

in Council. The appeal is now to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, which has rendered, and will, I hope, continue to render signal service not only to Canada and the Empire but also to the whole civilized world. That august tribunal has not only to deal with the Common Law of England, brought from England to Virginia and via Virginia to Nova Scotia, but with many other systems of law, such as the Civil Law in force in Quebec, the Roman Dutch Law in parts of South Africa, and many other laws. This illustrates the genius of the British Empire, whose unity is not based on a dull and deadly uniformity, but is enriched by a most diversified variety. Those who brought to Ontario the noble traditions of British Virginia took their due part in passing this wise legislation of the Parliament of 1792, and their descendants are still influential in maintaining British traditions.

The first educationalist in the Province of Ontario, indeed at one time the only educationalist, was the Reverend Dr. John Stuart, a grandson of Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia. He had a good deal to do with the training of two Chief Justices—Chief Justice Stuart of Quebec, and Sir John Beverley Robinson, the first Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Appeal, who referred to Dr. Stuart as his spiritual father. Professor A. H. Young, of the University of Toronto, has rendered good service by making scholarly investigations of the records of Dr. Stuart, many of whose descendants, including Sir Campbell Stuart, did splendid work in the Great War. Men of science are busy investigating the beginnings of civilization. Much more important, it seems to me, is it to study the beginnings of the history of our own country.

Sir John Beverley Robinson was the son of a Virginia lawyer. He became Attorney General when he was twenty-one, but after achieving this distinction, decided to study law in London, at Lincoln's Inn. So that it can be truly said that he brought to the administration of justice in Ontario the traditions of Virginia as well as the traditions of the English Courts. He acted as Chief Justice for 33 years. In all that time only five of his decisions were questioned by appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and in every case the judgment of Chief Jus-