

It is assumed that some such feelings fill the breasts of our citizens as they approach the Hall on Queen Street. It nestles in a lawn with trees and flowers, and on the north side of the grounds is the great Armoury, representing strength and protection. The Hall is the home of the Chief Courts of Ontario and the depository of judicial records from the earliest days of Provincial history. The shades of well known Canadians, venerated for learning and patriotic service, rise before us as we look upon the Hall, see the portraits on its walls, and traverse its tiled floors, handsome library, many court rooms and offices.

The east wing was first erected under the direction of Dr. W. W. Baldwin. It is one hundred years since Dr. Baldwin was selected as a fit and proper person to be called to the Bar of the nascent Province. He had for some time practised medicine in Toronto. Parliament had enacted that the Governor might "under his hand and seal appoint so many of His Majesty's liege subjects, not exceeding six, as from their probity, education and condition in life, he should deem fit and proper to practise the profession of the law."

The commission appointing Dr. Baldwin recited that Henry Alcock, Esquire, Chief Justice, had certified that the Court of King's Bench was satisfied, etc., and so the Doctor became a barrister and attorney, "to all intents and purposes," on the 5th day of April, 1803.

In 1845 the western wing of the Hall was erected and united with the eastern by a building with a low dome.

In 1857 the dome was removed, the central building reconstructed, the area (of Caën stone, brought from Normandy) and present library were put up, as explained in our next chapter.

The Honourable Robert Baldwin was at this time the Treasurer, as the Chairman of the Benchers, or governing body,