

school, and had it not been for restraining influences he would have been deeply engaged, too early in life, in political agitation. He frequently contributed to the *Colonist* newspaper, the Conservative organ of the day in Toronto, articles in espousal of the Conservative doctrines and principles as he understood them. He soon, however, ceased this occupation in order to confine himself more exclusively to his profession. He was fond of writing. When he gave up writing political articles, he applied himself to writing on subjects appertaining to law, probably more profitable and less delusive than political controversy. In 1857 he published "The Statutes of Practical Utility in the Civil Administration of Justice in Upper Canada, Chronologically arranged." This work is more of a compilation than original matter. It required, however, a discriminating mind. This book, as well as his book containing the "Rules, Orders, and Regulations as to Practice and Pleading in the County Courts, with Notes," was well received by the profession, and obtained a large sale.

Mr. Harrison, in 1857, was still in the Attorney-General's office, connected with the Crown Law Department. It was during this year that a great excitement existed in the County of Haldimand, on account of depredations and crimes committed by one Townshend, alias McHenry. Townshend was arrested and tried at Cayuga, before Mr. Justice McLean and a jury. There never has been a case in Canada where such extraordinary evidence has been given as to the identity of a prisoner. There was not one trial only, but several trials of the case, and several weeks were taken up in endeavoring to solve the question presented. I have referred to the case more fully in the life of Mr. Justice McLean, and need not repeat what I have already said about this Canadian Tichborne case. Suffice it to say, it was the most important case of the period, and was conducted for the Crown by R. A. Harrison, and defended by that able and experienced Counsel, the late S. B. Freeman, Q.C., of