

Sir John Macdonald died and the Premiership was pressed upon him by the Governor General, all his colleagues approved, none questioning his ability to fill the exalted position. That position was in many senses a difficult one. He met the difficulties and overcame them during his seventeen months of office. When he accepted the post, his health was not good. He knew that he was taking upon himself burdens which would sap his strength. But he believed it to be his duty to his Queen and country to put aside every personal consideration. He had little to gain and much to lose by undertaking the task. That he did so and that he succeeded so well is proof, at once, of the devotion to high principle and of the ability of the public men of Canada.

363. Hon. Toussaint A. R. Laflamme died on the 7th December, 1893. He was born in Montreal, 15th May, 1827, on his mother's side being a descendant of one of the Acadians deported from Nova Scotia after the cession of Acadia to Great Britain. He was sworn of the Privy Council of Canada as Minister of Inland Revenue in 1876, and made Minister of Justice in 1877. He retired with his colleagues, September, 1878. During his comparatively short parliamentary career, he represented the county of Jacques Cartier. He was twice elected Batonnier for the Bar of Montreal, and was offered, but declined, a judgeship in 1875. What manner of man he was may best be shown by the remarks of the Batonnier, Mr. Dunlop, Q.C., who said: "It is but a short time since we were assembled here to give expression to our regret at the death of a most distinguished member of the legal profession, Sir John Abbott. We are now assembled for a similar sad purpose. For many years Mr. Laflamme stood at the head of the profession. We all admired him; we all loved him; we deplore his death."

364. Hon. John Boyd, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, died December 4th, 1893, having only been appointed Lieutenant-Governor on 21st September, 1893. He was born in Ireland in 1828. Coming to Canada as a child, he was educated in St. John, N.B., and began his career in 1838 as an errand boy of 10 years old in the wholesale mercantile house of Holdsworth & Daniel, becoming partner in 1853 under the firm name of Daniel & Boyd. He soon became prominent as an advocate of public measures in the press and on the platform. In 1865 he represented the views of New Brunswick at the Detroit Convention, being one of three selected to speak for Canada. He warmly espoused the cause of union of the provinces and the creation of a new and enlarged Canada under the ægis of the British Crown.