

prone to think of the past as likely to be wrong, but rather the reverse—inclined to follow in the beaten track, rather than make new paths for himself. The test of appeal is not always a safe one as to the correctness of a judgment, but if it were, his decisions have stood the ordeal probably better than those of any other judge now on the Bench.

In his conduct of business he has been uniformly courteous to the Bar (would that the same could be honestly said of all judges), and at the same time properly mindful of the dignity of his office and the respect due thereto. But his dignity has not been of the oppressive order which could not admit of a gleam of sunshine, and many a wearisome case has been redeemed from dullness by some sparkling *jeu d'esprit* on his part, of which his playful reference in 15 A.R. 347 to "Mr. Davies' donkey, whose memory is embalmed in the delightful pages of 10 Meeson & Welsby," may be cited as an instance. He who would make a collection of the many good things said by Chief Justice Hagarty, would deserve well of his brethren at the Bar, and confer a lasting favor upon all those who can appreciate a keen wit, playing with lightning rapidity, but in the kindest way. If he had a fault as a judge, it arose from his remarkable quickness of apprehension. He saw the end from the beginning with a swiftness often quite disconcerting. Nor was the learned lawyer unknown on Parnassus. It is to be hoped that there may be made in due time a collection of the poems, both grave and gay, which it has been his pleasure to write in leisure moments. Some one has said that in making him a lawyer a poet was lost to the world. But the Chief's career proves the saying that "good things are hard to spoil."

It may possibly have occurred to some that the learned Chief Justice should follow the custom which seems to have grown up in England for retiring judges to have a public leave-taking of their brother judges and the Bar. This, however, might be a somewhat painful ceremony for the Chief Justice, accompanied as it would be by the very sincere regrets at the severance of those ties which have for so many years endeared him to the profession. We can, here, at least,