of regret at the loss sustained by the province in consequence of his premature decease, in the flower of manhood, when the exertions of a vigorous intellect like his were required to perfect the plans which he had designed for the good of the colony. His giant mind comprehended the vast resources of Canada, and his aim was to be in advance of those narrow spirits whose mental vision could not penetrate beyond the present order of things, and who were unable to form an idea of the vast importance which Canada must yet sustain in the political and social world.

(From the *Canada Times*.)

We regret to announce the tidings of the decease of Lord Sydenham, (Governor General of British North America,)—which event took place at Kingston on Sunday morning last, at 7 o'clock.

The immediate cause of his death was inflammation, which terminated in *lock-jaw*. This ensued from the fracture of his leg, about a fortnight since, by a fall from his horse. His constitution was in a delicate condition,—he having but a short time ago recovered from a severe attack of the gout. The return of this disease, since the unfortunate accident, could not be resisted by his enfeebled frame,—and he gradually sunk under its effects.

We must candidly confess that language fails us when we approach the mournful subject of Lord Sydenham's death! So suddenly has the effect of the intelligence we yesterday received, come upon us,—that if a thunderbolt had fallen at our feet, we could not have been more completely astounded. Party feeling, was, of course, thrown aside,—forgotten! We thought only of the *man*,—yes, the NOBLEMAN, who but a few days since presided over the destinies of Canada.

We had looked forward to Lord Sydenham's administration, as one which, would not only have been the means of ultimately softening down the asperities, that have for a long time goaded the public of this Province almost to desperation,—but which would also have tended greatly to the advancement of the country, in the moral, the political and the intellectual scale.

There is not the slightest doubt, that Lord Sydenham had con-

stantly, in his mind the welfare of the Province over which he was called to preside; but he had around him bad advisers, and with his earnest desire to use every exertion to regenerate a distracted country, he found himself, after all, but the mere tool of a party *clique*,—who were anxious only for their own pockets, and who thought about as much of PATRIOTISM, and LOVE of COUNTRY,—or of LOYALTY AND ALLEGIANCE, as a wandering Arab does, when with his spear in rest, and a dozen stout companions at his side, he rushes on a party of weary and defenceless pilgrims in the sandy desert.

In our columns we have often had occasion to censure the policy of Lord Sydenham, and sometimes so to do with severity. But there is no one, even among his most distinguished sycophants, who at the present moment, more sincerely regrets his death, or who more deeply sympathises with his family and friends than we do.

(From the *Montreal Courier*.)

A SERMON preached in *St. George's Church, Kingston, on the 26th September, 1841, on the Death of Lord SYDENHAM, by the Rev. W. A. ADAMSON, A. B., Chaplain to His Excellency.*

The Chapel of Saint George at Kingston had received but a few days its most illustrious tenant when the discourse whose title is placed above was delivered to a silent and mournful audience. The preacher was one of those whose office brought him constantly in contact with the deceased Nobleman—who had been present at his last hours—responded to his last prayer, and had marked the sharp agonies of a struggle which were endured with more than common fortitude. That the impression left on his mind by such a scene was intensely painful, no one can doubt who reads this brief, but beautiful discourse, where the truths of Religion are brought to charm away the horrors of death, and the worldly honor and title of the illustrious dead only serve as a contrast to the humble resignation and piety which marked his dying hours. Between Lord Sydenham the Peer—the favoured of his Sovereign—the arbiter of a thousand interests—the gifted in mind,—and the afflicted sufferer whose protracted hours of pain were slowly drawing to a close, how enormous was the distance! The mind of the sensitive stranger might well shrink from the contemplation of so severe a contrast,

but in doing so it would show itself to be less disciplined than that of the poor sufferer himself, who could regard with the indifference mere temporal objects were at such a moment calculated to excite, all that had gone before, and fixing his hopes steadfastly on the future, ask from the present only those consolations which are calculated to speed the soul on its journey to Heaven.

There is a vulgar curiosity which seeks to draw aside the veil which shuts out the exalted in station from the common gaze of the world, and ask how the rich died. They have so much to render life precious that it would seem as though the warning to quit were more terrible to them than when it strikes on the ears of the wretched and oppressed. It is a great error—prejudicial to religion, which arms all men equally—and arising out of an ignorance of the causes which affect man as a sensitive being, and give rise to pain and enjoyment. In the case of Lord Sydenham we have a striking example of this. To none could the hope of existence present a more alluring picture, or hold out more glittering prospects of enjoyment. Death at such a moment to us seemed cruel, and we could almost murmur at the inexorable decree did we not hold the assurance that he for whom our sympathies are excited uttered no complaint at all, but humbled himself with meek resignation to his fate, and prayed only that God might pardon him his iniquities.

“If imagination (says the preacher) were tasked to devise an event that united the extremes of corporeal suffering and national calamity, that combined all the anguish of mortality, with the more tremendous impressions of eternity, imagination itself would faint under the burthen of conceiving a portion of that evil which bows us down before God in grief, in terror, and I trust in repentance this day.

“The image of a young and wealthy intellectual English Nobleman, bound to existence by so many delightful ties, the honoured of his country, the favored of his Sovereign, sacrificing health, enjoyment, & life itself in the service of this our country, requires scarce an additional feature to interest every man for his welfare—add, that the hearts of thousands are knit to him as the heart of one man, that the hearts of those who differ most widely from his policy, honor his integrity and throb for his safety, that the hopes and prospects of peace for this vast Province are centred in him, that England, and England’s Sovereign, and ours, look anxiously to his wisdom to guide us through the ocean of perils by which we are surrounded, and surely our knees would be instantly and eagerly bent in supplication for his life.

“Such prayers doubtless have been put up by many, without the parade of affected feeling or exaggerated devotion—they have been answered, but not as the suppliants expected. He is no more—he lies *there* cold and inanimate. The eloquent tongue is silent—the master-mind is at rest,—the warm heart has ceased to beat.

“He has been smitten in the accumulated enjoyment of youth, wealth, eminence, honour and success.

No event of greater horror and anguish ever desolated the annals of this Province, no event of similar importance has left its awful track upon the page of its history. But from history we turn at this moment with disgust : at such a moment as this, we seek, like Joseph, a place where we may weep, and go to our chambers and weep there. This is a case in which even Man weeps ; and no one can chide his tears, and no one can dry them.

“Perhaps there is no place from which the awful lessons of this event should sink into our hearts with more force and weight than that from which I address you. Our business here is not to praise man, nor any child of man : our business here is not “to soothe the dull cold ear of death with flattery” ; not to tell you of time—but of eternity. Yet, as eternity, in this wretched, perishable existence, must often borrow its subjects from time, I demand, had we ever such a topic to urge you on, so full of grief so full of instruction ?—Never : kingdoms have passed away, and they have left no impression behind them on earth ; their rulers are gone, and have left little but the frightful traces of their crimes. The mighty of the earth are gone—the conquerors are departed—“The proud are robb’d and have slept.” Who mourned for them ? Tears were shed for them indeed ; but they were shed by the widows and orphans whom their swords had made. But *he* is mourned by the tears of those from whose eyes he never drew a tear, but the bitter one that drops upon his grave.

