

D'Arcy Boulton was delegated to take the Niagara Circuit. His son, Henry John Boulton attended with Randall at the Court House, with a great number of witnesses prepared to go to trial. Just before the case was called, Henry J. Boulton suddenly demanded from Randall a note for £25, to cover his Counsel fees for attending at the trial. Randall accordingly gave him a promissory note for this amount, payable on the 1st of May 1819. Shortly afterwards his case was called, but Mr. Justice Boulton declined to try it on the ground that he had been Attorney previously for Randall and had instituted the action. Mr. Justice Boulton's refusal to preside at the trial was obviously a correct one, and it is inconceivable that Henry John Boulton could have believed that under the circumstances, his father would have presided. He and his father were on the best of terms, and they had probably many times discussed this case when they were partners together. The strong probability is that he knew from conversations before he left Toronto to go to Niagara Falls that his father would not preside at the trial, and his demand for the promissory note under these circumstances, and just before the case was called, when his client was absolutely at his mercy, would appear, to say the least, to be somewhat peculiar. The case was adjourned to the sittings to be held in the following summer.

Henry J. Boulton was cursed with a bad-tempered, overbearing, bullying disposition. Ten years afterwards he was Attorney General of the Province, leading the Family Compact forces in the House of Assembly, against the attacks of the Reform Party.

A writer has thus described him—

“The Reform members found Attorney General Boulton an infliction specially hard to bear. He was simply unendurable. His capacity was barely such as to enable him to discharge his official functions and what he lacked in ability, he made up in bluster. He had an abominable temper, a haughty overbearing manner. He was always committing blunders, which he refused to acknowledge, and he roared and bullied his way through one complication after another