

*HON. MR. JUSTICE KELLY.*

With commendable promptitude, the new government at Ottawa has filled the vacancy in the Ontario High Court Bench, caused by the death of Mr. Justice MacMahon by the appointment of Mr. Hugh T. Kelly, K.C., of Toronto.

It is doubtless gratifying to him to know that his appointment has been well received by the profession. Other men might have been found who have had more experience as counsel, and who have been more prominently before the public in that capacity or in some other way; but it must be remembered that there are, after all, other matters for consideration in respect to judicial qualifications of still more importance, and in these we think the selection of Mr. Kelly may well be justified. He is a sound lawyer, a man of great industry, and thoroughness, of high character and unblemished reputation, and well versed in the general business of the country.

As chairman of the Public Library Board and as a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Toronto, he earned the respect of his fellows, and fully met the expectations of his friends. Unassuming and dignified in manner, courteous and considerate, he will, we venture to think, be a judge before whom it will be a pleasure to practise.

The best incumbents of judicial positions are those who have a laudable ambition to be known by their brethren as good judges, and to be remembered by them and by others as men who have endeavoured to do justice without fear, favour or affection. We believe Mr. Kelly has that ambition, and congratulate him upon his promotion to the Bench.

He was born in the township of Adjala in the county of Simcoe in 1858, the son of Mr. John Kelly, a well-to-do farmer there. In 1873, (being a member of the Roman Catholic Church) he began his education in St. Michael's College, Toronto, graduating therefrom in 1880. In 1880, he began the study of the law, in the office of Foy & Tupper, composed of the present Attorney-General of Ontario and Mr. J. Stewart Tupper, now of Winnipeg, eldest son of Sir Charles Tupper. In 1887