

Mr. Harrison first entered Parliament in 1867, when he defeated Mr. John Macdonald, now a member of the Dominion Senate, who contested one of the divisions of Toronto with him. His strong Conservative opinions gained him the support of the Conservative party in his candidature for Parliament. He continued to represent the constituency till 1872. He was not altogether a success in Parliament. Parliamentary life was not to his taste. Involving, as it did, a great departure from his professional pursuits, the occupation became irksome to him. At the general election of 1872, he declined to contest the seat, and frankly told his constituents, in an address which he published, that he was glad to be relieved of duties that entailed not only a loss of time, but of money, without adding to his prestige, as he viewed political life. While in Parliament, he was for two Sessions Chairman of the Miscellaneous and Private Bills Committee. As a member of the House, he was connected with some important measures. Amendment of the laws as to stamping promissory notes and bills of exchange, and Bills relating to the Criminal law, received his attention. After his retirement from Parliament, he resumed his active practice at the Bar, when his business grew to large dimensions.

On the 8th of October, 1875, Mr. Harrison was, quite unexpectedly to himself, appointed Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, under the title of Chief Justice of Ontario, succeeding Chief Justice Richards, who was promoted to the Supreme Court.

On the Bench the Chief Justice continued the same unremitting labor he had performed at the Bar. The profession appreciated the energy he displayed in his duties. There were arrears to be cleared off, which he soon caused to disappear. Accustomed to hard work, and with a good constitution, he had no difficulty in fulfilling the expectations that had been formed of him, that his untiring industry as Chief of the Court would enable him to keep up with the business of the country. He was