“All panegyric is idle and profane. His best eulogy is that burst of sorrow that answers me at this moment—that awful murmur of involuntary grief which at this moment is echoing through this vast continent.

“But he ‘being dead yet speaketh,’ and through me call upon you solemnly to consider the words of our text, which were amongst the last he uttered—“Pardon, O Lord, mine iniquity for it is great.”

“His attention had been directed to the 25th Psalm, from whence these words were taken. He appreciated its beauties, and felt its consolation. Again and again he repeated from it the cries of David, when under affliction similar to his own :—“Shew me thy ways, O Lord teach me thy paths ; lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation” ; Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions ; according to thy mercy remember thou me, for thy goodness sake, O Lord” ; “Send thee unto me, and have mercy upon me, for I am desolate and afflicted ; look upon my affliction and forgive all my sins.” But

especially, and above all, did he cling to, and urge the humble prayer of the Royal Psalm, 1st—"For thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity, for it is great." He saw that Adam's single sin of disobedience, by which man fell, was great; that it insulted God, denied his truth, defied his authority. He saw that the Patriarchs and Prophets had reason to join with the Psalmist in acknowledging, that for the reason their "iniquity was great"; and that professing, sinning Christians have much more reason, with their hands on their mouths, and their mouths in the dust, to acknowledge this deeply humiliating truth."

We know no more beautiful picture than this, and we trust that it will dwell in the hearts of all, that those exposed to less worldly temptation than this nobleman may, when their last hour arrives, meet death with the same piety and resignation. Let them remember, to refer again to the words of the preacher—

"That this illustrious person, with anguish unspeakable—amidst agony utterable, could say, on the announcement that all his earthly hopes were about to have an end,—"God's will be done"—and then cry with devoted sincerity 'for thy name's sake, Oh Lord, pardon mine iniquity for it is great.'

"My brethren we may soon be called to undergo a trial like this, Oh! let us pray for his resignation and his hope!"

(From the *Toronto Herald*)

It is our melancholy duty to announce the dissolution of Lord Sydenham, which took place at Kingston on Sunday morning last.

The intelligence was communicated to His Worship the Mayor, by Mr. Secretary Murdoch, and circulars were issued immediately announcing his Lordship's decease to the inhabitants, the greater part of whom expressed their regret at the sudden affliction, and their respect for the memory of his Lordship, by partly closing the windows of their stores and dwelling houses. On Wednesday, the Niagara having brought up the official information that the Funeral of His Excellency the Governor General would take place on Friday next, 24th instant, at Kingston, the procession to leave the Government House at 11 o'clock, A. M.—the Mayor promptly issued a proclamation, which will be found in our columns, requiring and enjoining all persons to observe Friday as a day of mourning. In addition to these public demonstrations of grief, it is to be hoped that the several churches and chapels in the city will be opened,

and that divine worship, including the funeral service, will be solemnized therein.

His Excellency's suffering for some time preceding his death are described as most intensely excruciating, but his fortitude never forsook him. On Saturday evening, in presence of his household his Lordship received the Holy Sacrament at the hands of the Rev. Mr. Adamson, who had attended his bedside during his illness." As the moment of dissolution approached, his Lordship continued perfectly sensible and collected, and met the dying struggle with composure and resignation. His Lordship was in his 42nd year.

Opposed as we have always been to His Lordship's policy, we should be wanting in the attributes of humanity did we not sincerely deplore Lord Sydenham's untimely end, and, in common with our cotemporaries, manifest that respect which is due to his Lordship's memory. We merge all political considerations in the general sympathy for his Lordship's premature death—suddenly cut off as he was in the flower of his life and the vigour of his intellect—and though we cannot honestly join in the eulogies penned by Lord Sydenham's admirers, far be it from us, while his unburied corpse lies cold in its winding sheet, to originate a single remark either derogatory to his abilities as a statesman, or disrespectful to his character as a gentleman. The Representative of our Sovereign has been called, by an inscrutable providence, from time into eternity, and every British subject will unite in paying proper respect to his memory.

(From the *Sherbrooke Journal & Gazette*.)

"Death loves a shining mark." Seldom has this sentiment been more forcibly illustrated than in the death of the illustrious nobleman we are this week called upon to record. Lord SYDENHAM is dead. He who has, with a master hand wielded the destinies of Canada for the last two years, has yielded to the King of Terrors.—It is a singular coincidence that the same mail which brought the account of His Excellency's resignation of the Government to his Queen, and the appointment of his successor, should also have brought the news of his having resigned his life to his Creator.

If there was ever a man (justly observed the Editor of the *Montreal Courier*) who fell a martyr to his principles—that man was

Chas. Poulett Thomson. Canada has had the best of him—his last parting energies were exerted in her cause, his last breath yielded for her. It is not three months since that he told Colonel Prince he would “*die in harness and in carrying out those measures he deemed essential to the salvation of this Country.*” Canada should remember this. It should be recorded on his tomb—on the monuments that they should raise to his memory, now that he has departed from among us.

It is now two years since Lord Sydenham arrived in Canada to carry out the plans which Lord Durham had done little more than suggest. Since the moment he set foot on our shores he devoted himself to the task with an energy which his weak state of health rendered it quite impossible he could sustain for a long period of time, and which latterly had reduced him to the last state of weakness. Still he would not desist, and even had the state of political parties allowed him some time to unbend from the severe duties of his office it is possible that the man would have rejected the opportunity. No one was less inclined to trust to others what he could do by himself than Lord Sydenham. He combined in himself all the qualities of the man of business and the statesman, and had his bodily vigour been as powerful as his mental nothing could have withstood him.

Lord Sydenham's name is for ever connected with the fortunes of Canada. The Act of Union was in a great part his work, and the success which has hitherto attended its practical operation all his. The reward of nobility which his conduct drew from the Sovereign could not have been better deserved. It was purchased with his life.

From the Brockville New Era.

Could our pen supply words expressive of one half of the pain and sorrow with which this melancholy event has filled us, we might find some slight relief from the consciousness of having at least unburthened ourselves of a heavy weight of mingled duty and affliction; but never more than at this moment, did we feel the absolute inadequacy of language to depict the unaffected grief of the soul. The news of the death of Lord Sydenham—of the first, the greatest, man who has practically legislated for this country—has,

in defiance of the knowledge we possessed of his recent complicated sufferings, burst upon us with a startling solemnity we could not have believed it possible the event could inspire, and our whole being seems, as it were enshrouded in an atmosphere of stupor, in which we are alive but to one bewildering consciousness—one continuous and melancholy wailing cry "*Lord Sydenham is dead.*" In truth our reason—not less than our feeling,—is stultified, and we look upon the fatal termination of the days of the highly gifted Statesman and Nobleman, not only with that deep regret which is due to him in his public character, and which will be shared by the whole country, but with a profound personal sorrow, for the existence of which we can only account, by attributing it to the power and influence of that private respect for his character, which His Lordship's public acts have had a direct tendency to command in the minds of all reflecting men. And if thus sincere be our regret for the sad demise of Lord Sydenham, with whom we have never had the honour of more than a single interview, and our opinion of whom has been formed wholly from the public conduct pursued by him in this country, what must not be the poignancy of grief of those who have been honored with his private confidence and friendship? and who have had ample opportunity of observing the intricate and powerful springs of the master-mind which, in the space of a few short months, and amid difficulties the most disheartening and discouraging, had achieved so much for this country?

