

LT. COL. JOHN H. MOSS, B.A., K.C.

A very definite gap has been made in the ranks of the Ontario Bar by the death on 10th inst. of John H. Moss, from pneumonia, after a few days illness. The deceased was born in 1869, the son of one of Canada's most brilliant lawyers and judges, Thomas Moss, who died as Chief Justice of Ontario.

The deceased was an old Upper Canada College boy, taking his degree of B.A. at Toronto University in 1889. In 1892 he was called to the Bar, and a K.C. in 1908. He soon became a leading spirit in the partnership and enjoyed in a marked degree the confidence of his many important clients, being a shrewd man of affairs as well as a sound and well read lawyer.

He took an active interest in Military matters before the war, and joining the Mississauga Horse finally became Lt. Col. of that force. During the war in 1917 and 1918 he was a member of the Military Council at Ottawa in connection with the enforcement of the Military Service Act. He was twice married; his first wife being Miss Sullivan, niece of Lady Falconbridge, and his second, the daughter of the late T. C. Patteson, who, with one son, survives him.

Mr. Moss was at the time of his death a member of the firm of Messrs. Aylesworth, Wright, Moss & Thompson. The development of this well known firm is of interest and it would not be inappropriate to refer to it here. Hon. James Patton, Q.C., coming from the Town of Barrie in 1860 took into partnership his student Featherston Osler, who subsequently went on the Bench, and recently retired from the Ontario Court of Appeal, one of the very best of our Judges. The firm of Patton & Osler was joined by Thomas Moss, father of the deceased, then giving promise of the distinguished, but all too short career, which awaited him. It eventually became necessary for him to choose between politics and the Bench. He choose the latter and was made one of the Judges of the Court of Appeal and in 1875 became Chief Justice of Ontario at the remarkably early age of 41. He was perhaps the most brilliant of all our Judges.

From time to time changes and additions took place. In 1871 Robert A. Harrison, already well known to the profession, as author of Harrison's Common Law Procedure Act, as compiler of the Municipal Manual, and one of the Editors of the Canada Law Journal, and a great jury lawyer became head of the firm; but in 1874 he was taken away to become Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench. In 1879 another future Chief Justice joined