

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1910.

INCIDENTS OF THE DEATH OF A SOVEREIGN.

From the reign of Queen Anne down to 1867 the death of the Sovereign operated as a dissolution of Parliament in Great Britain and in the Colonies as well. In the latter year this was changed so that Parliament continues for its regular term notwithstanding the death of the Sovereign. Canada and the several Provinces passed similar laws and hence all the legislative bodies throughout the Empire are in that regard unaffected by the recent sad occurrence in London.

None the less the moving wheels of all the official machinery of the Empire are brought momentarily to a standstill by the King's demise. All the great officers of state in the United Kingdom and throughout the Empire, who are required to take the oath of allegiance on their accession to office, must be re-obligated in solemn form. This applies among others to all Ministers of State, Governors, Judges, Members of Parliament, Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

Another incident of the passing of one Sovereign and the accession of another, is that the issue of all writs, processes, appointments, grants of land and other documents in which the Sovereign's name is required to be used, is suspended from the moment of the late King's death until the proclamation of his successor. This suspension of legal processes extends throughout the entire British Empire, but is limited to a comparatively brief space of time. A period of official mourning is also prescribed on such an occasion.

The courts adjourn. Public festivities are suspended. In England all places of amusement are closed until after the royal funeral, and it would seem to be fitting that the same course should be followed in Canada. In Charlottetown the Supreme Court was in session when Queen Victoria died. The Court was opened in the Queen's name and adjourned in the name of King Edward.

It may also be recalled that when Queen Victoria died on the 22nd of January, 1901, Premier Farquharson summoned a meeting of citizens which was held the following afternoon in the Legislative Council Chamber, and at which the Lieutenant Governor presided, to consider what action should be taken in view of the sad event. All the principal public officials of the Province were in attendance. The result was that a telegram of condolence on behalf of the people of Prince Edward Island, signed by the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier and the Mayor, was forwarded to London. Also a resolution was adopted requesting the closing of all places of business and amusement on the day of the Queen's funeral, and prescribing a badge of crape on the left arm to be worn as a mourning emblem. The absence of Premier Hazard from the Province, or other cause, may have prevented this seemingly desirable action by and on behalf of the entire people of the Province being taken immediately following the receipt of the tidings of King Edward's death.

WHAT IS THE SCENIC GLORY OF CANADA?

If the above question were submitted to a hundred intelligent men and women in this country there would be many and various answers. One would think of the towering mountains, another of the majestic rivers, the vast inland seas, the thundering cataracts, the illimitable forests clothed with their autumnal splendor, and so on. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in a recent speech delivered in Toronto, and more recently quoted with high approval in the British press, has given another and different opinion. He said:

"The Canadian winter is the glory of Canada. I do not know anything so beautiful as a beautiful winter day, not, perhaps, such as you have in Toronto—you cannot have everything in Toronto, but like we have in Ottawa, in Montreal, or in Quebec, where the rays of the sun glisten upon the white carpet, which extends as far as the eye can go towards the horizon. There is nothing quite so beautiful, unless it be a beautiful winter night when the bluest of all skies is studded with millions of gems never seen to such advantage in any other country."

Sir Wilfrid has something of the poet's imagination and sense of the beautiful and has spoken accordingly.

As a patriot he knew very well that the Canadian winter has been regarded by many as a drawback, something to be endured rather than enjoyed, a dark, inclement season which they would if they could eliminate from the calendar. Wherefore he has painted a word picture, and a true one, in bright colors, of the scenic beauty and glory of the winter season.

He has, in the words quoted above, performed a patriotic duty, telling to the world that Canadians, the Northernmen of the New World, find delight and enjoyment in their winter, differing from but not less than that of milder seasons. Winter adds the charm of variety to the Canadian year, a variety unknown to tropical latitudes, and is not variety one of nature's greatest charms? The north wind breathes vigor into our forms, gives courage, hope, self-reliance, and helps to nurture and strengthen the sturdy manhood and womanhood of the Dominion. And yet, perhaps, Sir Wilfrid's engaging picture of winter's scenic beauty was needed to open the eyes of some Canadians to one great beauty and glory of our land in regard to which it might be said "they had eyes but did not see."

A NOTABLE AND A NOBLE PARALLEL.

The late King Edward is his first official message on his accession to the Throne, after announcing the death of Queen Victoria, said in brief:

"I need hardly say that my constant endeavor will be always to walk in her footsteps."

"In undertaking the heavy load which now devolves upon me, I am fully determined to be a constitutional sovereign in the strictest sense of the word, and so long as there is breath in my body to work for the good and amelioration of my people."