Alas what is human life but vanity? what the most brilliant imaginings and deeds of the most talented and the most mighty, but so many idle and evanescent dreams which a passing breath—a casuality of the moment may wholly overturn and destroy. High in the reputation which he had gained by his own profound talent for diplomacy—rich in the approbation bestowed upon his unceasing and successful labors by his Sovereign—conscious of having merited the good will and opinion of the people of this country, whom he had ruined his health to benefit,—Lord Sydenham was already preparing to return to England, to repose for a period (long or short as the political changes in the Imperial Government might induce) from the toils and sufferings (bodily as well as mental) inseparable from his difficult Government, when an accident savoring of fate—of destiny—occurs, which puts an end, not only to the high hopes

formed by the country, but to all his own fair expectations of enjoying in temporary quiet the reward of his successful public life. Who will deny to us the existence and the power of Fate? Was it not fate that caused his Lordship to ride out on the occasion of his melancholy fall? Was it not fate that led him to follow, while unattended, the only part of the road where it was likely his horse could stumble? Was it not fate that induced him to send away on some mission that might as well have been executed later, not five minutes before the melancholy accident occurred, his Military Secretary, whose continued presence at his side would assuredly have prevented the fatal consequences which resulted from the stumbling of the unchecked animal? Even at that moment in all human probability His Excellency was indulging in a reverie—the natural result of his being alone—in which visions of his speedy return to England blended themselves with a just sense of the favorable manner of his reception on that return, while the future seemed to present an unclouded and a flattering prospect, the final and well merited reward of a successful life of political toil. Nor is this by any means an improbable surmise, for devoted as had been almost every moment of his life to the public, it could only have been during his occasional rides of recreation, that His Excellency could at all find time to think either of himself or his own personal interests. We repeat our impression then, that the very abstraction produced by his isolation from those whose presence would naturally have interrupted the chain of his musings, had caused his Lordship, while indulging in these, to slacken the reins of his horse, who thus unsupported, could not recover himself sufficiently to prevent his coming to the ground, while from the same cause, his rider thrown off his guard, or rather taken by surprise, had not presence of mind to think of his extricating his foot from the stirrup. How true then is the prophetic warning, “that in the midst of life we are in death;” and that we know not in one hour what the next may bring forth: Poor vain and imperfect things of clay that we are, how does Fate, whose decrees are immutable, love to mock our warmest hopes even the very threshold of supposed realization, and palsy the hand that is already outstretched to grasp the prize which has been coveted through long years of abstinence and trial.

There is something so painfully affecting in the manner of Lord

Sydenham's death, or rather in the causes which have led to it, that the bereavement comes upon us with a suddenness—a shock we should not have experienced under any ordinary dispensation of Providence. Had his Lordship even perished solely by a natural return of that malady which had already so grievously afflicted him since his arrival in the country, the mind being prepared for its possible recurrence, would have been in some degree armed for the stroke which would have fallen less heavily upon it, but knowing as we do that the disease, which has terminated in death, has been brought on wholly by the deplorable tissue of circumstances to which we have referred, it is impossible (puerile though it be) to prevent a feeling of deep bitterness, not only against the vile road, the stumbling horse, but all the concurrent and adverse causes which have contributed to the catastrophe, from mingling with, and increasing in a tenfold degree, the sorrow which however profound, would have been in a measure subdued by a knowledge that the immediate and chastening hand of God had alone inflicted the blow. Is there not something melancholy in the thought that, with common care and with common prudence, the valuable life of Lord Sydenham might have been spared not only to the people of this country for whom he has already done so much, and for whom he intended so much more, but to his own personal friends and acquaintance? Is there not something painfully agonizing in the very natural assumption that His Lordship himself, even while in the act of indulging in anticipations of an honorable future in his own beloved country, after having raised this to dignity and consideration, was cut short in his visionary speculation by the warning and outstretched finger of relentless death, who had already marked him for his own? Is there not something inexpressibly heart-rending in the reflection that the ill-fated Statesman and nobleman, whose departure for England it had been rumoured, would take place on the twenty-second of September, lies on the twenty-second of September a cold and inanimate corpse in Alwington House, freed alike from the pains and the pleasures—the vain aspirations and fluctuating desires of this poor and transitory existence—and heedless as well of the sincere regret of his warmest admirers, as of the affected condolence of those, who, while paying a forced tribute of regret to the man, can but ill conceal their deep exultation at the

final removal of the Governor? If these things do not tend to impress us with the absolute nothingness of this life—the vanity of all human distinction and power, we know not through what more appropriate channel the lesson can reach us.

Ours is no hollow praise tendered at the footstool of power—no heartless tribute to the merit of one who has the ability to reward it. Alas! Lord Sydenham is powerless to do us good, or to do us harm. While living no fulsome panegyric,—no personal praise (deeply impressed though we were with a sense of his extraordinary firmness of character and high political attainments,) ever escaped our pen. If we noticed his Lordship *then*, it was only thro' his public acts, which, we hesitate not to say, have been unequalled in benefit by any thing ever hitherto done for any country in the same limited time, and will never be surpassed. But now that death—the melancholy death we have already noticed—has removed the barrier a sense of delicacy would not permit us to overleap, we feel that we can without fear of our motive being misunderstood, give vent both to our admiration of his Lordship while living, and to the unfeigned grief with which his most unfortunate demise has oppressed us. Yet wherefore do we write as though we were alone in our lamentation? At present the astounding event has bowed many a noble heart in the silence of sorrow, but there speedily will be a reaction, when the voice of the people will be loud to proclaim the magnitude of the evil they have sustained. As long as these mighty waters shall flow—as long as these noble forests shall remain—so long shall endure the mingled regret and gratitude of a people for the memory of the noble and disinterested ruler, who sacrificed health and life for the promotion of their good, and who with incomparable resolution—with a grandeur of mind wonderful beyond estimation—devoted even the last moments of his existence, and these marked by extreme bodily agony, to them and to them alone! Lord Sydenham's name and acts like the name and acts of his equally noble-minded predecessor Lord Durham, to whose comprehensive plans he was destined to give practical effect, must forever live in the page of Canadian History, and be identified with the advancement of Canadian prosperity,

The length and personal character of our remarks, wholly preclude the introduction, into our present number, of matter bearing more fully upon the lamented Statesman's public conduct since his arrival in this country, but we shall take an early opportunity of passing this in review, in the manner it deserves.

(From the *Bathurst Courier*.)

It becomes our sad and grievous duty to announce the death of Lord Sydenham, which took place at Government House, Kingston, on Sunday morning last, about seven o'clock. This we have gathered from private sources, which can be relied on. We understand that His Lordship's medical attendants had despaired of his recovery Thursday last, when Dr. Dunlop was consulted as to the propriety of taking the leg off. He replied "that he would not survive the operation more than six hours, and might live forty-eight by leaving it on." As our correspondent mentioned in our last, His Lordship was seized with the gout, the pain was so excruciating that it brought on spasms in the stomach, and finally caused death by suffocation. His Lordship was not convinced of his danger until Friday, when Major General Clitherow was sworn in Deputy Governor. This melancholy event has cast a deep gloom upon every countenance, political friend or foe, by the honest regrets of a people to whom His Lordship was endeared for his high and active talents as a Statesman; his general knowledge of the wants of the community, and desire for their welfare; he was the people's friend. We have not now one bright prospect before us, either politically or socially, to dispel the over-shadowing gloom into which the country is thrown. We fear we are a doomed people!

