

## Obituary.

The late Hon. James Patton, Q.C., LL.B., whose sudden death on the 12th ult. was so painful a surprise to his many friends and to the people of this Province generally, was one of a generation of Canadian public men whose ranks are being rapidly thinned.

Mr. Patton was born in Prescott, Ont., on June 10th, 1824. He was the fourth and youngest son of Major Patton of Her Majesty's 45th Regiment, and formerly of St. Andrew's, Fifeshire, and received his education at Upper Canada College. In 1840 he began the study of the law in the office of the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, Q.C., and in 1845 he was enrolled as a matriculant in King's College, now the University of Toronto, and in the same year he was admitted as an attorney and called to the Bar. In 1847 he took the degree of LL.B., and in 1862 was made a Q.C.

Mr. Patton commenced the practice of his profession at Barrie, in the county of Simcoe, and he soon acquired a large practice. He devoted himself to his professional life with the same energy and thoroughness that characterized him in the various spheres of usefulness which he subsequently filled. An ardent politician of the old Loyalist type, he always took an active interest in public matters, and was known in the agitation which took place over the Rebellion Losses Bill. In 1856, when the Legislative Council was made co-active, he was chosen as the Conservative candidate for the Northern Division, comprising the counties of Bruce, Grey and North Simcoe, and was elected by a large majority. In 1862 he became a member of the Cartier-Macdonald Ministry, taking the portfolio of Solicitor-General for Upper Canada. On the fall of that Government he retired from parliamentary life, and resumed the practice of his profession in Toronto, taking as his partner Mr. Featherston Osler, now one of the Judges of the Court of Appeal. Subsequently he practised in Kingston, and again in Toronto in partnership with Hon. Sir John Macdonald. On giving up the legal profession he became Manager of the British Canadian Loan Company, and was subsequently appointed Collector of Customs in Toronto. He found in

this position much to be done, and he applied himself most zealously to the discharge of the duties of the office.

Mr. Patton was a man of literary tastes, and his active brain and untiring energy found time to devote to other matters besides his professional or business duties. Amongst his many fields of usefulness not the least was the part he took in connection with University Education. He was also a journalist. Whilst in Barrie he started the *Barrie Herald*, the organ of the Conservative party in the North country, and for several years he was the editor of that paper. In 1855, inspired by Judge (now Senator) Gowan, and assisted by Hewitt Bernard (afterwards Deputy Minister of Justice) he founded this journal, which first appeared as the *Upper Canada Law Journal*. To him, therefore, belongs the credit of being the pioneer in legal journalism in this Dominion.

A man of unsullied honour, of high intelligence, of great mental and physical energy, the public has suffered a great loss in the death of the Honourable James Patton. His funeral was largely attended. Amongst the pall bearers, named by him long before his sudden death, were two of his old law students in Barrie, Hon. Mr. Justice Osler and Mr. Henry O'Brien, the present editor of this journal.

## Appointments to Office.

### JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT CANADA.

Hon. C. S. Patterson, one of the judges of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, *vice* Hon. W. A. Henry, deceased.

### ONTARIO.

#### JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEAL.

James Maclellan, Q.C., Toronto, Judge of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, *vice* Hon. C. S. Patterson.

#### POLICE MAGISTRATE.

##### Lanark.

F. A. Tallman, Merrickville, Police Magistrate for the township of Montague, in the county of Lanark.