

the Ontario Bar by a suitable address and the present of a service of plate. In 1887 he was promoted to be Chief Justice of the Court, a position he filled with distinction until 1899, when he resigned. In 1897 he received the honour of Knighthood.

The late Chief was the author of several useful works, which in their day were in general request. Taylor's annotated Edition of the Chancery Orders was a *vade mecum* of Chancery practice, and his Commentaries on Equity Jurisprudence, founded on Story's work, and his little book on Titles were highly useful to students; and he in conjunction with Mr. J. S. Ewart published an annotated edition of the Ontario Judicature Act and Rules.

He was one of the committee appointed to prepare the third volume of the R.S.O. 1897, which was probably one of his last services rendered to the public.

After retiring from the Bench he returned to Toronto, where he resided for a short time, subsequently removing to Hamilton, where he died.

The late Chief was an able and accomplished lawyer, and acquitted himself in the various posts of honour and dignity to which he was called, to the general satisfaction of all who had business before him. His Scotch accent never forsook him and no one could ever mistake his nationality, but in every walk of life he proved himself a worthy representative of the men of North Britain.

UNCERTAINTY OF LAW.

Why is Law so uncertain? That is a question which has been asked a great many times, not only by those who have suffered from its uncertainties, litigants for instance, but even by those who practice it and who in the eyes of the public are the chief instruments of its ill-doings, namely: lawyers themselves. I think it will be found on a fair examination that most of the uncertainty is inevitable, and that is the result of a combination of circumstances for which neither lawyers, litigants nor Judges are responsible. Medicine, too, is uncertain, and yet medicine is dealing with fixed, unchangeable laws, the laws of