

THE HON. CHRISTOPHER S. PATTERSON.

CHRISTOPHER SALMON PATTERSON comes of Irish stock, but was born in London, England—where his parents at that time resided—in the year 1823. He received his primary education in London, and afterwards attended the Royal Academical Institution, Belfast, Ireland. He emigrated to Canada in 1845, when he was in his twenty-second year, and settled at the town of Picton, in the county of Prince Edward, Canada West. He immediately afterwards entered upon the study of the legal profession in the office of Mr. Philip Low, Q.C., at Picton, and remained there until the expiration of his articles. He was admitted as an Attorney on the 7th of September, 1850. In Hilary Term of the following year he was called to the Bar of Upper Canada, and immediately afterwards formed a partnership with his former principal, Mr. Low, and settled down to practice at Picton. This partnership lasted until the year 1856, when the subject of this sketch removed to Toronto, and entered into partnership with Mr. Adam Wilson (the present Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench) and Mr. James Beaty, Q.C., the style of the firm being Wilson, Patterson & Beaty. The firm enjoyed a large and profitable business of the best class, and had a very large agency connection. Upon Mr. Wilson's elevation to the Judicial Bench, in May, 1863, the style of the firm became Patterson & Beaty, and afterwards underwent various

modifications. In 1866 Mr. Patterson became a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, and in 1871, when the Act came into operation whereby Benchers were elected by the profession at large, he was elected to that dignity. During the last-mentioned year he was also appointed a member of the Law Reform Commission. In 1872 he was created a Queen's Counsel.

On the 6th of June, 1874, he was elevated to the Bench as a Justice of the Court of Appeal—a position which he has ever since filled. In the autumn of 1877 he was appointed a Commissioner to investigate and report upon certain charges of partiality and official misconduct which had been made against the Central Committee of Examiners of the Educational Department of Ontario. The investigation occupied several weeks, and rendered necessary the examination of a large number of witnesses, including several of the leading publishers of Toronto. Judge Patterson's report fully exonerated the Committee from the charges which had been brought against them.

In 1853, while engaged in practice at Picton, he married Miss Mary Dickson, a daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Dickson, of Glenconway, in the county of Antrim, Ireland. He is known as an industrious, painstaking, and well-read lawyer, and his decisions inspire the respect due to his dignified position.