

CANADA MOURNS

Sir John Thompson, Premier of Canada

Expires Suddenly at Windsor Castle, England.

His Remains to be Brought Home in a British Man of War.

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

Sir John Thompson, Premier of Canada is dead.

The sad event occurred at Windsor Castle, the Queen's residence, about noon on Wednesday.

The Premier had just been sworn in a member of the Imperial Privy Council. Her Majesty personally administered the oath, and had adjourned for lunch when the terrible visitation came. Ten minutes after the first attack, death claimed his victim.

Sir John left Canada the last of October, reaching London Nov. 7th. From there he went to the continent, visiting Paris and Rome and returning to London Nov. 29th. He had business at the Colonial office on Tuesday evening he spoke at a public meeting at which the results of the Intercolonial Conference were discussed. It was noticed then that the Premier was not in good health. Tuesday night probably laboring under excitement over Wednesday's coming ceremony, he did not sleep well, and on his arrival at the Colonial office, shortly before noon Wednesday, he complained of illness. The despatches following tell the sad news in graphic detail.

Sir John Thompson expired suddenly at Windsor Castle at noon on Wednesday. He had been, not long before death overtook him, sworn in as a privy councillor of the empire. Shortly after the oath was administered by Her Majesty in person, the end came. The ceremony of swearing in took place in the presence of the Earl of Ripon and the members of the court at Windsor.

Sir John had left London that morning for Her Majesty's residence at Windsor, and before leaving the city he had

complained of feeling unwell, saying he had not slept well last night. It is supposed the excitement of the ceremony through which he had passed so told on him that he looked down under the strain, for, after leaving the royal presence for the ministers' luncheon in the castle, he again renewed his complaint of the morning that he was feeling unwell.

Luncheon, he said, was out of the question; he could not eat anything and asked to be excused from the table. His companions, including Lord Ripon, signified their sorrow at his state of health, and Sir John was led by one of the royal attendants to the writing room, adjoining the ministers' luncheon room. There Sir John sat down on a couch and leaned forward upon his hands. He appeared to be in a state of nervous agitation was also great. Suddenly the stock man rose partly from his couch; he appeared to grope in the darkness; then he

fell back in a swoon. Death came with terrible swiftness. The attendant gave the alarm and the ministers at luncheon caught it up. There was a rush for the writing room by the ministers. When the doctor, hastily summoned, had reached the side of the prostrate man, his hand felt "Sir John Thompson is dead," the intelligence that went forth from the place of death. The utmost surprise, dismay and horror prevailed, and expressions of regret were general. It was decided to keep the intelligence from Her Majesty just then, as the Queen's health is far from good. When the physician emerged from the death chamber, he was not prepared to state the real cause of death, but expressed the opinion that it was

due to heart disease, aggravated by recent ill health which Sir John had complained of, and by the excitement of the ceremony of the swearing in.

That Sir John was far from being a well man was painfully apparent at the Colonial Institute Tuesday night. In making his speech, Sir John was forced to curtail it on account of what he termed lack of strength. It was observed that Sir John was speaking with his hands trembled and there were convulsive movements of his arms, and on account of the attack Sir John brought his speech to rather an abrupt end.

Sir John Thompson died at the institute before the meeting and at that time appeared to be in good health. He was also in good spirits, and joined cordially in the talk that was current.

The Queen Informed.

When finally it was decided to tell Her Majesty of the death which had occurred in the presence of her chief official, the news was broken to her as gently as possible. She expressed herself as inexpressibly shocked, and showed the deepest grief and concern. Her Majesty at once sent a cable message of condolence to Lady Thompson as follows:

WINDSOR CASTLE, Dec. 12.—It is impossible for me to say how deeply grieved I am at the terrible occurrence which has befallen here today, and how very truly I sympathize with you in your deep affliction.

(Signed) VICTORIA.

She had given Sir John a most gracious welcome, and in acknowledging his presence referred to him as the successor of the late Sir John A. Macdonald, not only in office but in the "loyal and courageous policy" of cementing the Canadian Dominion closer to the empire.

Sir Charles Tupper, Thursday morning, previous to the funeral ceremonies, had an audience with the Queen, who declared to him that she felt the deepest grief at Canada's loss, and expressed in touching words her sympathy with the Canadian people. Her Majesty then ordered Sir Charles to cable a message expressive of her sorrow to the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor General of Canada. The following is the text of the Queen's message to the Earl of Aberdeen:

"The Queen has personally commanded me to express to Your Excellency her deep sympathy with the people of Canada in the sad blow which the country has sustained by the sudden and untimely death of the Premier."

