

found he drove the first workmen to that property also. He had a share in the work of the early development of those mines by carting water for the miners from Tiekera and Tipara. Upon leaving school Sir John Duncan entered the office of Messrs. Elder, Smith, & Co., and subsequently was attached to the staff of the smelting works and mines at Wallaroo as officer in charge of the financial department. Afterwards he took over the control of several station properties belonging to his uncle, and on the death of Sir Walter Hughes became the owner of Gum Creek and Hughes Park estates. During the summer months he made the Hughes Park homestead, near Watervale, his residence. Associated with him in the management of his properties were his second and third sons, Messrs. Walter and Keith Duncan. Sir John, in the seventies, had an alarming experience. He was caught at the Macumba Creek by heavy floods while inspecting the country in the interior. With two companions (Mr. Treloar and his son) he was compelled to take refuge in a tree. There they remained, almost destitute of food, for four days and four nights, before the water fell sufficiently to enable them to reach dry land.

Distinguished Public Services.

From an early age Sir John Duncan manifested deep interest in public affairs: On December 14, 1871, when 26 years of age, he was elected to the House of Assembly as a representative of the Port Adelaide district, which then included Wallaroo. Indeed, it was the miners there who returned him. Four years later he was chosen by the electors of Wallaroo (which had been separated from Port Adelaide) as their representative, but continued to hold the position for only two years, as he resigned in 1877 to pay a visit to Europe. During his absence he acted as a Commissioner for South Australia at the Paris Exhibition of 1878. In 1884 he was again elected to the House of Assembly, but on this occasion as the representative of the Wooroora district, and in that capacity he continued a member of the Chamber until 1890, when he withdrew from that House. In the following year he was chosen as one of the representatives of the North-Eastern district in the Legislative Council. He served that district till 1896, when he again retired voluntarily and visited the old country. A vacancy having occurred in the Legislative Council in 1900, Sir John Duncan was returned for his old constituency, which, at a general election in 1902, re-elected him without opposition. The constituency is now known as the Midland district, and he served it continuously up till the time of his death. On the appointment in 1901 of Sir Lancelot Stirling as President of the Legislative Council, Sir John was made leader of his party in the Upper House, and his duties in that respect were discharged with suavity, firmness, and dignity.

A Veteran Parliamentarian.

Of the gentlemen who sat with Sir John Duncan in the seventh Parliament the only present survivors are Sir James Boucaut, the Hon. Ebenezer Ward, Sir Edwin Smith, and Mr. J. P. D. Lawrie. His colleague in the representation of Port Adelaide was Mr. H. Kent Hughes, afterwards Treasurer of the State. Since Sir John began his Parliamentary career 25 different Governments have administered the affairs of the State. He entered the Council on May 16, 1891, and with the exception of the Hon. A. R. Addison was the senior member of that Chamber. Sir Lancelot Stirling also entered the Upper House in 1891, but his election did not take place until July 11. Offers of portfolios by at least three Premiers were declined by him. He believed in absolute freedom as a member of Parliament, and during the existence of the Neutral Party in the House of Assembly he was its chairman.

Other Public Offices.

A specially deep interest was always evinced by Sir John in pastoral and agricultural matters, but his public spirit led him to be identified with many institutions whose objects were the advancement of the interests of the State generally. He was president of the Pastoralists' Association

of South Australia and West Darling from 1905 till 1907. For years he was president of the Northern Agricultural Society. He was a member of the board of directors of the Wallaroo and Moonta Mining and Smelting Company, a director of the Adelaide Steamship Company and the Adelaide Steam-tug Company, and for several years was a trustee of the Savings Bank. He was a life governor of the Adelaide Children's Hospital, of the board of which both Sir John and Lady Duncan were members. Sir John was one of the founders of the old National Defence League, which was merged into the Liberal Union. Years ago he held the rank of captain in the Watervale Company of Rifle Volunteers. He was also chairman of the Upper Wakefield District Council. He sat on several Royal Commissions, notably the Railway Commission in 1885, and he was a member of the Select Committee on Defence in 1887. Few South Australians know the home of their adoption better than did Sir John, who visited practically the whole of the settled districts and travelled over wide areas of the interior. He always showed a patriotic interest in the development of the industries of the State, and never failed to do everything in his power to increase its prosperity.

A Knighthood.

