

the popular will, and became Secy. of the "Anti-Confederation League," of which Howe was Presdt. He made his mark at once as a writer and speaker, and afterwards became one of the most successful advocates of a brilliant bar, and won the largest verdicts ever recorded in the Province. According to the testimony of the present Chief-Justice McDonald, he was invincible as a cross-examr., and his powers of persuasion amounted to magnetism with a jury. He was a prominent factor of the Lib. party in the heated contest arising out of the "Pacific Scandal," which swept Sir John Macdonald from power, and shortly afterwards he became agent for the Mr. of Justice at Halifax. He was selected by Hon. E. Blake as one of the counsel to represent H.B.M.'s Govt., on behalf of Can., before the Fisheries Comn., which sat for 6 mths. at Halifax, in 1877, and resulted in an award of 5½ million dollars for the Dom. The Canadians were confronted by distinguished American counsel, and the success reflects credit on Mr. W. and his associates, though he himself persists that the result was due to the majority of a tribunal of 3 laymen who had their own ideas of what was the proper thing to be done without giving reasons. He predicted during the proceedings that all future internl. tribunals touching Can. would be composed of eminent jurists. He thinks the failure to furnish a "considered" award has robbed the victory of all value, and is proving an unmixt evil. After an exceptionally successful career at the bar, Mr. W. was apptd. a Judge of the Supreme Ct. of N. S., Oct. 7, 1878, being at that period the youngest judge who had hitherto taken a seat on the local bench. He had been made a Q. C., by the Provl. Govt., 1876. "As a judge," writes Mr. B. Russell, Q. C., M. P., "Mr. W. brought to the Supreme Ct. the searchlight of the powerful and highly-trained intellect which had won him such

signal triumphs at the bar. He was frequently obliged to deliver dissenting opinions, and on one occasion when several of such opinions had followed one another, he humorously reminded the Court that his commission named him as the successor to Mr. Justice Wilkins—who was also frequently a dissenting judge. The truth is that Judge W. never took anything for granted, and never considered an argument at an end until every possible phase of the question had been threshed out. It was this taste for dialectics and this determination to get to the bottom of every question presented for consideration, that made him so valuable an accession to the bench. Points that had escaped the attention of astute counsel on both sides, and of the majority of the Court as well, would often be brought to light by the tireless activity of his luminous and powerful intellect—sometimes in a dissenting opinion to be adopted on appeal, oftener in the course of the argument, as a controlling and determining factor in the judgment. It is safe to say that a more powerful and active intellect never adorned the bench of N. S." He is the author of a characteristic and incisive paper on the Maine boundary disputes and the Ashburton Treaty, a subject on which he predicts the last word has not been said. This was read before the N. S. Hist. Soc., of which he became the Presdt. on the death of Sir Adams Archibald. Besides many other contributions to the press of a literary and hist. character, he was selected as a representative of the Can. bench, in conjunction with Mr. Justice Miller of the Supreme Ct. of the U. S., and Cooley, the well-known constitutional writer, to contribute to the *Am. Law Rev.* an article on "Codification of the Law," in which he fearlessly but modestly opposed the views of David Dudley Field in a manner which elicited the approbation of the keen analytical mind of a famous jurisconsult. Among other subjects, the versatile