(From the *Prince Edward Gazette*.)

The Governor General is no more! It has been the will of the Most High to remove from among us a patriot and a statesman.—On Sunday morning, the 19th inst. at five minutes after 7 o'clock, His Excellency breathed out his spirit to Him who gave it, in the 42d year of his age. Whatever may be the feelings of neglected or disappointed aspirants, all must accord to him the credit of an indefatigable perseverance in the object of his mission to this country. To assimilate and bring together the various and conflicting interests of a province convulsed with political dissensions, required the exertions of a master mind—and such was Lord Sydenham's. The ingenuity with which he introduced and carried out his measures was peculiar to himself, and in whatever light political men may view his conduct, they must admit that few have ever originated such extensive and liberal schemes for the promotion of the welfare of Canada; and the last proof of his attachment to our country, is his express desire to be buried in her soil. We take the following from the *Kingston Herald* :—

The death of Lord Sydenham, when it happened, seems as if the Almighty had decreed that matters so momentous should be sealed with the utmost solemnity. No sooner had the hand of his Excellency performed its most important offices—subscribed his WILL, and superscribed all the instruments of the Legislature,—than it

ceased to move ; and there was but time for the effusions of affectionate feeling, thoughts of a better world, and for administering the Holy Sacrament to the dying man, before his spirit returned to Him who gave it.

The death of Lord Sydenham, thus strikingly marked, can leave but one impression on the public mind—submission to the All-wise disposer of events ; and an humble trust that God will never abandon those who are worthy of his regard.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Sunday Morning, 19th September.

SIR,—It is my painful duty to communicate to you the melancholy intelligence of the decease of His Excellency the Governor-General. His Excellency breathed his last at five minutes after seven o'clock this morning.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
THOS. C. MURDOCH.

THE MAYOR, Kingston,

(From the Hamilton Journal and Express.)

Such is the brief announcement which conveys to an afflicted people the mournful intelligence of the death of their best friend. Prepared as they were for the blow, by preceding accounts, yet the reality was received as a shock, and deep are the feelings of regret which pervade every class of the community, eschewing party politics for the time, and mingling in one lament, at the loss of a great man, and the humbling reflection of the mutability of all human aspirations. Lord Sydenham's administration of Canada will form a theme for the historian's pen, and in other times and by other men justice will be done to his great abilities and labours. His arrival in this Province, hailed as it was by the reformers with anticipations of the most cheering nature, was the precursor of a happy and prosperous era for Canada that fully justified the confidence the people were ready to award him. Combining statesman-like talents of the highest order with great practical experience, and much personal industry, he was the very man among all others best suited for the arduous and responsible duties of Governor-General over the most important of Britain's colonial possessions. Lord Durham's report, that admirable theory of political Government, was the text book by which Lord Sydenham was guided, and the peculiar sagacity with which he applied principles, hitherto considered as adapted only to British practice, in the administration of Canadian Government, entitle him to a place in the catalogue of the benefactors of this Province, superior to all that have gone before him, and, we believe not inferior to any that may follow. The great principle of Responsible Government, so libe-

rally conceded to this Province by the British Ministry, although evidently necessary to the administration of Canadian affairs, still required much patient and earnest attention to ensure its peaceable and successful application. For harassed as he was on the one hand by the violent opposition of the factious, the disappointed, and the bigoted; and but feebly supported on the other by those who, although every consideration of duty and interest should prompt them to active exertion, remained in slothful apathy, Lord Sydenham had difficulties to contend with at the commencement of his career in this Province which few men but himself could have surmounted. All these obstacles gradually vanishing before his cool determination and indomitable perseverance, the late Governor-General was rapidly consummating those extensive and beneficial schemes which he had hitherto so successfully directed, when the abrupt stroke of death terminated alike his mortal career, and the progress of that extensive political system which would ultimately have redounded so greatly to his own honour, and have resulted in so much advantage to the country. That Canada has reason to mourn so severe a loss, is too painfully apparent to require argument. And in England a blank will be left in the political circle which will with difficulty be filled.

It is melancholy to reflect, that at the very time when Lord Sydenham, purely by the power of his own transcendent talents & indefatigable industry—by his nimbleness of intellect, and political integrity—by his vast practical knowledge and business-like habits, had elevated himself first to a prominent political position and high official estimation in England—then to no less honorable, and far more arduous appointment of pacificator to a valuable colony, agitated by internal dissension and threatened by foreign aggression, with its commerce depressed, public improvement at a stop, and property every day depreciating in value; an appointment in which the success that crowned his endeavours procured for him his Sovereign's approbation, and the gift of a peerage. We say it is melancholy to reflect that at that period when, in all human probability, he had many years of useful activity, or honorable retirement to pass through, Providence should in its wisdom, have seen fit to cut him off from among those who had watched his progress, and would have rejoiced in his triumph.

It is no insignificant testimony to the purity of intention, the integrity of conduct, and the sagacious foresight which characterized Lord Sydenham's administration, that even those who, when he first came to this Province, were the most violent in their opposition, and the most rabid in their abuse, afterwards moderated in their opinions, and ultimately became his warm supporters. It speaks much for the liberality and honesty of his policy—it says much for his watchful attention and earnest anxiety to promote the welfare of the Province—that out of the most discordant elements, he managed to evolve harmony in action—that with a legislature

composed of every shade of political complexion, he was enabled to pass measures of vital importance to the country.

The circumscribed limits of a newspaper notice are insufficient to reconsider even briefly, the various incidents in the career of this gifted and distinguished nobleman, but we could not announce his death, without expressing what we are sure will be echoed by all our readers our unfeigned admiration of his talents; our sincere regret for his sudden and premature decease,—and our deep sense of the loss Canada has sustained by this melancholy event.

(From the Journal and Express.)

The Colonial policy of Britain has been liberalized, and cabals and family compacts, in colonies—together with rotten boroughs and exclusive corporations at home—have been quietly interred, and now rest for ever in the “tomb of all the Capulets.” The policy marked out by Lord Durham, and so ably followed by Lord Sydenham, has resuscitated the dying hopes of Canada; and while all is tranquil from Gaspe to Sandwich, the great measures perfected in the last Parliament—for local self government, education and improvements occupy the attention of the people, and fill their hearts with sanguine expectations of future prosperity as well as with admiration of the indomitable perseverance, integrity and splendid talents of the illustrious dead, who, while the hand of death was upon him, prayed that “Almighty God might pour down upon this Province all the blessings which in his heart he was desirous it should enjoy.” The memory of Lord Sydenham is imprinted on the heart of the country—his epitaph is engraved upon the mind of its people. From every part of the Province—no matter of what political hue—our exchange papers come surrounded with the badge of deep mourning, and fervent expression of grief and regret, at the loss of a great and good man. The death of Lord Sydenham is a public calamity. The wisdom and justice of his Lordship’s government are now universally acknowledged, and those who opposed him when alive—and they were few indeed—now that he is dead, find it difficult to justify the cause of their opposition. Every sectional difference has been laid aside to do honour to the deceased. In the same spirit then, let it be known to his successor, that to preserve tranquillity, to increase trade, to support agriculture, draw out the resources of the country, and make Canada an united and happy people, the policy of Lord Sydenham must be continued. We believe the hopes of the country will be realized—policy, without a more patriotic motive, will induce Sir Robert Peel, not to deviate from the only safe course by which Canada can be governed with advantage to its people and honour to the Sovereign. The reformers, who constitute nine-tenths of the population—have cause to be proud of their present position and to rejoice at the success of their efforts—but to maintain that position

they must be united, firm, and watchful. An article, which we copy from the *Colonial Gazette*, will be found full of hope for the supporters of Lord Sydenham's Government, and coming as it does from one who possesses the very best means of gaining correct information, the assertions therein contained, may be relied upon as fact.