(Signed) TUPPER.

The laurel wreath which the Queen placed upon the coffin, will be taken to Canada. It bears the autograph inscription of the Queen, as follows: "A mark of sincere respect from Victoria."

More Details of Sir John Thompson's Death.

The first message received from Windsor, announcing Sir John Thompson's demise was hardly credited, so startling was the intelligence conveyed, but it is convincingly confirmed by later telegrams. He had left London only a few hours before apparently in excellent health and sanguine spirits in company with the party of Cabinet Ministers, whose mission it was to attend a meeting of the Privy Council at Windsor Castle. It was an important day in Sir John Thompson's life, for at this very meeting of the Privy Council he was to be sworn in as a member of the Council. The party was to leave by special train at noon. The Canadian Premier was the first to arrive at Paddington railroad station, in order to accompany the Cabinet Ministers and members of the Privy Council on the special train bound for Windsor where a meeting of the Privy Council was to be held at the Castle. Sir John waited on the platform of Paddington station for half an hour before the special train started and during that time he

Conversed in an Animated Manner

with Lord Breadalbane, the Lord Steward of the Queen's Household and with Mr. Arnold, Mr. Morley, Postmaster-General, the Marquis of Ripon, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fowler, the Indian Secretary, and with Secretary Charles Lennox Peel, Clerk of the Privy Council. Up to the time the train started, Sir John Thompson had not showed any signs of fatigue or excitement. His appearance and manner did not give the slightest indication that he was suffering from any illness. His demeanor gave no sign that he was laboring under any unusual excitement. In short, he was perhaps the last man in the assembly that would have been supposed to be the next to be summoned by the grim reaper death.

As to what took place upon his arrival at Windsor let the following messages bear testimony: Upon the arrival of the train bearing the distinguished party of British Cabinet Ministers with the no less distinguished Prime Minister of Canada, Sir John Thompson, at the station here, the party alighted and were conveyed by carriage in waiting to the Council Chamber, where the Privy Council were convened. In due form John Thompson was sworn in.

Made a Member of the Council,

and the immediate business thereof was despatched without incident or accident. At the conclusion of the deliberations of this body the councillors adjourned for luncheon. Premier Thompson accompanied his fellow members, and with them in convivial spirit, still unmarked by any visible shadow of death. Hardly had the luncheon been concluded when the Canadian Premier showed signs of illness so alarming that it was deemed advisable to send for a physician. Accordingly a messenger was despatched with all haste for Dr. Ellison, one of the surgeons in ordinary at the British Embassy in London. He arrived with celerity and commendable promptitude, but his labors were unavailing to save Sir John's life.

Stricken with Appalling Weakness,

he expired. In the confusion and alarm incident upon such a remarkably sudden death, it is difficult to learn the exact nature of the attack. But, it is learned that pending the arrival of the surgeon-in-ordinary, Dr. Ellison, the circle of ministers did all that their wisdom could suggest to revive and resuscitate the dying Premier. Stimulants were administered, but all in vain. The Marquis of Ripon, the Colonial Secretary, administered brandy to Sir John. This seemed for a moment to revive him, but the stimulus was only momentary. When the surgeon-in-ordinary, Dr. Ellison, entered the room and examined the patient's pulse, his expression confirmed the gravest fears of the ministerial councillors who surrounded him. The pulse was imperceptible. In ten minutes Sir John Thompson was a corpse. The cause of death at present writing is generally thought not scientifically, attributable to heart failure, perhaps due to some functional derangement of that organ. The body was removed to one of the principal rooms of the Clarence Tower of Windsor Castle to await the inquest.

Described by an Eye Witness.

The Marquis of Breadalbane, who was an eye witness of the Premier's death, says: "He appeared to me to be in a state of nervous agitation to-day, and travelled to Windsor in the same saloon with him. He appeared all right then, and afterwards at the meeting. After he was sworn, he retired to the luncheon room and while we were sitting there, he suddenly fainted. One of the servants and I each took an arm, got him into the next room and placed him beside a window. I got some water and sent a servant for brandy. In a short time he recovered somewhat and seemed much distressed at having made a scene, remarking: 'It seems weak and foolish to faint like this.' He said: 'One does not faint on purpose. I pray do not distress yourself about the matter.' He begged me to return to my luncheon, but of course I would not be seen completely recovered, and he rose to accompany me back to the luncheon room. I offered him my arm, but he walked unaided. He cheerfully remarked, 'I am all right, thank you.' Meanwhile Dr. Reid, the Queen's physician, whom I had sent for, arrived. Within two or three minutes after Sir John's return to the luncheon room, I believe, before he tasted the coffee, or preserver was placed before him. I saw him suddenly lurch over and fall almost into Dr. Reid's arms. At the request of the doctor, the ladies at table went out; the doctor, I and servants alone remained. We did all that was possible. I felt his pulse and was confident no aid would avail him. The doctor held the same view, which, unappreciated, proved too correct. As far as I could see, Sir John had been in good health up to the first seizure. I believe he told Dr. Reid he had had pains in the chest. The cause of death was undoubtedly sudden failure of the heart's action."

