

## SIR ADAM WILSON, KNT.—DISALLOWANCE—MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST.

to the students, even under circumstances that are occasionally calculated to upset the equanimity even of the most patient judge. His self-possession and dignity never forsook him. All who appeared before him were sure of a patient hearing and undivided attention, and a certainty that their arguments, however trivial they might seem, would receive due and careful consideration. His was one of the most receptive of minds and always on the alert. Probably there was no lawyer at the Bar and no judge on the Bench his superior in the knowledge of decided cases. His industry, patience and exhaustiveness were proverbial; his judgments being almost text books on the law of the case in hand. A most retentive memory enabled him to recall authorities and facts at will, and he had a large capacity for marshalling facts. He became President of the High Court of Justice upon the passing of the Judicature Act.

Before his resignation the Chief Justice was knighted by Her Majesty. This honour, it is believed, he had formerly once, if not twice, declined to accept. Early in life he married Miss Dalton, sister of R. G. Dalton, Esq., Q.C., the esteemed Master in Chambers.

Mr. Ænilius Irving, Q.C., representing the Benchers and the Bar, presented to him, upon his retirement, expressions of great esteem and regard for his great ability manifested during his well nigh quarter of a century on the Bench. There was a large attendance of the Bar on the occasion, and the learned Chief Justice made a feeling and eloquent reply.

We may well close this short notice of one of the most eminent of our Judges and one of the most widely and highly respected of Canada's worthies, by quoting the true and apt observations of the Hon. Chancellor Boyd, now Sir Adam Wilson's successor as Presi-

dent of the High Court of Justice, upon the occasion of the swearing in of Hon. Mr. Justice Falconbridge as senior puisne judge of the Court of Queen's Bench during Michaelmas Term:—"Before I engage in the first public act of my new position I may refer briefly to him whom I succeed as President of the High Court of Justice. It is a matter of sincere congratulation that this vacancy has been occasioned, not by death but by choice; that Sir Adam Wilson, unlike most of his judicial brethren, has not laid down his life with his work. His merits need no commendation at my hands. Untiring industry, unselfish devotion to the duties of his office, and unblemished integrity are some of the well-known characteristics of his public life. His judicial life proper is embodied in many volumes of reports which will carry on to future time the best memorials of his ability and erudition. More I need not say, except there has never passed from this Bench any judge better known, more loved, or more venerated than Chief Justice Sir Adam Wilson. Our best wishes accompany his retirement. Long may he be spared to enjoy the well-earned measure of a dignified and honourable old age."

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THE Disallowance Question in Manitoba has been much written about in newspapers and periodicals, but a few words on some points from their legal aspect, not generally adverted to in articles on this most important question may be useful to a right understanding of the subject. In the Act respecting the Canadian Pacific Railway, 44 Vict. chap. 1 (1881), it is recited in effect that the construction of the railway (C.P.R.) was stipulated by the terms of the admission of British Co-