(From the Niagara Chronicle.)

The Governor General has been taken from us at a critical juncture, but while lamenting the loss we have sustained, there is no cause for despondency. Great as were his lordship's talents, and consummate as were his tactics, the conservatives of Britain can furnish many statesmen as well qualified to govern Canada.

(From the Brantford Courier.)

It is with feelings of the deepest sorrow, we would convey to our readers the melancholy intelligence of the death of the Representative of our Sovereign, the Governor General of British North America, who breathed his last on Sunday morning, at a few minutes after seven A. M.

Thus closed the earthly career of our lamented Governor.—In the meridian of his life, and the height of his prosperity, he is summoned in a moment to the eternal world. Relentless death would not release him, no prayers could avail, his bounds were set and he could not go over them. "Verily man at his best estate is altogether vanity." To many, this event will doubtless seem untimely, and they may be tempted to say with the Grecian General—"Alas! that he should die at an hour like this," when the entire community are looking forward for days of civil, commercial, and religious prosperity; but so it is, he is gone! his kindly heart that throbbed high with noble purposes, is still; in peace rest the ashes of the friend and benefactor of Canada, and may his name long be cherished in the bosom of every true patriot.

(From the Niagara Reporter.)

The afflicted inhabitants of this unfortunate Colony are weeping over the untimely grave of a distinguished statesman, who recently occupied a conspicuous place among the living great men of the British Empire. He assumed the management of colonial affairs soon after that political storm, which convulsed Canada from centre to circumference. The waves of discord had not subsided when Lord Sydenham grasped the helm, and became the political pilot of a great and growing Province. The gleaner—death, who demands millions at a meal found him at his post, and put a period to his existence. An extra marked with mourning, brought the mel-

ancholy tidings to us on Tuesday last. His Excellency departed this life about seven o'clock on Sunday morning. The melancholy intelligence which makes Canada mourn will fill England with sorrow.

His Lordship possessed those noble attributes which adorn human nature. Those who were the recipients of his benevolence, will mingle the tears of gratitude with those of pungent sorrow. His gifted and cultivated mind enabled him to fathom at once matters many could not understand after laborious research and severe examination. He exerted his great mind to promote the welfare of Canada, and those who have aspersed his motives, or criticised his measures, will join with his ardent admirers, and mourn the premature decease of the great statesman and the good man. Whilst this colony wears the weeds of mourning for the loss of that illustrious individual, who was a host in himself, (Lord Durham,) we deplore the decline of another star.

Lord Sydenham elicited the warmest feelings of admiration from those with whom his Lordship associated, and he was an ornament in that elevated circle of society in which he moved.

His memory is embalmed in the recollection of a grateful people, who are capable of appreciating departed worth. May his spirit be the guardian angel of Canada.

From the Cobourg Star.

It is our melancholy duty to announce the death of the Right Hon. Charles Poulett Thomson, Baron Sydenham, of Sydenham in Kent and Toronto in Canada, and Governor General of British North America. He was the son of J Poulett Thomson, Esq, of Roehampton, in Surrey, and Austin Friars; was Vice President of the Board of Trade, and Treasurer of the Navy, from 1830 till July 1834, when he became President, till the dissolution of Lord Melbourne's Cabinet in November of that year. In April 1835, he resumed his situation. He was a Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital, was a Merchant in the City of London engaged in the Baltic and Russia trades, but on his accession to office at the formation of the Grey administration, he withdrew his name from the Firm to which he belonged, though he still retained a share in the business. He sat for Dover from 1826 to 1832, when he was elected both for that Borough and Manchester; he selected the latter, for which he continued to sit till 1839, when he was appointed to succeed Sir John Colborne, as Governor General of Canada, where he arrived in the month of September; was in 1840 raised to the Peerage, and lately, as a further mark of Her Majesty's Ministers approbation of his conduct, was made a Knight Companion of the Bath; a singular honour, in as much as the Order of the Bath has hitherto been confined, almost exclusively, to Naval and Military Officers. His Lordship's talents were of the highest order, and as a mercantile

financier he occupied one of the foremost ranks, industrious and indefatigable beyond measure, difficulties which would subdue others, yielded to him; he spared neither mental nor bodily exertion to carry out his plans, and no matter how highly we may disapprove of his measures we cannot but admire his tact. As a private friend he was kind and generous, as we have heard, and the party to which he attached himself has reason deeply to regret his death, nor will their regret be one whit more sincere than that which his opponents feel at the fatal termination of his government; as the representative of our Queen we respected him. His death has afforded another proof of the uncertainty of human life, and of the inability of wealth or station to ward off the grim tyrant; earthly honours had just commenced to be heaped upon him; he was honoured by his Queen and respected by a large body of the people whom he ruled; he would shortly have revisited his native country, where he might have materially assisted us, but it has seemed pleasing to the Giver of life to frustrate those hopes and expectations, and call him to himself. Personally and politically opposed to his Lordship, we nevertheless feel a deep regret at his untimely death, and while we would pay a tribute to him as to our delegated Sovereign, we drop the curtain over what we have considered (wrongly perhaps) his faults and foibles.

(From the Norfolk Observer.)

The Governor General dead! then a master mind has departed from the earth—wealth, rank, power nor talent could save him from the common lot—how forcibly does an incident of this nature lay before us, in glaring colors the frail tenure of mortality, truly in the midst of life we are in death, and we know not the hour when our change cometh, even in that moment when our mental horizon is unclouded, when sanguine hopes beat high, and the mind, in the full-confidence of success is calm as an unruffled lake, the storm may be gathering, that will ere long pour on us its fiercest blast—in the twinkling of an eye our dreams of ambition and aggrandizement are frustrated, our lofty projects levelled with the dust—the silver chord of life is loosened, and the golden bowl broken at the fountain. Although we have no intention on the present occasion of presenting our readers with a homily on death, yet when we consider the past history of our late Governor General, the high position to which the favour of His Sovereign had raised him, and his having been just on the eve of returning to Great Britain to claim and enjoy the honors which had been heaped upon him, when arrested by the cold hand of death, reflections like the above are a natural consequence.