At Windsor Castle.

Shortly before midnight Wednesday, a quiet service was held in the room of the Clarence tower in which the remains were first deposited. The Rev. Father Longinotti, a Roman Catholic priest of Windsor, officiated. Sir Charles Tupper, the Canadian high commissioner, Lord Penhampston, the master of the Queen's household, and other high officials of the castle were present at the service, which were most impressive and lasted an hour. The body of the dead Premier lay on a small bedstead, dressed in clean night clothes, and with a crucifix upon his breast. The expression of the face was placid, though the features were a trifle discolored. Immediately after the service the remains were placed in the coffin.

The Funeral Procession.

Was formed in the quadrangle, at the egress of the entrance of the castle. By command of the Queen, the procession was in the nature of a state ceremonial. The hearse was draped with black velvet, and in front of it was carried a pile of feathers, in accordance with an ancient custom. This is a board about a yard square, covered with black cloth, upon which are placed a quantity of small black feathers. On either side of the hearse walked the pall bearers, Lord Hawkebury, Sir Fleetwood Isham Edwards, assistant keeper of the privy purse, Sir John McNeil, Colonel Livingston, Lord Clinton, master of the Queen's household; Sir Henry Ponsonby, the Queen's private secretary; Dr. James Reid, the Queen's resident medical attendant. Behind the hearse was Sir Charles Tupper, the Canadian high commissioner, who acted as chief mourner. He was followed by a number of members of the Queen's household, all in deep mourning. The procession left the castle by the Henry VIII. gateway, at about 12.30 p. m.

All the shades of the castle were drawn down except at one window, from which the procession left the castle for the railroad station. The gates at the gateway were called out and presented arms as the coffin passed. The route from the castle to the railroad station was crowded with people, who stood with uncovered heads as the body passed.

At the railroad station the remains of the Canadian Premier were received with all honors by the state and municipal dignitaries and were transferred to the special train and started for London.

The funeral train which conveyed the remains was followed by two first-class cars containing the mourners, including Sir

John Thompson's daughter.

The whole of the Premier's luggage, money, and effects, including the special court suit which he intended to wear at Wednesday's dinner, were given in charge of Sir Charles Tupper's secretary. The funeral train only stopped at Slough, and arrived at Paddington at 11.40 p. m., where a two horse hearse was in waiting. The coffin was removed to the hearse without exciting ceremony, and taken direct to the embalmer's.

Funeral Services in London.

Requiem Mass began in the Lady chapel, in Spanish place, London, at 11 o'clock yesterday. The weather was cold, damp, foggy and altogether disagreeable, and owing to the short notice of the service there was only a moderate attendance. Mass was celebrated by Father Longinotti, of St. Edward's church, Windsor, assisted by Canon Barry. The coffin, upon which rested a solitary wreath, the one placed upon it by the Queen, arrived at the west entrance to the chapel at exactly 11 o'clock. Sir Charles Tupper followed immediately behind the casket. Among those present were the Marquis of Ripon and Lord Hawkebury on behalf of the Queen, Baron de Courcel, Lord Russell, Lord Lytton, Lord Bessborough, the permanent officials of the Colonial office, Sir George Osborne Morgan, M. P., the colonial agents of Queensland and Natal and minor officials. Miss Thompson, accompanied by Senator and Mrs. Stanford, occupied a seat immediately in front of the altar and facing the coffin. The service, which consisted of the solemn Mass for the dead, with an antiphonal chanting, was very impressive.

At the conclusion of the Mass mourners and friends passed around the coffin and looked upon the face of the dead Premier. The wreath placed upon the coffin by the Queen was of bay and laurel leaves, with white streamers. A wreath and spray composed of white flowers from Lady Tupper, and wreaths from the Queen's daughters were placed upon the coffin after the body was brought into the church.

