

our high sense of the long and faithful service he has rendered in this county. * * We take peculiar pleasure, being in a sense representatives of the people of this county, in placing on record our high sense of the great esteem and respect in which Judge Gowan has always been held by the residents of this county, and in doing this we know that we are voicing the unanimous sentiments of all. Judge Gowan has many happy causes for gratification in looking over his long judicial course, and we think it will not be least among them to know, that he always carries with him the goodwill and highest esteem of the people with whom he has been so long identified. *Grand Jury Room, Barrie, 13th Dec., 1883.*

To find such unanimity of expression, touching any public man, is rare, and especially in the case of one who, in the position of a judge, must have many times crossed the interests of the losing parties, in the many thousands of cases which came before him during the long time he held office ; but his fearless honesty was only equalled by his industry, and produced a confidence almost without parallel in all his decisions. This, the fact that appeals from his decisions were almost unknown,* abundantly proves, seeing that he

* "We believe that throughout the whole of his Judicial career but two of those pronounced were reversed. * * All of his judgments that we have read are clear in diction, dignified and concise. * * entirely free from any parade of learning or affectation : two objects seemed to absorb the attention of the Judge, (1) properly to