From the position which we have assumed in the management of this journal of neutrality in politics, we have been precluded from expressing our own opinions, as to the many important acts of the

late Lord Sydenham's administration, and although it is generally known that personally we condemned many of his measures as hazardous and imprudent, we have no hesitation in according to his memory our humble meed of approbation of his splendid talents, of his undoubted attachments to British institutions, and of a warm and sincere desire to promote the interest and prosperity of this noble portion of the empire—whether he has been mistaken in the views he had formed, or the course he had adopted, it is not for us to say—*tempus omnia revelat*—but should the splendid scheme of internal improvement laid down by his masterly mind, be carried out to a successful issue, the people of this Province will long retain a grateful recollection of the foresight and unwearied efforts made by his Lordship, to ensure a speedy developement of the resources of this colony. We have no wish to become the panegyrist of our late Governor, but neither have we any desire to conceal our opinion of his public character. The period of his administration will in future be looked upon as one of the most important era's in Canadian history—but whether the events narrated, will be viewed with the smile of approval or the frown of disapprobation it is difficult to surmise,

“The evil that men do lives after them,—
“The good is oft interred with their bones,”

We follow not the quotation, but would rather say with the Poet.

No further seek his merits to disclose,
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,
(There they alike in trembling hope repose.)
The bosom of his Father and his God.

(From the *Canada Inquirer*.)

There are events occasionally occurring in the world which for the moment so absorb and overawe the heart of man as to render him indifferent to every thing save the engrossing feeling which then engages him. The death of His Excellency Lord Sydenham, Governor General of British North America, is one of these events. The fever of political excitement, the bickerings of party, the hopes and fears, the joys and sorrows of a public subside into one subdued and overpowering feeling of regret that a noble spirit had passed from amongst us,—that he who so lately ruled the destinies of our land, with honour to himself and advantage to the people, has been cut off in the zenith of his glory, and in a few short days been doomed to change the pomp and pride of state, the trappings and blandishments of earthly power, for the cold and lonely habitation of the grave. It is honourable to the memory of His Excellency that this regret is as universal as it is sincere, and it would be strange indeed if a man who has finished a career like his was not universally lamented, for even the blindest and most bigoted of his political opponents must admit that his life was alike distinguished for the unimpeachable honour and sterling integrity of his char-

acter, as it was adorned by the commanding talents and unwearied energy which he possessed; and that the great efforts of his life were expended in securing the happiness and prosperity of his fellow men. Canada, which formed the scene of his last and noblest exertions, and has been the means of securing him his greatest and most signal honours, has been destined to receive his last mortal remains, to witness the climax and decline of a life, which has added vigor to her institutions, and placed her Government on a basis best constituted to secure her rights and happiness. Equal justice to all was the motto on which he started his administration in 1839, and on that principle it has been nobly conducted. Whether we regard the great measures of his policy, the Union of the Provinces, the principles of Responsibility to the people he recognized, the Municipal Council Bill, or look to the minor details of his political course, we are struck with the firmness and energy of purpose—the perseverance—the toil and trouble it cost him—and although sometimes he deemed it necessary to conceal the ends of his policy that he might the better mature its execution—yet these ends were generally approved of when known, and spoke the wisdom and sagacity of the Statesmen who carried them into operation. His views of the Government of Canada were founded on shrewd observation and deep reflection, and whoever his successors may be, we are confident they cannot adopt a better chart for their guidance than may be gleaned from the course he has taken and the instructions he may have left.—A system of Government based upon less liberal views will never succeed in Canada. But we cannot now digress into political discussion—our object is to pay a passing tribute to the memory of departed worth—yet how can we in a few short sentences record our opinions of a man whose life has been an ornament to the world—that life is now no more—peace to his ashes. Lord Sydenham has gone—and we are sure that his memory will live in grateful recollection so long as there are hearts to feel and heads to appreciate the goodness and greatness of his character—the wisdom of his public, and the kindness, urbanity and refinement of his private life.

(From the Woodstock Herald.)

We promised in our extra of Wednesday to advert more fully to the subject of Lord Sydenham's lamented and untimely death; and we now proceed to fulfil that promise.

We are not of those who fear that the prospects of Canada can now be buried in the grave of any one man however great; but if the measures of Lord Sydenham were, in general, such as held forth a reasonable prospect of future prosperity and greatness to this gigantic colony—and few, comparatively, despaired of their ultimate efficacy—there is deep reason to deplore the sudden removal of the master spirit that had triumphed over so many obstacles

thrown in the way of their accomplishment by the fiercest party malignity ; and had gathered assistance and support from among the most discordant materials. Though there is not the slightest probability of a change in the general policy of the provincial government—desired by one party and feared by another—still there is danger of failure to a certain extent from incapacity on the part of the successor of the original architect. There may be more of listening to interested counsel, and there may be also an injudicious intermeddling with details at the outset, that may create alarm, from its being mistaken for a subversion of principle—to say nothing of the obvious difficulty that one mind, however acute in its perceptions and comprehensive in its grasp, must naturally encounter in carrying out the designs of another. But, after all, delay and temporary embarrassment will, we trust, be the worst consequence to be anticipated from the sudden death of Lord Sydenham ; for we feel as well assured that the new Ministry in England will not revert to the old folly of appointing an inexperienced man to this important trust, as we are that they will not send out one to undo what has already been done in the way of effecting a mighty change in the whole system of government in Canada. Lord Sydenham's successor must be a statesman to be able to comprehend, and follow up the measures already in progress. No doubt many of them may require modification, but they must not be touched by the hand of an apprentice. Some of them are daring and hazardous experiments ; but to check them in their incipiency now would not only insure the evil which is dreaded from them, and which might be averted by skilful management, but would accelerate the advance, and aggravate the amount of, that so much deprecated evil—revolution.

It is not our purpose, however, to speculate on the probable success or failure of the measures of Lord Sydenham, farther than to acknowledge that the palpable good already produced by their partial developement, in our opinion, gives an earnest of their ultimate complete success, which we once dared not to expect. Our object now is to offer a brief, but sincere tribute to the memory of the distinguished nobleman now no more. And this we cannot better do than by a simple allusion to the all but miraculous change which has come over the political spirit of Canada, since his arrival among us, and a passing glance at the mighty—we had almost said, mysterious—influence which one intellect has so visibly exercised over the myriad-minded public in so short a time. Such is the change wrought within two years, chiefly by the agency of one man, that the country almost seems to be inhabited by a different race of people. Two years ago men regarded each other with suspicion, jealousy and hatred. Society was split up into factions, having apparently in view no object in common, but to annoy and crush each other. The general good was merged in the strife of party—one powerful faction clinging convulsively to the time-worn prejudices

out of which its ascendancy had grown, and with the conservation of which the maintenance of that ascendancy was felt to be identified; and another faction, strong in numbers, clamouring for some change in the name of reform, and in that of equal privilege, grasping at a transfer of exclusive supremacy. The spirit of *compactism* was all-pervading; for though the compact of each locality may each have had a different *shibboleth*, it had a monopoly of power and patronage in its own locality. Here all but the natives of one country, or the professors of one creed, and there those not of another country or creed, were, or considered themselves to be, the subjects of proscription, and consequently of oppression. It was, perhaps, this real or imaginary exclusion of certain classes from all chance of preferment to office, more than any other cause, out of which one rebellion had arisen in Upper Canada; and, from the same cause, aggravated by conscious discomfiture on the one part, and unseemly triumph on the other, there were strong indications and gloomy forebodings of another, and a fiercer outbreak, when the late Governor General arrived with a message of hope, and a promise of "equal justice" from the Queen. Simultaneously with the deliverance of that message and that promise, the fierce howlings of party rage began to subside; and for once the people of Canada were found forgetting "past differences," and rallying round the representative of their Sovereign, for the purpose of cheering him on in the pursuit of the great and good purpose of his mission. Unanimity succeeded discord, and hope took the place of despondency. It is true that some of the ultras of the two ultra parties stood aloof, and a few still continue to stand sullenly by; but the people were no longer arrayed under party banners against each other. It is also true that a miserable outpost of each of the two conquered factions, composed of men unable to view the public good as a thing altogether independent of, and distinct from, the gratification of their paltry personal ambition, or the promotion of their exclusive personal interests, still maintains its original ground of opposition to the restoration of harmony; but such men are only holding themselves up to the contempt and derision of the people.

