

existing is," he sat down quietly and naturally, leaned forward with his arms on his desk and his hands pressed to his forehead. In this attitude he remained for something less than a minute, while the few members who had noticed the abrupt ending of his speech looked up anxiously, thinking it was but a passing weakness. Then, seeing he did not move, Mr. Clancy, who was in the same row two seats away, got up and hurried to his side. Just as he did so Mr. Clarke threw back his head, and those who saw his features knew at once that consciousness had fled. Immediately a panic seized the House and all was confusion and dismay. Mr. Clancy, Mr. Monk and other members sitting in the vicinity quickly lifted Mr. Clarke from his seat and carried him to the open space on the left side of the Speaker's chair, where they stretched him upon the carpeted floor. In a moment six physicians surrounded the prostrate form, and exhausted the resources of their art to recall the fleeting life. In addition to the professional members of the House, Dr. Pyne, Dr. A. J. Johnson and other physicians were on the floor in anticipation of the second reading of Dr. Meacham's bill to amend the Ontario Medical Act. Among the foremost in lending assistance were Dr. McKay of South Oxford, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Willoughby and Dr. Gilmour. At first the members did not realise the seriousness of Mr. Clarke's attack, but as it became known that it was a battle with death they hurried from their seats and gathered around the unconscious man. Hon. J. M. Gibson was one of the first to hasten across the floor of the House.

PHYSICIANS' SKILL PROVES USELESS.

The doctors quickly loosened Mr. Clarke's collar and shirt and moved his left arm to and fro to restore the action of the lungs. They also held his mouth open, that if possible he might be enabled to breathe more freely. A cry arose for more air, and Mr. O'Connor, on the impulse of the moment, broke a large pane of glass in the south window, immediately in line with where Mr. Clarke lay. In this he was seconded by Dr. Meacham. But all the efforts made to restore life were in vain. Slowly but surely the glaze of death settled upon the open eyes, and the awful pallor of death replaced the ruddiness that had been so familiar to the members of the House. When it became known for certain at 4.45 that death was in the chamber, the members looked at each other with blanched and horror-stricken faces. Mr. Mowat stood up in his seat, but did not move from it. Mr. Harcourt also remained in his place. The majority of the members, with visitors, pages, departmental clerks and messengers, were grouped in the centre of the chamber and among the seats of the Opposition, near where the dead man was stretched. When the doctors saw that all hope was over they carried the lifeless form between them to the reception room, and the House came to order again. There was a solemn pause in which not a word was whispered as the Speaker entered the chamber and took his seat. In a voice that quivered with emotion Mr. Mowat said, "I move the adjournment of the debate," and immediately afterwards, "I move the adjournment of the House." The Speaker then, in a low voice, formally announced the adjournment of the House until Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

THE GRIEF-STRICKEN FAMILY.

The sad task next devolved upon some one to inform his family. A telephone mes-

sage was sent to his establishment and Mr. Edward Eeles, his manager, was summoned. Mr. Eeles, Mr. Monk, Dr. Willoughby and Mr. David Creighton drove up to his residence. The family happened to be out, but the Misses Clarke returned soon afterwards. They were told that Mr. Clarke was seriously ill. Suspecting the truth, they inquired if he were dead and were gently told the facts. Mrs. Clarke arrived later and had the terrible news communicated to her. She was overwhelmed with grief, but amid her tears expressed the wish to have the body brought up to the residence. Mr. W. H. Stone, the undertaker, was communicated with and at once went down to the buildings. Mr. W. Langmuir, one of his partners, who had arrived in the meantime, Mr. Meredith, Dr. Willoughby and others assisted the undertakers in bearing the body to the carriage. It was removed to his residence a little after 7 and there properly embalmed.

THE CAUSE OF DEATH.

Dr. Atherton was the physician of Mr. Clarke and had been attending him for a year or two. He had repeatedly advised him to retire from active Parliamentary work. The trouble was with some of the blood-vessels leading to the heart, and he had suffered from this cause for two years or more. Mr. Clarke was under the treatment of Sir Andrew Clarke, whom he saw in London, Eng., a year ago.

That Mr. Clarke was a sick man was noticeable from the commencement of the session. At the last moment he found himself compelled to resign the task of replying to the budget speech, and although he attended and listened to the debate throughout, it was evident that he did not intend to take part in it. Just before the debate closed, however, he could not resist the temptation to speak, and he delivered a speech of fifteen minutes' duration with evident difficulty, and it was observed that he was two or three times compelled to halt for rest, while once he clapped his hand to his heart as if suffering from pain. Day after day, however, he occupied his seat, though he seldom rose, except to ask a question or offer a suggestion. He always took the belt line car to and from the House, and walked very slowly and deliberately, as if he realised the necessity for caution. In conversation, however, he was as bright and hopeful as ever, and as already mentioned exhibited cheerfulness up to the moment of his death.

Mr. Clarke remarked to one of the members the other day that he was in the habit of carrying with him nitro-glycerine pellets, which he took whenever he felt his heart troubling him. He was noticed to swallow some of them earlier in the afternoon, a token, probably, that he felt some symptoms of weakness in the region of the heart.

One of the last men who had an interview with Mr. Clarke was Dr. McLaughlin, ex-M.P.P. for West Durham, who was speaking with him a few minutes before the tragic event occurred. The deceased gentleman spoke of his failing health to the doctor, who advised him to be very careful of himself and lead a quiet life. Mr. Clarke replied that he realised the necessity for this, but often felt impelled to take part in the business of the House, and under such circumstances found it very difficult to refrain from joining in the debates or other business of the Assembly.

Dr. McKay, who was the first physician to reach Mr. Clarke, stated afterwards that death had taken place almost instantly from heart failure, and that the subsequent symptoms were mechanical and not an indication that life was present. Dr. Meacham, who was sitting immediately behind Mr. Clarke, thought his action in taking his seat and leaning his head forward the natural act of a man who had finished his speech, though he wondered the last sentence had not been completed.