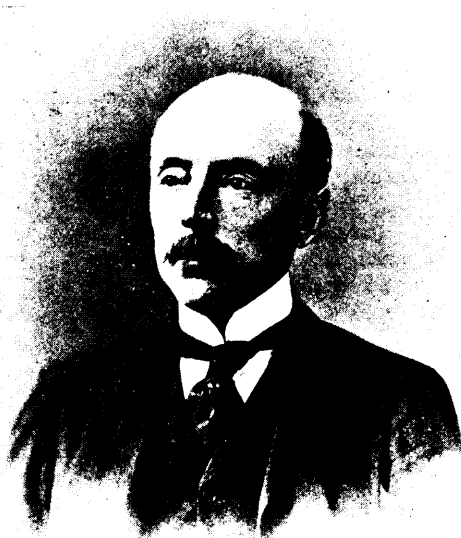


M. P. for Montreal Centre (now Judge of the Superior Court of Quebec), had the distinction of being the first Solicitor-General, having accepted office under the Government of Sir John Thompson, and subsequently under that of Sir Mackenzie Bowell. Apart from his Parliamentary duties, which included a defence of Sir Adolphe Caron before the House of Commons, Mr. Curran conducted a variety of legal work during his term of office, which extended over a period of three years. Before the Supreme Court, he argued, among other cases, the question by which it was determined what were the respective rights and powers of the Dominion Parliament and Provincial Legislatures, with regard to the manufacture and importation of intoxicating liquors. He also argued a number of important cases in the Exchequer Court for the Crown, and upheld the Dominion Constitution in the matter of the Robinson Treaties before the Board of Dominion and International Arbitrators. Mr. Curran resigned from the Solicitor-Generalship in 1895.

In May, 1896, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, K.C.M.G., was appointed to the position in the Ministry of his father, Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., and held it until the resignation of that Ministry. It is scarcely necessary to say more of Sir Charles Hibbert's administration of the office than that it was characterized by the quiet, persistent, unostentatious application to work, which, with his acknowledged brilliance and high integrity, explain in great measure the rapidity of his rise in the ranks of his party, and in the service of his country.

The Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick, Q.C., M.P., became Solicitor-General on July 13th, 1896. As indicated by the historic name of Fitzpatrick, he is of Celtic origin. That branch of the

family to which he belongs lived for many generations in the County of Waterford, and was always noted for its patriotism. His grandfather, John Fitzpatrick, was, especially during the agitation for the Repeal of the Union, one of the staunchest and truest friends of the great Irish leader—Daniel O'Connell—not even excepting "Honest Tom Steele" himself. In after years old Mr. Fitzpatrick used to take great pleasure in relating certain incidents in O'Connell's career, many of which had come under his own observation; and one of them is altogether too good to be passed over in silence. But the principal reason why I relate it is that it serves as an admirable illustration of one of the principles that underlay all the work that O'Connell did for Ireland, viz.: making use of legitimate means rather than stupidly appealing to brute force; and it also shows how careful he was to restrain his impetuous countrymen from doing anything which would give the English reason to say that the Irish could not be trusted with any greater political privileges than they already possessed. The incident referred to is as follows:



E. L. NEWCOMBE, M.A., LL.B., Q.C.
Deputy Minister of Justice.