We come now to speak very briefly of the influence which he who is now no more, exercised over all who came within his reach, with one or two exceptions—Mr. Baldwin for instance, who he doubtless soon perceived, was not worth retaining, being nothing but a silly fool, elevated to notoriety by adventitious circumstances. The rooted ultra toryism of a Draper and the no less ultra, and far sterling *du* radicalism of a Hincks [for brevity's sake we take these as examples] bowed at once before the mighty magician, and joined hand in hand, though in bitter opposition before, in assisting to carry out his policy. The intellectual wealth and the moral worth of the land had only to approach him, and they were at once enlisted into his service. They who had shunned each other, as if each had considered the other tainted with leprosy, met together in his pre-

sence, and went away arm in arm, communing with one another on that mysterious influence which had brought them together and made them brothers. It is base minds only that can find no other than base motives for extraordinary conduct ; and on a dispassionate review of the wonderful drama that is just closed, we cannot help attributing the whole of its astonishing shiftings to the mastery of a superior intellect. If it was not so, the history of the world furnishes no such accumulation of instances of gross dishonesty and servile sycophancy as is presented in that of the bygone Session of the Provincial Parliament. But we do not believe that all this subserviency was a matter of bargain and sale—it was an involuntary homage to the resistless power of a great and energetic mind. The light of that high intellect has been suddenly withdrawn by the hand of death ; but its influence will long continue to be felt on the destinies of Canada. If the successor of Lord Sydenham shall follow in his footsteps, though at an humble distance, Canada may say in his own parting words when he heard that the Parliament was prorogued, “ Then all is right.”

(From the Nova Scotian.)

In taking up our pen, to fulfil our promise, by giving to the people of the Lower Provinces a view of Lord Sydenham's Canadian Policy, there are two reflections which make the task sufficiently painful—he has recently met with an accident, which to a person worn down with labour, as he was when he saw him last, may be a serious infliction, and he is about to retire from his Government. One cannot turn to the topics which must be embraced by such a review without feeling that his Lordship can scarcely afford the slightest further inroad upon a constitution already sufficiently delicate, and that Canada can but ill spare the master mind which has grappled so vigorously with her difficulties, and reduced, in an incomparably short space of time, the most chaotic materials to something like cohesion and order. We are well aware, that in attempting to do justice to the Governor General's character and policy, we shall have to differ with many worthy persons in Canada, whose interest and feelings have been crossed in the onward march of his Government, but these will, we trust, do us the justice to believe, that while we are prepared to defend the full exercise of strong executive power, in the extraordinary condition to which the Canadas were reduced, we have neither the information necessary, nor the wish, to vindicate every act of authority, or every measure of the Government—and that, while we approve in the broad outline the general bearing of Lord Sydenham's policy, no man in the Colonies more sincerely mourns over the deplorable events, the gross blunders of rulers and people, which left no alternative but vigorous measures, or the separation of these Colonies from the British Crown. To those who raise the cry that Lord

Sydenham has subsidized the Press, we would merely say, that he acquired his influence over our's by means which reflect no discredit upon his character nor upon our independence. By the exhibition, throughout our personal intercourse with him, of talent which we had rarely seen possessed by Colonial Governors, he won our respect; by a course of invariable frankness, courtesy and justice towards ourselves—and by his gallant bearing in midst of trials which might well have put the highest qualities of statesmanship to the proof—that sentiment has been, perhaps, deepened into something like personal attachment—and while we feel conscious that no power he possesses could compel us to do an act of political subserviency, we are happy to be able to prove that all the malignity of his enemies cannot prevent us from expressing, after the closest observation of his career, and while power is passing from hands, our almost unqualified approval of his Canadian Administration. It is in the highest degree gratifying to us, who, since his visit to Nova Scotia, have expressed full confidence in his views, and done our best to strengthen his hands, to find that those who petitioned against, and denounced his appointment—and who both here and elsewhere, have never ceased to misrepresent his acts, and foretell his failure, have been covered with mortification and disappointment, that almost every act of his Government has been crowned with success, and that the more important objects of his mission have been completely accomplished.

In order to understand the value of the service which Lord Sydenham has rendered to her Majesty and to British America, it is necessary to recall for a moment the state of things which his Lordship had to encounter. Did he succeed to political inheritance, so wisely husbanded, and so fairly established, that even bad management could scarcely lessen its value or disturb the security of the possession! Did he take the helm of state, when the vessel was tight, and sound, with perfect instruments, a fair wind, a clear sky, and a crew well disciplined and well disposed? Was not the estate wasted by years of bad management, until the tenants were at war with the landlord, or with each other, and even the title of the property was drawn into angry controversy? Was not the ship tempest-tost, shattered, and almost unseaworthy—with ignorant vacillation or eccentric severity on deck, and mutiny below—without an instrument that could be relied upon, or a blue spot in the heavens to admit of an observation? The state of Canada, when Lord Sydenham assumed the Government, might well have appalled any man not desirous to wreck his reputation. A long course of mal-administration, or rather of administration, often well meant, but based upon no principle which the people could understand or respect, had prepared the way for open insurrection, and aroused foreign interference in both Provinces, to be followed by the suspension of the constitution, and the establishment of despotism in the one, and in the other by a state of things which perhaps

