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EDITORIAL.

It has been intimated by those who ought to know, that the learned and beloved Chief Justice of the Province of Ontario is about to take that much needed rest which his long and faithful service has so well entitled him to. The retirement of Chief Justice Hagarty, when it comes, will be a cause of regret to all, and to none more than to those who were fortunate enough to appear frequently before him. The public service will suffer a most distinct loss, and the Bench will lose one of the most able and brilliant men that ever sat upon it in this Province. John Hawkins Hagarty was a tall, slim Irish lad in his 18th year when he came to Muddy York in 1834; his father was Matthew Hagarty, Examiner of his Majesty's Court of Prerogative for Ireland.

The present Chief Justice entered upon the study of law in 1835, and in Michaelmas Term, 5 Vict., Mr. Hagarty was sworn in as an attorney and called to

the Bar. From the time of his call to the Bar he enjoyed a large practice. He took his place and won his way to fame with Blake, Baldwin, Cameron, Draper, Eccles, Read and Sullivan. In 1850 he was called within the Bar and donned the silk. While at the Bar, Mr. Hagarty was at all times an enormously hard worker; was powerful before the Bench and almost irresistible before a jury. As a Judge he was always famous for his great wit and learning.

In 1847 Mr. Hagarty was elected to a seat in the Toronto City Council, but declined reelection the following year. It is not generally known that the Chief Justice has written some wonderfully sweet things in verse; in 1840 he published in *The Maple Leaf*, among other poems, "The Sea, The Sea," "Ten Thousand," and his ode on "The Funeral of Napoleon I." Nicholas Flood Davin has said of him that "a good poet was sacrificed