

an altogether satisfactory training for the judicial office, at least since the changes in our jurisprudence effected by the Judicature Act came into operation; for, with equity law, Sir Thomas Galt was never familiar, and was, to use the expression which that accomplished lawyer, Lord Bowen, has applied to himself, but "a proselyte at the gate"; and it is doing him no injustice to say that, when the time arrived when it became almost essential for a judge to be proficient in equity, Sir Thomas Galt had passed that age when men can readily take up and assimilate what are, to them, totally new ideas.

But, though he never made any pretensions to any great knowledge of equity law, his sound common sense very largely supplied the defect, and in his own particular department of law he has been always recognized as a sound expositor. As a criminal lawyer, he had few equals.

It has been said of some eminent politician that, when recommending the appointment of a man as a judge, his first inquiry was always directed to ascertaining whether the man in question was a gentleman; if he knew a little law, so much the better, but the real *sine qua non* with him was that the appointee must be a gentleman; and, without any flattery, we can honestly say that, in the case of Sir Thomas Galt, this condition was unquestionably fulfilled—and he was one of nature's gentlemen, not one merely by accident of birth. No one who ever had any business before him ever left his presence without recognizing that Sir Thomas Galt's high-bred courtesy was after the fashion of the old school, which, unhappily, we fear, is not being perpetuated as it ought among those who attain to high rank, and for which high mental power is, after all, no adequate compensation.

It is this uniform kindness and courtesy which Sir Thomas Galt has so invariably displayed throughout his judicial career which has endeared him to all classes of the profession, and will make them regret that the time has at last arrived when the tie which has so long bound them together is at last to be severed.

Relieved from the strain of judicial duties, we trust the learned judge may enjoy, in his retirement, many years yet of happiness, and we can assure him that by all those with whom he has been brought into contact in the discharge of his high office he will ever be regarded with most sincere affection and esteem.