

MR. JUSTICE MOSS.

which he also for many years held the office of Registrar. In 1872 he was created a Queen's Counsel, and in 1871 was elected a Bencher of the Law Society. He was one of the Commissioners appointed by the late Government of Ontario to report on the fusion of Law and Equity, and in 1872 was offered the Vice-Chancellorship of the Court of Chancery, which he declined.

Independently of his legal acquirements, perhaps a little of Mr. Moss's rapid success may be attributed to gifts of a personal nature. In the old college days he was what boys commonly call "a first-rate fellow," fond of the cricket field and manly sports; open-hearted and generous, with a pleasant, courteous manner, he has always been a general favourite; and whether at play or at work, whether at school or in the courts, he has done well and easily all that he attempted.

His personal popularity was evidenced at the recent election to fill up the members of the Senate of Toronto University, under the Act rendering them elective by the graduates. Out of 24 members that were elected, Mr. Moss's name stood first; and immediately on the assembling of the new Senate, he was unanimously chosen Vice-Chancellor of the University. Mr. Moss seems to have been equally a favourite with the members of the bar, for at the first election of benchers to the Law Society, he, with one exception, received the highest number of votes.

In 1873 Mr. Moss was returned to the Parliament of the Dominion as member for West Toronto, and was again re-elected two months afterwards at the general election. In accord with the existing Government, he was frequently consulted by them in matters pertaining to their legal measures, and rendered them material assistance in perfecting the new Insolvent Act and establishing the Supreme Court of the Dominion.

On the 8th October Mr. Moss received his present appointment. The resignation of Mr. Justice Strong rendered it all but imperative that a member of the Equity Bar should succeed him. To Mr. Moss the position was due, and was unhesitatingly offered, but we can readily understand that he might have hesitated at accepting it. He, and his friend and part-

ner, the Chief Justice of Ontario, had probably the most lucrative practice at the bar; a brilliant future and an ultimate certainty of high political distinction were before him. His choice lay between a quiet life of lasting usefulness on the Bench and a more exciting career in public life—the profession, at least, will be glad that he made the former choice. The wisdom of his appointment has been already evinced by the addresses that have been presented to him by the members of bar attending his present circuit.

Advanced to a seat in the highest court in the province, at an age when most members of his profession have only commenced to establish their reputation. Mr. Moss owes his promotion to his own high attainments and personal worth. Unaided by patronage, unassisted by favour, relying solely on his own industry and superior endowments, he has in each sphere in life risen to the highest eminence.

He is now, by universal consent, in his right place. Admitted to be one of the best grounded and deeply read lawyers in the province, impartial, conscientious and patient, with an intellect clear and comprehensive, and a mind eminently judicial, we are satisfied that in his high and responsible position he will, with advocates, suitors and the public at large, retain what he has so long enjoyed—their respect and affection; and will so administer the laws of this land as to leave a memory of duty well and faithfully performed.

The Queen, upon the recommendation of the Earl of Carnarvon, has signified her intention to confer the honour of knighthood on Chief Justice Begbie, of British Columbia.