

THE DAILY EXAMINER

SEPTEMBER 22, 1900

HON. THOMAS W. DODD.

ALTHOUGH his years had extended beyond the limit at which a man's strength is said to be "labor and sorrow," the death of the Honourable Thomas Walker Dodd, this morning, came as a shock to the community. He was present at the marriage of his daughter on Wednesday last, gave the bride away, and afterwards accepted the congratulations of his friends in the spirit of the genial old gentleman that he was. On Wednesday evening he was in a particularly happy mood, and throughout yesterday was very well in health and spirits. But last evening, feeling indisposed, he retired early. Throughout the night he suffered great pain in the region of the lungs and heart, his symptoms being those of acute pneumonia; and this morning, at five o'clock, his spirit passed away.

Covering a period of upwards of eighty years, the greater part of which was passed in Charlottetown, entering with quiet zest into business and politics, and social and domestic concerns, the life of the deceased gentleman was coincident with the life, and growth, and prosperity of Charlottetown. He saw Charlottetown first as a mere village, surrounded by the forest primeval; and he lived to see it, at the last, a considerable town, supplied with every modern convenience, maintained by a thrifty and prosperous agricultural community, and to be one of its wealthy and most honored citizens.

He was born at Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, on the 25th of December, 1819, the son of Captain Simon W. Dodd, and he came here with his parents when yet in infancy. Entering into business here he was soon successful; and for many years he remained at the head of the prosperous firm of Dodd & Rogers.

His public career began in 1861 when he was appointed a Justice of the Peace. In 1865 and 1866 he served as High Sheriff of Queen's County. He was a Commissioner of the Court of Charlottetown for the recovery of small debts until its abolition. In 1867 and 1870 he was an unsuccessful candidate in Charlottetown for the House of Assembly. But in 1872 he was returned for the Legislative Council, on the resignation of the Hon. T. H. Hayward; and he was re-elected in 1873, becoming Leader of the Opposition and then Leader of the Government in the Upper Chamber. He was Provincial Secretary from September, 1878, to March 1879. After the abolition of the Legislative Council he retired from politics.

In 1814 he married the second daughter of William Gardiner, Esq., of this city. After her death, in 1870, he married a daughter of the Hon. Dr. Johnson, of Lincolnshire, England, and widow of the late William Pethick, Esquire; and later the widow of the late James Coleman, Esquire, Superintendent of the P. E. Island Railway.

The passing away of one who has finished an honorable and Christian course of well-nigh eighty-two years is not to be regretted as that of a passing away in the prime of life. It is the payment of the debt to nature upon its full maturity; it is the breaking of the golden bowl after the nectar of life has been drained to the dregs. Yet even in this there is the shock and pain of the parting here. In their sorrow we heartily sympathize with those who are most bereaved, particularly with Mrs. Dodd, with Dr. Dodd and his wife, and with Mrs. Mahon, the happy bride of Wednesday last, now mourning the loss of a loved and loving father,—gone to meet other loved ones in another sphere.

SUPPOSE.

"Suppose the Conservative party was still in power at Ottawa, and had done the very things that have been done in the past four years, what would the Liberal press be saying about it today?"

"Suppose the Conservatives had raised the annual expenditure by at least ten million dollars, where could Sir Richard Cartwright go for invective and vituperation to vent his indignation that was a flood tide when the expenditure was ten million dollars less? Would he have excused or defended the increase by pleading on behalf of the Conservative Government that the growing time demanded the extraordinary expenditure?"

"Suppose they had made the very same changes in the tariff that have been made in the past four years, would the Liberals have agreed that that was sufficient?"

"Suppose they had on the eve of a Parliamentary session signed a contract agreeing to give nearly four million acres of land for 125 miles of tramway traversing a disputed territory, would the Liberals have agreed that the bargain was a wise and provident one? Would they have excused haste in making the bargain by asserting that the case was urgent and that riot and famine in the Yukon could be prevented only by the rapid building of that road? And suppose that the contract was annulled by the Senate, would the Liberal Opposition denounce that body as the arch enemy of Canada? Would they hold the Government blameless when the contractor's bill for damages amounting to over \$30,000 was up for settlement?"

"Suppose a combine gained control of binder, twine, unduly enhancing the price, and the Conservative Government sold twine of its own manufacture to the Canadian agents of the combine, would the Liberals excuse the high price by attributing it entirely the war in the Philippines?"

"Suppose the Conservatives kept up the practice of dangling promises of office before members of Parliament, in contravention of the Independence of Parliament Act, would Mr. Mulock have reintroduced his bill to put a stop to the practice?"

"Suppose the country enjoyed the same degree of prosperity—as it assuredly would—do you think the Liberals would thank the Government for it?"

"Suppose that this Conservative Government had granted the same railway subsidies as were granted in the past four years, would they have the same able and eloquent defence from the Liberals?" —Kincardine Review.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

—The United States military reinforcements that were ordered to China are landing in the Philippines, where their assistance is warmly welcomed by those who have long been carrying on the burden of warfare.

—We note in the Auditor General's report for 1899, under the heading "Cold Storage on Steamships, etc., and trial shipments," the following item of Governmental expenditure:

"Rattetbury, B. & M., Charlottetown, guarantee of half deficit between rental of \$1,650 and earnings \$439.45, \$605.27."

What does this mean? Has this expenditure any connection with the chickens shipped to England last year which "went bad"? When had we the advantage of a trial shipment in cold storage, anyway?

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