

PRINCIPAL EVENTS OF THE YEAR.

the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament on November 21, His Royal Highness in reference to these visits observed: "It has been a source of the deepest satisfaction to me to see the almost universal prosperity which reigns throughout the Dominion and to witness the energy and enterprise which are shown in developing the rich resources of the land."

The serious illness of H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught during 1912 and 1913 called forth the deep sympathy of the people of Canada.

Loss of the Steamship Titanic.—In the terrible disaster which occurred on April 14, 1912, when the White Star liner Titanic foundered after collision with an iceberg, a number of Canadian passengers lost their lives, including Mr. Charles M. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways.

Obituary.—Death removed during 1912 two distinguished statesmen who played prominent parts in the political history of their day, viz., Mr. Edward Blake and Sir Richard Cartwright.

The Hon. Edward Blake, M.A., K.C. (b. October 13, 1833, d. March 1, 1912), first entered the Canadian House of Commons as Member for West Durham, Ontario, at the general election of 1867. He was Minister of Justice and Attorney General from May 1, 1875, to June 8, 1877, and Leader of the Opposition from 1880 to 1887. From 1892 to 1907 he was Member for South Longford, Ireland, in the Imperial House of Commons. Upon retiring from the Imperial Parliament he returned to Toronto where he died.

The Right Hon. Sir Richard John Cartwright, P.C., G.C.M.G. (b. December 14, 1835, d. September 21, 1912), was a member of the Canadian House of Commons almost continuously from Confederation until the general election of 1911. He was Minister of Finance from 1873 to 1878 and Minister of Trade and Commerce from 1896 to 1911. He was created K.C.M.G. in 1879 and G.C.M.G. in 1897 and was appointed to the Imperial Privy Council in 1902. As Minister of Trade and Commerce he was responsible for the institution and administration of the Canadian system of government annuities.

Amongst other deaths which occurred during 1912 were: Jan. 15. The Hon. Thomas McKay, of Truro, N.S. Feb. 13. The Hon. Frederick Andrew Lawrence, Judge of the Supreme Court, N.S. Feb. 23. The Hon. William Millar, of Arichat, N.S. Mar. 17. The Hon. William Ross, of Halifax, N.S. Mar. 21. The Hon. A. A. Macdonald, of Charlottetown, P.E.I. May 6. Mr. Justice James Pitt Maybee, Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners. June 4. The Hon. Alphonse Desjardins, aged 71 (Minister of Militia and Defence, January 15 to May 1, 1896, and of Public Works, May 1, 1896, to July 8, 1896). July 3. The Hon. J. H. Wilson, of St. Thomas, Ont. Oct. 11. The Hon. Sir Charles Moss, Judge of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Ont. Oct. 30. The Hon. A. C. Bell, of New Glasgow, N.S.