

of the High Court, and they had no hesitation in entrusting to him cases, which, for various reasons, could not be tried at the Assizes. His judgments, moreover, stood well the test of appeal. No County judge in Ontario, except, perhaps, his intimate friend, the veteran Chairman of the Board of County Judges, Hon. J. R. Gowan, C.M.G., now a Senator of the Dominion, was better versed in magisterial and municipal law, or better understood the spirit and scope and proper working out of the small debts Courts of Ontario. Both of these gentlemen were appointed, it will be remembered, by the government of which that eminent man Hon. Robert Baldwin was at the head. All the judicial appointments, made by that administration, were of good and fit men, as experience subsequently proved. It was especially true of those who are above referred to.

Looking out over the Dominion we notice the retirement of another excellent and highly respected judge in the Province of New Brunswick. His Honor James G. Stevens, to whom we allude, at the time of his retirement, had been on the Bench for over thirty-five years, in fact ever since the establishment of County Courts in that Province. His legal ability seems to have been inherited, his father having been a solicitor of repute in Scotland, where his son, the ex-judge, was born. He was called to the Bar in 1847, and was subsequently elected a member of the New Brunswick House of Assembly. An industrious worker, he contributed to the legal library "Steven's Digest of the New Brunswick Reports" covering the years from 1825 to 1897. As a judge he was highly esteemed both by the profession and the public, always upholding, by the gentlemanly courtesy characteristic of a past generation, the dignity of his position. Notwithstanding these long periods of service it cannot be said either of him or of Judge Hughes that they lagged superfluous on the stage and their life's work was well done. Happy for those who like them have resources and congenial employment to keep alive their activity and so enable them to enjoy their well earned rest and leisure.

Whilst we have this little quarrel with the recent act, it must be admitted, even by the most stalwart of what are called old men, that though their mental capacity remains unimpaired, their experi-