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E. F. B. JOHNSTON, Q.C.

One of the best known men at the Bar, although still young in years, is the gentleman whose portrait appears on the opposite page. His reputation as a criminal and jury lawyer has caused his name to be known more widely than many of longer standing at the Bar who would perhaps be first choice for term work. He is now very prominently before the public, having just brought to a successful termination the prosecution against the dynamiters in the case already referred to in these columns as the "Outrage at the Welland Canal." His selection by the Government to take charge of this important matter demonstrates the high position which he occupies.

Mr. Johnston is a native of Haddington, Scotland. He studied law at the City of Guelph, and began the practice of his profession there, where he remained for about eight years, when he was appointed Deputy-Attorney General, under Sir Oliver, then Mr. Mowat. After occupying this position for four years, he resigned in the fall of 1889, and returned to active practice, forming the partnership of Johnston & Ross, which has since continued. This firm commenced business in the City of Toronto with no connection or influence, and has gradually worked to the front. Mr. Falconbridge, son of Mr. Justice Falconbridge, joined the firm in the beginning of this year. For three years, until 1892, Mr. Johnston was Inspector of Registry Offices, but the increase of his business compelled his resignation of that office, which is now held by Donald Guthrie, Q.C.

In his earlier professional life he was inclined towards politics, taking an active part therein and being well-known as a platform speaker in Wellington and the counties adjoining. He has refused more than one nomination by the Liberal party, but on his resuming practice in Toronto, he decided to devote his whole energies to his profession. At Guelph, he was secretary and one of the leaders of the Reform Association of South Wellington.

In his earlier days he was an enthusiastic Scotchman and Chief for several years of the Caledonian Society at Guelph, then the largest of its kind in Canada.