

property and attending to the duties of a few offices. He has been a magistrate and notary for more than twenty years, and was reeve of the township of Montague, in which part of the village of Smith's Falls stands, for eleven years. As a citizen, he has made himself quite useful; has been connected with the militia for a long time, and holds the rank of Captain. He is connected with the Church of England; politically is a Conservative, decided and unwavering; and sometimes he takes quite an active part.

Captain Chambers was first married in 1828 to Miss Elizabeth McKenzie, of Augusta, county of Grenville. She died in 1849, leaving five children, only three of them, all daughters, now surviving. One son, Edward Chambers, lived to be fifty-three years of age, dying in December, 1879. Annabella is the wife of Trueman R. Ward, and Elizabeth, of Dr. McKenzie, both residing at Smith's Falls, and Winifred is at home. He was married the second time on the 20th of January, 1852, to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Casey, Esq., of Adolphustown, Bay of Quinté, and by her he has one son, James H. Chambers, who is with his parents. Mrs. Chambers has long had a taste for landscape painting, and still continues to gratify it to a moderate extent. The walls of her parlor and other rooms are decorated with paintings, largely her own workmanship, and showing decided talent in that beautiful art.

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## ROBERT SIMPSON,

### BARRIE.

**R**OBERT SIMPSON, the first mayor of the town of Barrie, and many years a prominent man in the municipalities of the town and county, is a native of Yorkshire, England, being born in Salton, March 16, 1817. His father, John Simpson, who was a yeoman, was from Fifeshire; his mother, Mary (Richardson) Simpson, was English.

Robert received a parish school education; farmed in the old country until 1835; then emigrated to Upper Canada; attended school one winter after learning the brewing business at Newmarket; carried on that business for himself at Kempenfeldt, three miles from Barrie, about two years, when he was burnt out, and removed across the Bay to Allandale, where he brewed about seven years and was again burnt out. In 1848 Mr. Simpson settled in Barrie. A few years ago he suffered a third loss—\$10,000 without insurance—by fire, on a rented brewery at Newmarket; yet, notwithstanding his repeated reverses, he has been, on the whole, quite successful. Since locating in Barrie, with the exception of two or three visits made to his native land, he has remained very diligent at his post, looking after his business interests.

In 1856 Mr. Simpson entered the town council, and was a member of that body until Barrie became an incorporated town, when he became the mayor, and held that office, at sundry