

RECENT JUDICIAL CHANGES.

W. Smith, and subsequently with Mr. Hector, which continued until 1856, when he retired from general practice and applied himself to Counsel business only. Mr. Wilson, though his clients were many, found time for public affairs and took a lively interest in the politics of the day, being allied with that party that was led by first partner and friend Mr. Baldwin. In 1859 and 1860, he sat as Mayor of the City of Toronto, having been elected by general vote. Not content with Municipal honours, he entered into the larger field of Canadian politics, and, in 1859, was elected as member for the North Riding of York in the Parliament of Old Canada. He represented that constituency until his appointment to the Bench in 1863. During part of this period, he held the office of Solicitor-General and Executive Councillor. Appointed in the first place to the Court of Queen's Bench, he only remained there a few months, when he went to the Common Pleas, changing places with Mr. Morrison. He afterwards went back to the Queen's Bench along with Mr. Richards, at the time when Mr. Hagarty became the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. He has now, therefore, for the second time, taken his seat in the latter Court. Always regarded as a sound and able lawyer, painstaking and industrious to a degree, most fearless and conscientious in his discharge of his judicial duties, he is, in addition, distinguished for his never failing courtesy to the Bar and to the students, even under circumstances that are occasionally calculated to upset the equanimity even of the most patient Judge. All who appear before him may be sure of a patient hearing and undivided attention, and a certainty that their arguments, however trivial they may seem, will receive due and careful consideration. We

trust he may live long to enjoy the position he has attained.

When we turn to the new Judge that has recently taken his seat in the Queen's Bench, we feel indeed that a blank has been created at the Bar which none can fill. How many will feel "lost" when they cannot secure the able, eloquent and courageous advocate, who made his client's cause his own, whose last thought was of failure, and whose cheery encouragement, if it did not actually win the case or acquit his client, made defeat less painful. Few public men have gained the respect alike of friend and foe to the same extent as Matthew Crooks Cameron. A Conservative in politics, he fought well for his party, but never condescended to take any mean or unfair advantage, for far above his loyalty to his party was his love for his country, and his love of right and justice. He has been in public life since 1861, first sitting for North Ontario in the Parliament of Old Canada. After Confederation he became one of the colleagues of Hon. J. S. Macdonald, in the first Legislative Assembly of Ontario, represented East Toronto from that time until the present. Whilst we grieve that such an able advocate is lost to the Bar, we congratulate the public that one of the truest of men has been found for the Bench. Always very popular at the Bar, and deservedly so from his great ability and his pleasant address and straightforward character, he was especially sought after at *Nisi Prius*, and he has had for many years past a larger practice in criminal cases than any of his brethren.

Mr. Cameron was born at the Town of Dundas, on the 2nd of October, 1822. At the age of twenty he commenced the study of the law in the office of Gamble and Boulton, and in February, 1849, he was called to the Bar on the same day as