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THE profession will have learned with universal regret of the death of Robert Gladstone Dalton, who for many years past has so successfully discharged the duties of Master in Chambers. Mr. Dalton was born in Kingston in 1818, and was consequently 74 years of age at the time of his death. He was the son of Thomas Dalton, a Liverpool merchant, who settled in Kingston, and subsequently came to Toronto and established the *Patriot* newspaper about 1833. Mr. Dalton we believe received his education partly at a school established at Kingston by his father before his removal to Toronto, and partly at Upper Canada College and at the Toronto University. He studied law with the firm of Sherwood & Crawford and was admitted on the 9th November, 1842, as an attorney and solicitor, and in Hilary Term, 1843, was called to the Bar. When Mr. Dalton commenced the practice of his profession special pleading was in vogue, and Mr. Dalton soon acquired considerable reputation as a skilful pleader. From an early period he was distinguished by the possession of that rare faculty known in the profession as a judicial mind—a quality of intellect which enables a man to look at all sides of a question, and prevents him from being carried away by prejudices or prepossessions of any kind. Thus it came to pass that Mr. Dalton's office on Church street, near the corner of King street, became a favourite resort for those who desired to dispose of matters in dispute by arbitration; and as an arbitrator, Mr. Dalton early acquired the judicial habit which fitted him so well for the duties of his later years. During his practice at the Bar Mr. Dalton associated with him Mr. Gilbert, who subsequently removed to Chicago, where he became sheriff; later, Mr. J. G. Scott, Q.C., the present learned Master of Titles, became first a student in his office and afterwards his partner until Mr. Dalton entered the service of the government. On 26th June, 1867, Mr. Dalton was appointed one of Her Majesty's counsel, and on 21st February, 1870, he succeeded the late Lawrence Heyden as clerk of the Crown and Pleas in the Court of Queen's Bench, and in the same year an act was passed enabling the judges to confer on that officer power to discharge many duties theretofore discharged by the Judges in Chambers. Mr. Dalton's judicial abilities were therefore immediately called into play by the passing of a rule conferring on him the necessary power to act as a Judge in Chambers. Up to the passage of the *Judicature Act* in 1881 Mr. Dalton's duties were confined to actions in the common law courts, but on that act coming into force he was created Master in Chambers, and his jurisdiction was thereby extended to actions in all the divisions of the High Court. Mr. Dalton was not an equity lawyer, and was somewhat at a disadvantage in regard to cases involv-