The coffin is of mahogany, upon which is a heavy brass shield with the inscription "The Right Hon. Sir John S. D. Thompson, P. C., K. C. M. G., M. P., Q. C., died at Windsor Castle Dec. 12, 1894, aged 50 years. Requiescat in pace."

The Home Coming.

The British Government have offered to have the remains of the late Premier conveyed to Canada on a British man-of-war and the honor has been accepted. The body will, therefore, be conveyed direct to Halifax and a state funeral will take place in that city. The cruiser Blenheim, 9,000 tons, has been detailed as the vessel to bring the body across the Atlantic. The Blenheim is a sister ship of the Blake, but not as old, the Blenheim being built in 1880. Her speed is 22 knots an hour.

A Gibraltar despatch of yesterday says: Orders directing the British cruiser Blenheim to proceed at once to England for the purpose of taking on board and conveying to Canada the body of Sir John Thompson. The Blenheim started for England tonight. She will probably sail for Halifax Sunday and arrive there about Dec. 28th.

Chief Engineer Coste of the Public Works, left Ottawa for Halifax yesterday to make arrangements for the state funeral. He will consult with General Montgomery Moore, the Mayor, dominion and provincial officials, and set the wheels in motion that the last honors to the illustrious dead may be paid without any hitch. The Premier received the following despatch from Hon. W. S. Fielding, premier of Nova Scotia, last night:

The provincial buildings at Halifax will be at your service if desired for arrangements in connection with Sir John Thompson's funeral.

The News at Ottawa.

When the first press messages came to hand the news ran through the city like a flash, and it must be confessed scarcely a citizen believed it. The sad news was carried to the Acting Premier, Hon. Mr. Bowell, by his messenger, John Carleton. "It cannot be true," was the startled reply. "It is a mere newspaper rumor."

At that moment Mr. Bowell's private secretary, J. L. Payne, entered the Minister's room and informed his chief of the character of the despatch which had been received. He intimated that it was apparently an authentic newspaper cablegram.

"I cannot credit it until it is confirmed," remarked Mr. Bowell. Mr. Bowell Fleming, who was in the Minister's office at the time, immediately left the room, saying that he would wire Mr. Hosmer, general manager of the C. P. R. telegraphs, to have the authority for the despatch checked on the moment later two or three newspaper reporters came hurriedly in and enquired if any official information had been received. They were answered in the negative. They had barely been given this answer when Hon. Messrs. Costigan and Foster came in. Each bore the evidence of great mental excitement on his face.

"Is this terrible news true?" they enquired in a breath. "I cannot believe it," said Mr. Bowell, "but it seems to be authentic."

Meanwhile official messages commenced to pour in. Sir Charles Tupper cabled the news to the acting Premier, and when that came the last vestige of hope was gone, and Mr. Bowell held the torch on his desk; he burst into tears. He tried to speak to his secretary to give some directions about notifying the Ministers who were absent from the capital, but his voice failed him. His two colleagues, who were with him, were also very much affected. "Poor Lady Thompson," moaned Mr. Bowell; "who can we get to take the news to her?"

"It is your duty, Mr. Bowell," remarked the Finance Minister.

"My God, I cannot do that," was the reply. "But it is clearly the duty of some member of the Ministry to tell her," urged Mr. Foster. Douglas Stewart, the Premier's private secretary, entered the room. He had just left Lady Thompson, and was asked to return to her house with Mr. Bowell and Mr. Foster.

Lady Thompson Informed.

In the meantime some inkling of the terrible calamity had reached Lady Thompson. Some thoughtless and rude person, having heard the news, called up the Premier's late residence by telephone, and asked if any news had been received of Sir John's death. It was a trying hour for the stricken widow until the final intelligence came. The grief of Lady Thompson and her family as the terrible truth finally dawned on them is far too sacred a thing to parade before the world. Whatever Sir John Thompson was to his country, he was infinitely more to his devoted wife and affectionate children. He was all the world to them, and a well-earned, therefore, dawned upon the agony of their stricken hearts.

Sir John's Illness.

Dr. H. P. Wright of Ottawa, who was one of the late Premier's physicians in Ottawa, states that the organic trouble Sir John suffered from, was a form of Bright's disease. He had probably been suffering from it all summer, but as there was no special pain or other suffering associated with the trouble, the Premier did not complain till the fall. Then the disease of the kidneys was discovered.

