

*THE LATE MR. JUSTICE MACMAHON.*

The Hon. Hugh MacMahon was of Irish extraction and was the son of the late Hugh MacMahon, who came to Canada from the County Cavan, in Ireland, in 1819. The late judge was born in Guelph, March 6, 1836, and had consequently nearly reached the age of 75. His father was a man of parts, and under his fostering care he received his education. Like other distinguished lawyers, the law was not his first love—early in life he was employed as an engineer, under Lieutenant Col. Galwey on the survey of a proposed Ottawa ship canal.

In 1857 he began his life work and entered on the study of the law. In 1864 he was called to the Bar, and began the practice of his profession at Brantford, where he remained for five years, removing from thence to London, where he had a wider field. In 1876 he received silk from the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario and in 1885 from the Governor-General.

The late judge was a Liberal in politics, and was employed in 1877 by the Dominion Government on the arbitration proceedings respecting the northern and western boundaries of Ontario. In 1883 he was appointed a puisne judge of the High Court, and has thus been 27 years on the Bench. By common consent of the profession he was regarded as a sound lawyer and one of the very best judges on the Bench in criminal cases.

To all classes of the profession he was most urbane and accessible, distinguished among his brethren as a man at all times of even and judicial temper, before whom it was a pleasure to practise. His memory will be always affectionately cherished by all who had the good fortune to know him; and his dignified and courteous presence on the Bench will be greatly missed.

The late judge had been ailing for some months past, but he was at Osgoode Hall only the week before he died. The end came suddenly on January 18th. The profession of Ontario have lost a judge and a friend whom they had learned to regard with the utmost esteem and respect.