

The money was paid, and the foreigners rejoiced in Canadian justice, and in broken English sang the praises of the noble Judge who was always ready to crush away a technical defence, if it stood in the way of the administration of justice.

The one thing that prevented this remarkable man from being the fore-

most man of all his time, was a fatal weakness for drink. The Hon. Edward Blake, the late Hon. George Brown, and all the leading men of that day, considered him the greatest platform orator Ontario ever produced. His death took place in October, 1882.

#### COPYRIGHT—A RETROSPECT.

IN 1842 was passed Lord Mahon's Act, 5 and 6 Vic. c. 45, (Imp.) In terms, the copyright created thereunder extended to the whole of the Queen's Dominions. In 1843, the Parliament of Canada presented an address on the question. In 1846, Earl Grey, then Colonial Secretary, wrote a circular despatch to all the Governors of the North American colonies, promising legislation. In 1847 was passed the Colonial Copyright Act or Foreign Reprints Act (10 and 11 Vic. c. 95, (Imp.), which, admittedly, did not fulfil the promises of Earl Grey's despatch. In this year the Canadian Parliament passed an act pursuant to the Imperial Act of 1847. Nothing further in the way of legislation occurred to affect the question until 1865, when the Colonial Laws Validity Act (28 and 29 Vic. c. 62, (Imp.), enacted that the Imperial Legislation must govern. In 1867 was passed the B. N. A. Act, which, in terms, recognized power in the Federal Parliament to deal with copyright. In 1868, a resolution was adopted in the Canadian Senate, urging the justice and expediency of extending the pri-

vileges granted by the Imperial Act of 1847. In 1869, the Government of Canada submitted a proposal that Canadian publishers be permitted to reprint English copyrights, on paying to the owners of the copyrights, 12½% royalty on published price. In March, 1870, a meeting was held in England, of leading authors and publishers, Earl Stanhope presided. The meeting concurred in representation of the hardships sustained under Imperial Act of 1847, and urged its prompt appeal. In 1873, Lord Kimberley's circular despatch to Governors of colonies was received, enclosing draft bill to amend the Imperial Copyright Act of 1842. Section 7 of the draft contained a provision for republication of copyright books in a colony under license. In 1874, Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, then Premier of Canada, reported on this draft bill. In 1875 was passed by the Parliament of Canada, the Copyright Act, which was re-enacted as R.S.C. (1886), c. 62. In the same year, this act was confirmed by Imperial Act 38 and 39 Vic. c. 53. In 1876, a royal commission (Imperial), investigated the question of copyright.