In a letter to his grandson he says; "When I commenced practise I had tenpence in my pocket, a wife, and your mother to support.''

Thus surrounded he opened his office in Amherst, then a small village, with no money, few friends, and the bitter personal animosity of those connected with him. He had not to wait long, nor in vain. Clients soon flocked to his office. His abilities must to some extent have been known from the years he had already passed in Amherst in acquiring his profession, and now when the opportunity occured he was quick to seize it, and give evidence of the powers that were in him. It is said by persons who witnessed his early efforts that his conduct of the cases with which he was entrusted soon won the confidence, and admiration of the public, and as a consequence early in his practise business came rapidly. He had every inducement to put forth his best efforts. He was not however the man to spare himself in the energy he put into his work, and the industry with which he applied himself to the matters he had in hand. This was one of his characteristics throughout life. What he undertook to do he did well, and the result was that he met in the trial of causes at the bar the most gratifying, and unbroken success.

Shortly before his death in answer to an enquiry about his successful career, he says—"All I ever assert a just claim to is energy, industry and honesty, some considerable ability for public speaking nature bestowed upon me, and by repeated perusals of Erskine's orations, I think I I imbibed a little of his good taste and improved it somewhat for I had a widespread reputation for the success of my oratorical efforts, and I was rarely unsuccessful in winning verdicts. While in the Legislature where my cotemporaries were Archibald, Fairbanks, Bliss, Halliburton, the two Youngs, the father and the present Chief Justice, and others, I held a respectable position. Recurring to the probable cause of my success, for I had undoubtedly great success at the bar, I may mention that I never omitted