

He here obtained universal esteem and respect by the independent steadiness and firmness of his conduct, as well as by ability and integrity in his judicial office. But he became weary, after a time, of a situation which banished him so far from the friendships and connections of his early years ; and in 1801, he resigned his office, and retired to England, on his official pension. This, together with his own property, and what he had been able to lay past, made him now completely independent ; and, being determined to enjoy the advantages of that state without molestation, he neither sought to be elected into Parliament, nor would he accept of any public situation.

After residing some time in the Temple, he purchased a noble set of apartments in Albany House, where he died, January 17, 1824. Among the deaths in the *Canadian Review* of July 1824 his is recorded in the following terms: At his Chambers, in the Albany, London, on the 17th of February last, William Osgoode, Esq., formerly Chief-Justice of Canada, aged 70. By the death of this gentleman "it is added, "his pension of £800 sterling paid by this Province now ceases." It is said of him, "no person admitted to his intimacy ever failed to conceive for him that esteem which his conduct and conversation always tended to augment." He lived, in the enjoyment of society, universally esteemed, and never tempted from his resolution of remaining free from office, except in the case of two or three temporary commissions of a legal nature ; which, from a conviction of his qualifications and integrity, were in a manner forced upon him. In these he was joined with Sir William Grant, and other great ornaments of the law. The last of them, which was for examining into the fees of office in the courts of law, (in which he was united with the then accountant-general, and lord chief baron,) was nearly brought to a conclusion at the time of his death.

His opinions were independent, but zealously loyal ; nor