The deceased gentleman rendered great service to the State, and when on June 15, 1912, it was announced that the King had conferred the honor of a knighthood upon him the news was received with unqualified pleasure by the public, who freely acknowledged that no man was more deserving of Royal favor. Some idea of the respect in which the new knight was held by members opposed to him in politics was conveyed in the remarks of the Hon. F. S. Wallis, who was the leader of the Labor Party in the Legislative Council at the time, when he joined with others in congratulating Sir John upon having been selected for the honor of knighthood. Mr. Wallis said:—"I am asked if I as leader of the Labor Party in the Legislative Council would like to say anything about the honor of knighthood conferred upon the Hon. J. J. Duncan. Certainly. I am sure that my colleagues in the Council and members of the Labor Party who formerly held seats in that Chamber have only one opinion regarding the gentleman who has for so long acted as leader of the members representing the other side in politics. No member of the Council could be more highly esteemed for integrity, courtesy, and the many qualities that go to make up the character of a true gentleman. As a political opponent, no man could aim at being more scrupulously careful in his language towards those who might differ from him. Though vigorous when aroused, in the enunciation of his sentiments, no base insinuations regarding the motives of those whose views might not coincide with his own ever escape his lips. In this respect he is a model to all new members of the Council, and undoubtedly has done much to keep the debates as free as they have been from personalities and abuse. The new knight is far from being a type of the unprogressive Conservative. If it could be known to what extent his influence has on occasion helped to modify opposition to measures not in accord with the traditions of his party, I believe he would be able to show a record for liberal-mindedness much beyond that which by some persons he may be credited with. Sir John Duncan is as sure of the congratulations of members of the Labor Party in the Council as of members of the party of which he is the leader."

The Family.

Lady Duncan is a daughter of the late Mr. James Grant, a London solicitor, and she was married to Sir John in England in 1870. The daughters are Misses M. H. and Jean Duncan, and the sons are Mr. J. G. Duncan-Hughes and Messrs. Walter, Keith, and Colin Duncan, all of whom reside in South Australia.

The Funeral.

The funeral will leave Strathspay, Mitcham, this morning, and there will be a special service in the Flinders-street Presbyterian Church, Adelaide, at 11 o'clock. At noon a special train will convey the body to Saddleworth. The train will stop at Gawler and Riverton, and, so far as the accommodation will permit, citizens wishing to attend the funeral may travel by the special train. There will also be a number of vehicles in readiness at Saddleworth to convey the friends to Pennworth, where the interment will take place. The train will return to the city in the evening.

APPRECIATIONS BY PUBLIC MEN.

SPLENDID TRIBUTES.

His Excellency the Governor was informed early in the day of the death of Sir John Duncan, and he expressed the sincere regret of himself and Lady Bosanquet. The members of the viceregal staff also felt deeply grieved because, like his Excellency and Lady Bosanquet, they entertained the highest respect for Sir John Duncan.

The Chief Justice (Sir Samuel Way), who is residing temporarily at the Grange, when spoken to on Wednesday evening, said:—"I was much shocked and distressed when I heard the sad news this morning of the unexpected death of Sir John Duncan. I had had the honor of his friendship for nearly 40 years, and had the highest respect for him. We were members of Parliament together, and were associated in politics in the session of 1875. Throughout his political career I admired his courage and loyalty to his party. Since 1875 we have been associated with one another in various social and philanthropic movements, and especially as to the University and the Children's Hospital. He was for many years a member of the Hospital Board. Before he joined it the late Dr. Campbell and I made a written appeal to him for assistance, and he contributed liberally; indeed, his total contributions to the hospital amounted to thousands of pounds. The exact amount I cannot say, because it would be necessary to go through the books. Sir John was made a life governor of the hospital, and in spite of his many political and other engagements he was a frequent attendant at the meetings of the board, of which he was a member. Lady Duncan is a member also, and she, too, has manifested the greatest interest in the hospital. As to the University, Sir John's interest in it was hereditary, for, as everyone knows the gift of £20,000 by his uncle, the late Sir W. W. Hughes, led to the founding of the institution. The fine statue of Sir Walter Hughes which stands in front of the building was presented by Sir John Duncan and his brother, the late Mr. W. H. Duncan, M.P. In the circumstances it was quite natural that he should be se-

lected by the Legislative Council as one of the Parliamentary representatives on the council of the University, and he was most unremitting in his attendance. He took the keenest possible interest in all the questions affecting the University that were brought under the notice of the Education Commission, and his robust common-sense and practical knowledge made him an especially valuable member of the council of the University. Although he was the energetic leader of his party in the Legislative Council, even his opponents did not fail to recognize, whether agreeing or not with his political actions, that behind them there was a ring of true patriotism. With regard to church matters, I think I may say that although catholic in his support of all religious movements he was a loyal Presbyterian, and the most prominent layman connected with that church. If I were asked to describe him, in a word or two, I would say he was the soul of honor and the most kind-hearted of men, in fact, a manly Christian gentleman. There are few men in South Australia who could be so ill-spared from our public, our religious, and our philanthropic life. The memory of him and his example will remain to us, and will long be an inspiration to all who were associated with him."

The Premier (Hon. A. H. Peake) said:—"I have little to add to what I said this morning in the Assembly when moving the adjournment of the House. We had been carrying on a very strenuous debate during the night, and about 8 o'clock the Hon. E. Lucas, one of Sir John Duncan's colleagues, telephoned to me that grave alarm was felt respecting Sir John's condition. At 9.30 o'clock he informed me of his death. I at once conveyed the sad news to the members of the House, and an adjournment was immediately decided upon. We were all greatly shocked, as all the members had been so pleased to hear previously that he had been making such excellent progress towards recovery, and it had been hoped that he would be quite well again shortly. Sir John Duncan was so well known and highly respected throughout the State that his lamentable death will be deplored as a heavy loss to the public life and to the service of the community. He was always actuated by