

of Commons in the April following. He sat continuously for Frontenac, till appointed Lieutenant-Governor for Ontario, in May 1892.

He was an able, conscientious and diligent member of Parliament and fully justified those friends who, on the death of his father, perceiving his marked abilities, and being anxious that they should be employed in the legislative sphere, urged him to accept the nomination. Each succeeding election demonstrated his popularity and the confidence reposed in him by his constituents. In parliament he manifested the same excellent qualities which had won for him distinction in college and success in private life. Among those about him he was soon regarded as one whose abilities fitted him for a place in the cabinet. That he did not attain that preferment was owing to the well-known policy of Sir John Macdonald, who never made changes in his cabinet, if he could avoid it, and who chose his colleagues as representing certain class interests, none of which Mr. Kirkpatrick ever cared to conciliate.

His standing in the House was recognized, however, by his election as Speaker, on the 8th of February, 1883. In that onerous position his personal dignity, courtesy of manner, impartiality, firmness and acute knowledge of parliamentary procedure, won universal commendation. He was the first Speaker of the House of Commons on whom the honor of a seat in Her Majesty's Privy Council for Canada was conferred. He was appointed a Queen's Counsel on October 11th, 1880, and in June, 1884, he received from his Alma Mater the degree of L.L.D.

Like all men of marked individuality of character, Mr. Kirkpatrick early in his parliamentary career disclosed the fact that he had an object and a purpose above the mere fulfillment of his routine duties.

In his practice as a lawyer, he had become painfully familiar with the wrongs endured and disabilities suffered by seamen on our inland waters, and he seized the earliest opportunity, after taking his seat, to institute a legal remedy therefor. In pursuance of this purpose he raised the question of giving to these seamen a lien for their wages, and making vessels liable for supplies. During several sessions the measure he had introduced embodying these provisions was defeated. But he adhered to it with unflinching persistency till the Mackenzie administration came into power, and Mr. Mackenzie promised that he would introduce a measure to give effect to his views.