

to the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the Privy Council ; the rest of his time being occupied in the preparation of opinions on important matters.

Acknowledged leader of the bar of his own Province of Ontario, we think we may safely say that he occupies the same position in reference to the Dominion. As such he has been engaged in some of the most interesting and important legal events which have taken place in this country during the past thirty years. His reputation is not, however, confined to his own Province or even to the Dominion, but is recognized in connection with many important interests affecting the Empire at large. It will be of interest to refer to some of these cases.

In 1868 the country was shocked by the death of one of the brilliant men of the day, the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, at the hands of his assassin, Whelan, who, being convicted of the murder, applied for a writ of error. Mr. Robinson' successful argument for the Crown in that case was a masterly effort, indicative of his minute and thorough familiarity with criminal law. This case will be found reported in 28 U. C. R. 1.

In 1875, party politics ran high, and out of this ferment grew the famous political suit of *The Queen v. Wilkinson*, the defendant being the editor of a newspaper in which a serious charge of political intriguing was made against Senator Simpson in connection with what was known as the "Big Push" letter. In connection with this the Hon. George Brown made a violent attack in the *Globe* newspaper upon the late Chief Justice Adam Wilson, then a puisne Judge of the Queen's Bench. An application was thereupon made on behalf of Wilkinson, to commit Mr. Brown for contempt of court. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Henry O'Brien were counsel for the applicant, Mr. Brown conducting his defence in person with his usual force and courage, but repeating and emphasizing and seeking to justify the libellous charges made in his paper. The Court was composed of Chief Justice Harrison and Mr. Justice Morrison, Mr. Justice Wilson taking no part. The language used by Mr. Brown was held to be a reckless and unjustifiable attack on a Judge of the Court and a contempt of court ; but, as the judges who heard the case were divided in opinion as to the action to be taken, the rule was dropped. 41 U. C. R. p. 79.

In 1884, Mr. Robinson was counsel for the Dominion Government in the arbitration with Manitoba respecting the boundaries