

diligence and strict attention to business, as the following extract from a letter written to his father by Mr. Small about this time clearly shows. "I am extremely happy to be able to say that I am highly satisfied with his general conduct, and his attention to the office is such as to be satisfactory to me and beneficial to himself. I have not the least doubt but that if he perseveres as he has commenced and avoids the company of the profligate young men of this place, he will prove an honour to his family and an ornament to society." He early attracted the attention of the late Sir John Beverley Robinson and the late Sir James Macaulay, two distinguished judges, who frequently showed their appreciation of him, and after his appointment to the Bench maintained these cordial relations throughout their lives.

James Gowan had decided literary tastes and frequently contributed to the current newspapers; "The Palladium" owned and conducted by an able writer named Fothergill; "The Patriot," owned by Robert Dalton, and "The Examiner," by Sir Francis Hincks. He also wrote articles for English legal journals. At this time there was no complete index to the Statute Law of Upper Canada, and young Gowan for his own use prepared an analytical index of the statutes, which he found of great service in Chambers. Later when a Commission was appointed to revise the Statute Law he placed his manuscript at the disposal of one of the Commissioners, Mr. John Hillyard Cameron.