

The Chief Justice remained a bachelor until 1838, when on his sixty-second birthday he married Katherine Gollan, widow of the late Dr. Blue. A happy married life followed till April 14, 1914, when Lady Way, who had proved a sympathetic partner and had become a popular social figure, died.

Fighting Age and Disease.

Sir Samuel enjoyed robust health until later years. However, in 1891 he had a year's leave of absence, and during that period he was stricken with influenza and double pneumonia at Yokohama. He was successfully nursed to health by his brother. A serious illness during his administration of the Government in 1899 was the only break prior to 1900, and then the sympathy accorded and the rejoicing after his recovery showed unmistakably how thoroughly he had gained the hearts of the people. A few months ago he was faced with the necessity of having one arm removed, and courageously facing this trouble he administered his judicial duties up to the last moment, travelled by train to Sydney, where the operation was performed, and returned shortly afterwards minus one arm, but as cheery and lovable as ever. During the closing session of 1915 it was noticeable that, although mentally alert and capable as ever, his bodily vigor was abating. Despite the suffering caused by an insidious malady the heroic old gentleman bore his pain with fortitude and maintained his cheerfulness to the very end.

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THE LATE SIR SAMUEL WAY.

The life of Sir Samuel Way, which has just closed, was one of eminent usefulness to the community, and in this respect the distinguished gentleman set an excellent example to his fellow-citizens. He might, if he had wished, have retired from active work years ago and received a generous pension from the State, but his zeal for the public service and his love of useful work sustained him in his ambition to remain at his post so long as he could perform his duties satisfactorily, and to die in harness. The bravery with which he faced an operation involving the loss of an arm only 18 months ago, following closely upon the irreparable loss of his wife, and again resumed his duties, deepened his hold upon the admiration and affection of the people, and the general tribute will be that the State has lost its most distinguished citizen. The deceased gentleman never gave any indication that he grasped the full significance or caught the inspiration of the democratic movement for the emancipation of the people, or sympathised with it, but, on the other hand, if he had no sympathy with it, he never displayed his opposition to it. After his elevation to the bench, almost 40 years ago, Sir Samuel kept entirely aloof from politics, and never betrayed himself into any expression of opinion which might be thought to affect his impartiality as a judge or administrator of the Government.

Varied and distinguished as were Sir Samuel's services, his most eminent work was achieved in the performance of his duties as Chief Justice. Impartial, learned in the law, possessing clearness of vision and a rare sense of proportion, his exercise of the judicial power was at once convincing and masterly, and the delivery of his judgments was marked by felicity of expression, directness of thought, and exceptional reasoning ability. In dealing with prisoners his sentences were, generally speaking, neither too severe nor too lenient. While he tempered justice with mercy, his all-balanced mind did not permit the sympathy of his heart to make undue encroachments upon what he felt to be

his duty to the community. During his long and brilliant career on the Bench Sir Samuel built up a reputation for sagacity and skill which was Empire-wide. He has probably been a judge longer than any other man in the Empire, and his judicial duties were more comprehensive than those of most wearers of the robe. In the old Country, particularly, court work is more specialised, because of its greater volume. Hence the more exacting the demands upon those who have to keep themselves abreast of the developments in every branch of law.

In his capacity as Lieutenant-Governor Sir Samuel Way manifested the same capacity to fulfil the requirements of responsibility as he did on the Supreme Court Bench. With a natural grasp of constitutional principles and a due regard for form and precedent, he not only carried out the duties of the vice-regal office with dignity and distinction himself, but was a tower of strength to many representatives of the Crown who came to assume the gubernatorial position. He was Administrator on so many occasions that in the aggregate he carried out the duties of Governor longer than any other occupant of the office.

Sir Samuel would have deserved a place in the gallery of Australia's great men if he had done nothing more than occupy the position of Chief Justice for so long a period and with so much honor to himself and benefit to the State. Equally is he entitled to a place in that gallery for his other work—chiefly semi-public. The University, the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery, the Children's Hospital, the Freemasons, the Methodist Church, and other institutions have reaped much advantage from the active assistance rendered by him. It was a marvel to many that he was able to devote so much time and energy to the promotion of the interests of these causes. The explanation is that he was imbued with a fine public spirit; his experience and personal charm were valuable assets; the claims made upon him were many and insistent and his goodness of heart caused him to yield to pressing solicitations. He, doubtless, laid more foundation stones, opened more institutions, and figured prominently at more historical gatherings than any one else who has become a resident of this State. South Australia was proud of him. It cannot be said that he was born to greatness or that greatness was thrust upon him, but it can be affirmed without successful contradiction that he achieved greatness.

One of the watchwords of Democracy is service. In his generous public spirit Sir Samuel Way was in harmony with this great modern movement of social redemption. "The Daily Herald," representing, as it does, the great body of

South Australian Democrats, readily and sincerely acknowledges that the departed baronet has set an admirable example of unselfish effort for the welfare of the community, and that the State is the poorer by his death. The best Democratic epitaph that could be placed upon his tombstone is:—"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."