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IS Honor James Robert [Gowan, late Local Judge of the High Court of Justice for Ontario and Senior Judge of the Judicial District of Simcoe, was no ordinary man, and his retirement from office no ordinary event. Actively engaged in the Judicial office for nearly forty-one years,* a longer service than that of any other judge in Canada, it is not a matter of surprise that much interest should be felt in a career, without parallel for duration in any colony of the Empire, marked as it was throughout, and to the very close, by a vigorous discharge of every duty, as well as by varied and important services, outside the duties proper of the office he held.† His official life was one of uniform and extended usefulness, and he has carried with him, into a well earned retirement, the approving

* On 24th June, Trinity Term, 1834, he was admitted as a Student of the Law to the Law Society, having passed the necessary examinations: and on 5th August, 1839, Michaelmas Term, he was called to the degree of Barrister-at-Law (*U. C. Gazette*, vols. 9 and 14); Appointed to the Judicial office, 17th January, 1843 (*Canadian Legal Directory*, 78); Retired, 24th October, 1883 (*Canada Gazette*).

† We believe Chief Justice Bowen of Lower Canada was nominally in office for nearly fifty years, but for more than ten years before his death he never sat or performed any duty; virtually then Judge Gowan is the longest holder of Judicial rank, seeing that he discharged the active duties of his office during the whole period of his tenure, nearly forty-one years.