

Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXXIX.

APRIL 15, 1903.

NO. 8.

It is fitting that a Canadian legal journal should record the death of Sir Oliver Mowat, K.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. For half a century he has been prominent before the public. In 1864 he was appointed Vice-Chancellor of Upper Canada, a position which he left to take the Premiership in the Government of his native province, Ontario. Having served in that capacity for many years he became Minister of Justice of Canada in 1896. On his retirement a year later he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario. The profession has nothing but what is pleasant to say of his memory. He was a sound lawyer, a just and painstaking judge and an honest statesman. As Premier of Ontario and as Minister of Justice he evinced a thorough knowledge of the varied questions which arose in reference to Federal and Provincial jurisdiction, and proved successful in most of his contentions connected therewith. Though nominally a Reformer in politics he was essentially conservative in his ideas and practice, high minded, unselfish and kindly in all relations of life he had a multitude of friends and but few enemies.

Two vacancies in the County Court Bench of Ontario have just been filled, and the appointments that have been made are excellent. The Senior County Judgeship in York goes to Mr. John Winchester, K.C., Master-in-Chambers at Toronto, who takes the place of the late Judge McDougall, and that of the County of Grey to Mr. W. J. Hatton, K.C., of Owen Sound, vice Judge Creasor, deceased. The appointment of Mr. Hatton will be acceptable to the Bar of the county, and although he is comparatively a young man, he has shown qualities that seem to warrant the prophecy that he will make a good and worthy judge.

The position in Toronto is a very important one, requiring not only a wide knowledge of law, but the experience and wisdom of a man of affairs. Though it will be no easy matter for anyone to fill with satisfaction to the public and the profession the place occupied by Judge McDougall, a better selection than Mr.