

Matthew Cameron. On May 6th, 1884, he was made Chief Justice of Ontario, vice Chief Justice Spragge, deceased. It is conceived that the latter position, though full of responsibility, was more congenial than the one he previously occupied as Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench. One can well suppose that it was not always a bed of roses. His brethren of that Court were both masterful men, frequently differing in opinion, and neither of them easily persuaded against his convictions, which they were accustomed to state with much freedom and force of expression.

With his retirement from the Bench a list is closed of able and distinguished men, who in the past adorned the Bench of this province, and of whom the late Sir John Beverley Robinson was a noble princeps. To the older practitioners who have seen Chief Justice Robinson, and Justices McLean and Burns, Chief Justice Draper, and Justices Richards and Hagarty, Chancellor Blake, and Vice Chancellors Esten and Spragge, sitting in the old Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas and Chancery respectively, it must indicate the inexorable flight of time when they see the last of that band of eminent lawyers retire from the Bench.

The learned Chief Justice has lived to see every judicial office in the province filled, not only once, but in some instances many times during his judicial career, and though always considered to have a somewhat delicate constitution, has outlived all his contemporaries of the period of which we have spoken, and many of those who succeeded them, who were not only younger men, but to all outward appearances more vigorous than himself. In now retiring from the Bench after his long and laborious service, he is obtaining that *otium cum dignitate* which is the fitting close of such a career.

He will always be remembered by the Bar as a learned, able and conscientious judge, thoroughly versed in the fundamental principles of law, with no ambition to extend the area of "judge-made" law, but, on the contrary, sincerely solicitous of administering the law as he found it, without usurping or encroaching on the functions of the legislature. The bent of his mind was on the whole conservative, not