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The Honorable Sir Samuel Henry Strong.

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Upon the death of the late Chief-Justice Sir William Johnston Ritchie, the Hon. Samuel Henry Strong was appointed to the vacancy on the 13th Dec., 1892, and created a knight in May, 1893. His appointment to the Supreme Court Bench dated from 1875. He was born in England in 1826, and is the son of an Anglican Church clergyman. After practising his profession for some years in Toronto, where he soon became one of the leaders of the Equity Bar, in 1869 he was raised to the Bench as senior Vice-Chancellor of the Province, at the comparatively early age of forty-four. After serving in that capacity for five years, he was promoted to the Court of Error and Appeal of the Province. When the creation of a Supreme Court of Appeal for the Dominion was being mooted, Judge Strong by general consent was coupled with Chief-Justice Richards as most eminently qualified for a seat on the bench of that court. The *Canada Law Journal*, writing on the subject some time before the appointments were made by the Government, after discussing the acknowledged fitness of Chief Justice Richards for the position of chief of the proposed court, said: "With regard to his coadjutors in this Province, one name immediately presents itself, that of Mr. Justice Strong. Admittedly a man of great talent and learning, and a scientific lawyer, he is undoubtedly one of the best civil law jurists in Canada, and thoroughly familiar with the French

language. The great advantages of these qualifications in such a position are obvious." And upon his appointment, the same journal remarked that "as a lawyer pure and simple and in intellectual capacity he has no superior on the bench."

As might be expected, Sir Samuel Strong's judgments are models of judicial style: clear, logical, and expressed in the purest and most correct English, they are deserving of the closest study for their beauty of diction, their close reasoning, and profound legal research. In appearance the Chief-Justice is strikingly handsome. On any bench he would be remarked for his fine intellectual face and judicial bearing.

Among a number of amusing scenes and incidents that have occurred at various times during the Supreme Court sitting, it is related that not many years ago, an Ottawa barrister, who was, as he supposed, on rather familiar terms with the present Chief-Justice, was arguing a *habeas corpus* case. The judges were not inclined to hear him, when the lawyer remarked that the Statute imposed certain duties upon Supreme Court judges which they could not endeavor to shirk. "I am not going to sit here and listen to language of that sort," remarked Mr. Justice Strong in a rather angry tone. "What is that, Mr. Strong?" queried the lawyer, who had not apparently heard his lordship's remark. "Mr. Strong!" roared the judge, now thoroughly enraged. "Is