In September, Dr. Wright, Grant (Sir James) and Boddick, of Montreal, held a consultation and advised the Premier to rest. It was thought a visit to the Old Country would probably benefit him, inasmuch as the travel and change would be a rest to his mind. He was also advised to be as much as possible in the warmer parts. This Sir John did, travelling through Italy and along the Mediterranean. He returned to London. Recently Sir John also consulted the most eminent medical authorities in London, and they confirmed the local physicians' diagnosis and endorsed their advice.

Mr. Laurier's Tribute.

"This intelligence is most shocking,"

MY FALL

STOCK OF

COOK, HALL DINING ROOM

FRANKLIN STOVES.

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Sir John's History.

John S. D. Thompson was born at Halifax, N. S., on the 10th of November, 1844, and was the son of John Sparrow Thompson, who came from Waterford, Ireland, was for some time Queen's printer, and afterwards superintendent of the money order system of Nova Scotia, dying at Halifax in 1871. His mother, Charlotte Foster, was a native of the north of Scotland. Sir John Thompson was educated in the common schools of Halifax and the Free Presbyterian Church Academy, read law with Henry Fryer, Q. C., stipendiary magistrate of Halifax, was called to the Nova Scotia bar in July, 1865, and appointed a Queen's Counsel in May, 1873. He was for six years an alderman of the city of Halifax, and for five years a member of the board of school commissioners of that city, being for some time chairman of the board. The government of Nova Scotia, under the late P. C. Hill, when J. S. D. Thompson, then thirty-three years of age, entered political life in 1877 in opposition, representing Antigonish. The next year the general elections came on, and the Hill government was beaten. A government was formed by H. H. Holmes, with

Mr. Thompson as Attorney General.

Mr. Holmes retired from the premiership in 1882, and was succeeded by Mr. Thompson, but in the general election of that year, the government was very badly beaten, and Mr. Thompson accepted a seat on the Nova Scotia supreme court bench. This position he held until the 20th of September, 1885, when he resigned and was chosen Sir John A. Macdonald to fill the office of minister of justice in the Canadian cabinet, being elected to represent the county of Antigonish in October of that year. He was re-elected at the general elections of 1891 and 1893. On the death of Sir John A. Macdonald in June, 1891, he led the government in the house of commons, Sir John C. Abbott, the premier, having a seat in the senate, and on the resignation of Hon. Mr. Abbott the following year, he was chosen premier.

On his admission to the bar, he soon took a front rank among the legal fraternity of Nova Scotia, and was engaged in many very important cases. He was particularly renowned for services of a public character in connection with the awards arising out of the Prince Edward Island lands purchase act. Sir John was united as counsel on behalf of the United States, to act with the American lawyers before the fabry commission which sat at Halifax in 1877 under the treaty of Washington.

He was married in 1870 to Miss Annie E. Aitken, of Halifax, and the next year joined the Roman Catholic church. He leaves five children. One of his sons is a student in the law office of Dalton McCarty, M. P.

Sir John Thompson's first duty on becoming minister of justice, was the defence in the house, of the execution of Riel. He was knighted in 1888 for his services on behalf of the British government before the fishery commission at Washington in 1887. Sir John's latest appearance in behalf of imperial interests, was at the Behring Sea commission, which met in Paris, and the ability he there displayed, won the thanks of the crown, and the Imperial councillorship.

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Sir John's Illness.

Dr. H

POETRY.

IF YOU WANT A KISS.

There's a jolly Saxon proverb, That is pretty much like this: That a man is half in heaven...

SELECT STORY.

A LORDLY LOVER.

By the author of 'A Man of Honour,' 'The Ace of Spades,' etc.

CHAPTER VII.

"My bonny lass, this'll be a sore trial for her," he says tenderly, thinking of the bright eyes and soft lips which had bid him good-bye...

more attentively than he has hitherto done, the determined face and compressed lips of the accused.

Yet, in spite of the absolute lack of air under circumstances, the first-class compartment of the train, of which both windows are tightly shut...

AT THE CIRCUS. The elephant hit the bars of the tiger's cage a whack with his trunk.

Babies and rapidly growing children derive more benefit from Scott's Emulsion, than all the rest of the food they eat.

Wiley's ... EMULSION ... COD - LIVER - OIL. Gives Best Results. The Best Preparation.

Fine Flavoring Extracts. Prepared by Ourselves. Fino Salad Oil, Lime Juice, Perfumes, Sponges, Hair and Tooth Brushes in Great Variety.

IT WILL COME EVERYBODY WILL Enjoy it! But you will Have to ANNOUNCE The date.

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