

1863, was made a Q.C. In 1856 he became Reporter of the Court of Queen's Bench. He continued in that position until 1872, when he became the Editor of the Ontario Law Reports, but resigned on his election as a Bencher in 1885. In 1880 he completed the preparation (assisted by the late Frank J. Joseph) of a digest of all the cases contained in the Ontario Reports, from their commencement in 1822—a work of immense labour and invaluable to the profession. The first of the Upper Canada digests was made by Robert A. Harrison, while a student, under the supervision of James Lukin Robinson, in 1852; the next in order being made by Henry O'Brien, who subsequently entered into a partnership with Mr. Robinson, which continued for over thirty years.

As was the fashion in those days, men devoted themselves to special circuits, and Mr. Robinson chose the Western as his special field. The leaders of this circuit were at that time, John Wilson, Q.C., H. C. R. Becher, Q.C., Albert Prince, Q.C., and others. After the elevation of Mr. Wilson to the Bench, Christopher Robinson took the leading place, being engaged in nearly every case. Gradually, however, as his reputation increased, he devoted himself more and more to special work, his briefs being now largely confined 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 occupied the same position in reference to the Dominion. As such he was 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 also recognized in connection with many important interests affecting the Empire at large.

Mr. Robinson was in various important matters the confidential counsellor of the Government of Canada and the trusted representative of its interests in the great international questions hereafter referred to. His grasp of the subject and lucid and skilful presentation of the arguments in these matters were the admiration of all concerned.

It will now be of interest to refer to some of the most important cases of a public character in which he was engaged.