were a great deal worse, the forms of Civil Government being retained, but affording rather a shelter from which a fragment of the population might insult and annoy the remainder, than any real protection to the people. Lord Durham's mission, although of immense value, because it laid bare the real causes which convulsed Canada, and shadowed forth the remedies—had been so brief, so disastrous, so unproductive of practical results within the country itself. that, however invaluable that volume in which the experience and principle of His Lordship and his able co-adjutors was embodied, might have been—and no man estimates the report more highly than we do—still, until reduced to practice, it was but a book—a theory, the value of which the enemies of Colonial freedom might altogether deny, and what its fondest admirers might well be excused for doubting, until experience had demonstrated the applicability of the new principles to the exigencies of Colonial Society. The task of consummating the Union which Lord Durham had pronounced to be indispensable—of grappling with those evils which he had fully exposed—and of applying the principles of Representative Government, indicated in his Report, devolved then upon Lord Sydenham, and it is rare that a Statesman so firm, so sagacious and indefatigable, follows in the wake of a projector so bold. He left the shores of England under no very favourable auspices—the Timber Merchants of London had denounced him, and the cue was taken up by their dependants and correspondents in the Colonies—the Tories viewed him with suspicion, and the Liberals who had embraced Lord Durham's theory, feared that he would be less liberal, and might not carry it out. When he arrived in Canada, the country was boiling with strong passions. The murders of Weir and Chartrand—the burnings of St. Charles and St. Eustache—the Courts Martial and Military executions—the border invasions, and incendiarism, with the marches of troops and the raids of Glengaries, were all so fresh in the minds of a population who had recently passed through scenes so deplorably exciting, that there might be said to be a few families which had not cause of mourning for some injury done, or loss sustained, or in whose circle some strong, personal antipathy or political predilection did not almost overpower respect for the law, and smother the better feelings of our nature. In both Provinces, the mass of the population were denounced as disloyal—and while one of the parties who had invoked the bayonet, held it to be the only safe instrument of Government, the other sullenly and sulkily kept aloof, lending no cordial support to legitimate authority, as though bidding its time to excite fresh trouble, and produce additional embarrassment. Property was depreciated—business unsafe—and the tide of emigration setting from, instead of to, the Provinces. We think that no man will deny that this is a faithful picture of the state of Canada when Lord Sydenham landed at Quebec. That the country presents a very different aspect now we believe to be equal-

ly undeniable, and although there is a vast deal yet to be done, we can scarcely—contrasting Canada as it was ten years ago, and as it is—believe that in so short a time so much has been accomplished.

Lord Sydenham's first care was to endeavour to calm the excited feelings of all parties—to satisfy the disloyal that it was in vain to attempt to uproot the Queen's authority, and to assure those who had loyalty in excess, that that authority was quite sufficient for their protection. This done, his next task, and a difficult one, was to call around him a Special Council, and frame a body of Ordinances to meet the present necessities of the Lower Province, in which there had been a total lapse of legislation, and where martial law had for years taken the place of the ordinary law of the land. He had then to meet the assembled Legislature of the Upper Province, and here one of his chief difficulties arose, from the strong conviction that must have forced itself upon him, and which the sequel proved, that the House—although to dissolve it would have been hazardous, did not truly represent the people. His position in the Upper Province, for a long time, called for the exercise of the utmost prudence and circumspection. The Reformers distrusted him because he denounced responsible government by that name, and the Tories began to suspect that his mode of administering Representative Government, was wide as the poles asunder from that which had obtained under the reign of the Compacts. In spite of all the obstacles which beset him, he succeeded in carrying the Union Bill, and several other important measures through both branches of the Legislature in the Upper Province, and through the Special Council.

These measures passed, an anxious period succeeded, in which they were to be reviewed by both Houses of Parliament. No man who knew what that ordeal was—who felt how deeply the peace of Canada, and his own reputation were committed—and who had Lord Durham's recent experience of the inconsiderate violence of English party warfare before him, could have slept on a bed of roses, from the time that the Union Bill and Ordinances crossed the Atlantic, until they returned, sanctioned by the highest authority in the realm. A part of this interval was spent by Lord Sydenham, in visiting Nova Scotia, and conducting the investigation into her affairs, which led to the entire change of that disastrous policy, and the repudiation of those principles, which had for years embroiled the people with their government, and brought at last the Legislature and the Executive into open and violent collision.

The Union Bill having been sanctioned, then came the period of its proclamation—of the arrangement of the Electoral districts—and of the return of the members of the first Parliament. This was a season of much labour, and of intense anxiety, drawing upon the Governor General's firmness, sagacity and knowledge of the country, almost every hour. Whether the charge of direct interference in Elections be well founded or not, and it appears to rest upon

slight evidence, one thing is very clear—that a person situated as his Lordship was, who could be indifferent to the course of the Elections, and who did not take every proper precaution to secure a working majority, disposed to support him, and give the Union Bill a trial, must have been lamentably deficient in common sense and practical statesmanship. There was, in fact, no alternative but to secure his majority, or throw aside all that had been done, and go back to the old evils, to be followed by fresh outbreaks, and a further resort to the bayonet. We are far from approving of any open violence in the conduct of the Elections, but we do think that it would have been most unwise for the Governor General, having the power in his hands to change and alter the electoral divisions, to leave the franchise so distributed, as to render certain, or even at all probable, the return of a body of men who would have voted the Union Act a nullity—repealed his ordinances, and perhaps commenced anew that course of obstructive policy, which had ended in open insurrection and the establishment of arbitrary power.

(*From the Novascotian.*)

It becomes our melancholy duty to turn from tracing the beneficial effects of Lord Sydenham's Administration, to record the particulars of his death and burial. A great man has gone down into the tomb, and we must be occupied for a time with his obsequies, reserving for some more fitting opportunity, the less painful task of discussing his measures and explaining his policy. The news of Lord Sydenham's death did not much surprise us. It seemed to us from the first, almost a necessary result of an accident so severe operating upon a frame so delicate. We were disposed to hope almost against hope—for we could not bear the thought that a man so young, with a mind so active, was to pass so suddenly from the elevated sphere to which he had attained—that all his information and experience was to be lost to the legislative body in which he was soon to have taken his seat, and to the Governments, which, no matter what their politics, it would have been freely imparted. Our fears rather than our hopes were to be realized. Lord Sydenham is no more, but it is satisfactory to find, now that there is nothing to be gained or lost by the free expression of opinion, that almost every Canadian paper speaks of his Lordship in terms even more respectful and complimentary than those we employed last week.

It must be highly gratifying to the great body of the people of Nova Scotia, who have nobly seconded Lord Sydenham, in his efforts to regenerate their country, to find how universal the testimony is to his worth, and how many there now are compelled to praise, who did not so early appreciate his character, nor so cordially assist him.

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(From the New Brunswick Sentinel.)

The Canada papers received on Wednesday, put us in possession of the melancholy tidings of the death of Lord Sydenham, Governor General of these Provinces, who expired on Sunday morning the 19th inst. the day following the prorogation of the Legislature.

The intelligence of this event was not altogether unexpected, as the constitutional tendency to gout of His Lordship, and his previous state of health, induced medical men to anticipate the most fatal results, from the accident which befel His Excellency, and by which his leg was broken.

We have copied into our columns of to-day, the account of the prorogation of the Provincial Parliament, and notices of the demise of the Governor General taken from papers of all parties; from which will be perceived the high estimation in which his Lordship was held, and the great loss the empire will sustain by the death of so distinguished a statesman; one who had made himself intimately acquainted with the situation of Colonial affairs, and the course of policy which should be pursued, for the purposes of good government.

Sonnet on the Late Lord Sydenham.

BY THE EDITOR OF THE WOODSTOCK HERALD.

We saw him in the counting-house with men
Of eager trade—a plodding youth—and then,
We looked among the senatorial band,
And found him there—the sages of the land
Were gathering round the low-toned speech to scan,
Of a thin-voiced and melancholy man.
It was the merchant-statesman—honours came
Flocking upon him, and begirt his name—
Kings sought his counsel—Queens were fain to ask
His aid; and bound him to a mighty task—
To found a state—in which the wise had failed.
He came, he saw, like Cæsar, and prevailed—
Built the strong pillars of a glorious empire—gave
His name to history, and won—an early grave!

