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SIR JOHN BOYD, K.C.M.G., CHANCELLOR OF ONTARIO.

By the death of the Honourable Sir John Alexander Boyd¹, K.C.M.G., Chancellor of Ontario and President of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Ontario, the Dominion has lost one of its most able jurists. Sir John had reached a ripe old age and during the thirty five years in which he sat upon the Bench of the Province of Ontario he earned for himself the lasting gratitude and respect of the community as an able and upright Judge, as well as the affection and esteem of every member of the Bar with whom he came in contact.

Sir John was the son of Mr. John Boyd, the principal of a school formerly carried on in Toronto and known as "The Bay Street Academy." He was born on Shakespeare's Day, 23rd April, 1837, and was educated in part at his father's school and subsequently at Upper Canada College and the Toronto University, where he took his degree of B.A., and was awarded the gold medal for modern languages; he subsequently proceeded to M.A. in 1861. and LL.D. in 1889. In 1863 he received the degree of D.C.L. from Trinity College.

Choosing the law as his life work he was admitted a solicitor August 26, 1863, and was called to the Bar November 16, 1863, with honours. He began the practice of his profession in partnership with the late D. B. Read, Q.C., the firm being Read & Boyd.

On October 31, 1870, he was appointed Master in Ordinary of the former Court of Chancery of Ontario which office he held until December, 1892, when he resumed practice as a member of the firm of Blake, Kerr & Boyd. On May 3, 1881, he was elevated to the Bench as Chancellor of Ontario in succession to the Hon. J. G. Spragge, who was promoted to the Chief Justiceship of the Court of Appeal. This position Sir John retained until his death.