King George on taking the oath of office recalled these words of his royal father and how nobly they had been carried out in the spirit and to the letter, and added:

"To endeavor to follow in his footsteps and at the same time to uphold excellent government of the realm will be the earnest object of my life."

There is a noble parallel in these solemn declarations of the Son and Grandson of Victoria. The King firmly resolved to walk in the footsteps of Edward as he walked in the footsteps of Victoria, making duty his watchword, enters upon a reign that is full of promise.

King George is the inheritor of great examples and of great incentives to keep him true to the solemn pledge he has thus given, and we believe he will, right royally, as his father did, fulfill it in the spirit and letter. And so doing, he will—"Save the one true seed of freedom sown, Betwixt a people and their ancient throne, That sober freedom out of which Our loyal passion for our temperate Kings, And, saving that, will help to save mankind, Till public wrong be crumbled into dust, And drill the raw world for the march of mind, Till crowds at length be sane and crowns be just."

"Paton's silks at 45c in golden brown, Nile green, pearl grey, and champagne shades still left of their splendid silk offering at 45c yd. 5-10431

Not much that the beautiful and good Queen Alexandra has written has ever been given to the world, but when Mrs Gladstone died a wreath was sent by the Prince and Princess of Wales (not yet come to the throne,) bearing the following inscription in the Princess' hand writing:

"It is but crossing With abated breath, And white, set face, A little strip of sea, To find the loved ones Waiting on the shore, More beautiful, More precious than before."

Few persons in the common walk of life are aware of how busy is the life of the Sovereign, or how great are the responsibilities and cares that yoke with Empire. The late Queen Victoria in her old age was signing 50,000 documents yearly, averaging 150 a day, many of them of high importance and requiring careful perusal. That was but a part of her official duties as Sovereign. Family and social duties of great moment, the paying and receiving visits of state make further large demands upon the Sovereign's time. King Edward, who succeeded to these duties was one of the busiest workers in the Empire. And it is not to a life of idleness that King George has been called.

The long delay in the expected high appointments for this Province continues. It is now intimated that the resignation of Mr. Justice Hodgson is not to take effect till the end of June, and that no commission will issue to a new Judge before that date, even should the appointment be sooner made. With the close of Parliament the necessity for an immediate appointment to the vacant seat in the Senate ceases for the time and until the near approach of next session. What delays the appointment of a new Lieutenant Governor is a matter not explained. The deliberation with which the authorities at Ottawa are acting will seemingly involve the necessity of Lieutenant Governor McKinnon and Judge Hodgson taking the oath of office anew, owing to the demise of the Crown, just on the eve of vacating their respective high positions.

AMHERST DEPARTS INSANE MAN TO FREDERICTON

FREDERICTON, N. B., May 7.—Tonight an insane man named John McElvery, arrived by the C. P. R. from Amherst. His wife accompanied him. On instructions from the railway authorities the police met him at the station and took him to the police station where he was locked up for the night. His wife, who is staying at Long's Hotel, says that her husband is insane and that the Amherst authorities ordered him taken to Fredericton and furnished transportation. She says McElvery is a native of this city and lived here until fourteen years of age. He was employed, it is said, with the Robb Engineering Company of Amherst for some months. On the I.C.R. on the way here the man did damage to the railway property. It is not known what action the city authorities will take in the matter. The general feeling is that Fredericton is not responsible for the care of the man and he should be sent back to Amherst. When taken to the police station he expressed a determination not to stay, but was placed in a cell. He has displayed no violence so far.

FATAL EXPLOSION REPORTED.

OTTAWA, May 9.—Boys playing in the fields yesterday started a brush fire which caused the explosion of a magazine of the General Explosives Company in Hull, Quebec. Ten deaths and at least twenty cases of serious injury constitutes the tale of casualties, while the damage to Hull and to the City of Ottawa is considerable. The death list may be added to.

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CORPORAL DROWNED, SIX SOLDIERS ESCAPE.

HALIFAX, May 9.—Corporal Gregg, Commander of Port Clarence on the eastern side of Halifax harbor, was drowned and six others on the boat had a narrow escape. Two of these may die as a result. They had just left the pier when a gust of wind capsized their boat.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR GLOVES.

Gloves are another item about which many do not concern themselves sufficiently. A soiled glove looks as badly as a soiled collar, yet no one would think of wearing the latter, whereas gloves that reek with dirt and germs are worn with the greatest disregard for appearance and hygiene. Fastidious women find the chemise glove a delightful substitute for the regular kid, as it can be washed when soiled, wears as well as any other, and is much more comfortable. Gloves, like stockings, should be mended the moment they begin to show wear; in fact, every garment requires constant inspection to keep it in condition and always ready for use.—The Delmeator for June.

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