

The KNIGHTS OF LABOUR, Dunedin, to the Hon. R. J. SEDDON.

DEAR SIR,—

Dunedin, 4th May, 1893.

I have the honour to forward to you the following resolutions, unanimously carried at to-night's meeting of the Knights of Labour:—

"That this assembly, No. 563, Knights of Labour, expresses its deep sense of the loss to the colony and the order of the Knights of Labour by the death of the late Premier, the Hon. John Ballance, patriot and statesman.

"We deplore not only our loss of a brother, pure of life, and full of chivalrous instincts, but that, in the full prime of his manhood, of a life devoted to the cause of humanity, and having given clear evidences of his genius as a statesman—a born leader of men—and with a high and noble career open before him, he should be called to 'that bourne from whence no traveller returns.'

"We especially, as Knights of Labour, deplore his loss at the present time because of the real evidences that he has given to further the noble aim of our order, and of the knowledge we possess of the clear views and high purpose that determined his course to solve by practical methods the problem of the equitable distribution of the results of labour."

"That this resolution be forwarded to the Hon. R. J. Seddon, Premier, and also to the bereaved widow, with our heartfelt sympathies, and in the hope that the memories of the devotion and nobility of his life may soon bring 'that time with healing on its wing.'"

"That this assembly cordially joins with other kindred branches of our order and kindred organizations to gather funds to raise a suitable memorial to his memory as a man and his worth as a statesman."

I am, &c.,

Hon. R. J. Seddon.

W. EARNSHAW.

The PRESIDENT and SECRETARY, Wellington Liberal Association, to Mrs. J. BALLANCE.

MADAM,—

Wellington Liberal Association, 3rd May, 1893.

By the death of your beloved husband, the most powerful political party in this colony has been deprived of its leader, and has suffered a loss so incalculable that men hesitate to forecast the future. The country has lost its most skilful and trusted Minister, and many hundreds have parted with a valuable personal friend.

Great as is the affliction which all these have suffered, it is as nothing compared to what you must inevitably endure in your bitter bereavement; and it was with this feeling in their hearts that the Council of the Wellington Liberal Association met on the evening of the 28th April, and passed a resolution of condolence and sympathy, a copy of which we forward to you.

In simple and touching language, member after member of our Council bore tribute to the personal affection inspired by our late leader, and underlying all their expressions was the sentiment of regard and sympathy for yourself.

We beg of you to accept this expression of the feeling inspired by Mr. Ballance's noble and generous qualities, and we all trust that, when time shall have somewhat assuaged your sorrow, it will be some consolation to you to know that his nobility of nature was appreciated by the people, and that your sorrow was shared by them.

We are, &c.,

J. O'DEA, President.

Mrs. Ballance.

W. HILDRETH, Hon. Secretary.

*Resolved*, "That this Council tender to the widow of the Hon. J. Ballance their sincere condolence in her bereavement, and that, as a mark of respect to the memory of our faithful and beloved leader, this meeting do now adjourn."

The SECRETARY, Knights of Labour, Wellington, to Mrs. BALLANCE.

DEAR MADAM,—

Local Assembly, No. 2,192, Wellington, 4th May, 1893.

I am instructed by the above assembly to forward to you the following resolution, which was passed by the assembly last evening, and also to express the great loss we, as Knights of Labour, have sustained by the death of your noble and generous husband. He was indeed one to whom we always had access, and whose whole heart and soul was in the noble work of uplifting the masses and insuring the happiness of the whole people. We trust the knowledge that the whole people of this colony sincerely sympathize with you in your terrible affliction will somewhat comfort and sustain you.

I am, &c.,

Mrs. Ballance.

W. HILDRETH, R.S.

*Resolved*, "That this assembly tender to Mrs. J. Ballance their heartfelt condolence and sympathy on the death of her beloved husband, the Hon. J. Ballance, and that, as a mark of respect, this assembly do now adjourn."

The SECRETARY, Otago Trades and Labour Council, to Mrs. BALLANCE.

DEAR MADAM,—

Dunedin, 1st May, 1893.

The above Council met immediately after the news of the Hon. J. Ballance's death reached Dunedin, and passed the following resolution:—

"This Council deeply regrets to hear of the decease of the Premier, recognising that his being cut off in his prime is a national calamity, and also desires to express its heartfelt sympathy with Mrs. Ballance in her severe bereavement."