

character and ability. He married, on July the twenty-seventh 1807, Elizabeth Wildman, fifth child and second daughter of Doctor William Martin Johnston of Liguana, Jamaica.

In the Legislature, he helped in the consolidation and revision of the law relating to the Militia. He became Lieutenant Colonel of one of the Annapolis Regiments and so conducted himself in that capacity as to receive in 1827 the special thanks of Sir James Kempt, the Lieutenant Governor of the time.

2 In 1834 Thomas Ritchie was appointed President of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas for the Western District, which embraced the present counties of Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne. Beginning with 1824 the President of this court had to be a barrister, although there were apparently four lay members. It was Judge Ritchie's custom to submit to the Lieutenant-Governor after the close of each term, a detailed report of the business of the courts over which he had presided and of other local matters of interest to His Excellency. On the 17th of March, 1828, he was appointed President of the Court of Sessions, and in 1832 he became *Custos Rotulorum*.

In 1830 he was a candidate for the office of Attorney-General, made vacant by the death of Richard John Uniacke. At page 396 of the *History of the County of Annapolis* we read the following: In a document found in the public archives, dated October of that year, his public services are thus summarized: "The public were largely indebted to him for the consolidation and amendment of the Militia Laws; he was the originator of the treasury note system which had proved so beneficial to the country since 1812; the loan bill introduced by him to alleviate the distresses caused by the change from war to peace, which became law in 1819 and had produced the results intended, was his work; as chairman of the Committee on the Consolidated Revenue Acts, he had done good service; he had been offered the Speakership of the House, but felt it his duty to decline, and he was then the oldest member of the