

It was not until his regiment was disbanded, on 24th June, 1816, that Sir James Macaulay turned his attention to more peaceful pursuits. He then went to the new settlement being formed at Perth, with a view of becoming a military settler, but soon relinquished that idea, returned to Toronto and commenced the study of the law. In 1816 he entered his name on the books of the Law Society, and commenced his professional education in the office of the late Mr. Justice Boulton. When Mr. Boulton was elevated to the bench, Sir James continued his studies with the Hon. Henry John Boulton, son of the Judge. At the end of three years he was admitted an attorney, and afterwards, in 1821, was called to the bar, and in December of the same year married Miss Rachel Gamble, an amiable and accomplished lady, who now survives him, and by whom he has left three daughters. For a short time he was in the office of Sir John B. Robinson, the present Chief Justice of Upper Canada, when Attorney General of the Province.

His career at the bar was marked by unusual success. Here his singular industry and superior abilities had a full field for action, and he was soon at the head of his profession. His attention to business, his upright course, together with his growing influence, were soon brought under the notice of Sir Peregrine Maitland, then Lieut. Governor of the Province, by whom he was, in 1825, honored with an appointment to a seat in the Executive Council. In 1827, he was appointed a temporary Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, and acted as Judge of Assize on the circuit which included all the province west of Toronto. When the circuit was over he went back to his practice at the bar, and, in July, 1829, was permanently appointed a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench. In this office he remained for twenty years; and in December, 1849, on the formation of the Court of Common Pleas, was transferred from the Queen's Bench to the Common Pleas, as Chief Justice of the new Court. In this exalted station he remained for seven years, and in 1856 announced his intention to retire into private life, and relinquish the arduous duties of the bench, which for the lengthened period of twenty-seven years he had so ably and so faithfully performed. The reason for his taking this step, was a slight imperfection in his hearing, though in other respects his faculties were unimpaired. In February 1856 he retired from the bench. From the year 1825 till 1856 he served on the Heir and Devisee Commission, first as an Executive Councillor and afterwards as a Judge.

A mind like that of Sir James Macaulay—so used to occupation, and so innured to toil—could not long remain idle; and upon being appointed chairman of the commissioners for consolidating the statutes of the Province, he

applied himself to the arduous task with his wonted assiduity, and rapidly completed a work which will cause his memory to be cherished with feelings of profound gratitude.

After his resignation of the Chief Justiceship of the Common Pleas, he accepted the appointment of tenth Judge of the Court of Error and Appeal, and by the benchers of Osgoode Hall, on the death of the Hon. Robert Baldwin, was unanimously elected Treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada. To this latter office he was again elected, at the annual meeting of the benchers, held on Saturday morning, the 26th November, only a few hours previous to his decease. On leaving home that morning he complained of being unwell; but not considering his illness of sufficient consequence to remain at home, nor fearing anything alarming, he proceeded to Osgoode Hall, and presided at the meeting of the benchers. Feeling no better, he was advised to return. Accordingly a carriage was procured, and he was immediately driven home. Medical aid was sent for, but before it could be procured he had breathed his last.

The Courts of Queen's Bench and Common Pleas, then in session, upon learning of the sad news at once adjourned. Deep indeed was the sorrow depicted on every face, as the Chief Justice in each Court adjourned the business of the day, and the almost inaudible whisper, and the eager and astonished countenance, betrayed the shock which all experienced. Little did those who saw him that day performing his duties in his usual methodical manner, think that upon relinquishing them for the day it would be forever—that he had finished the entire work allotted to him in this life, and that he had forever departed from that arena which had so often witnessed his usefulness.

His death, though sudden, was peaceful. Possessed of the unimpaired use of his mental powers; performing to the last those duties in which he ever took the most lively interest, and, among the companions of his early boyhood, the associates of his manhood, remaining to the last within the precincts of that Hall from which his fame emanated; and, above all, well prepared, and long waiting for that moment in which he was to throw off this mortal coil and put on immortality—such a termination to such a career was truly happy.

The many and honorable positions held by the deceased, and the ability he displayed in performing the various and arduous functions of each, could not be without their rewards. Above all, he received the esteem and respect of every good man. In his own estimation, duty carried with it its own reward. Without an enemy, he had none to fear; and having never injured any, he had nothing to regret. But apart from these satisfactory results, he was still more