

## CHIEF-JUSTICE CHARLES MORRIS.

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BY CHARLES J. MCINTIRE.

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The story of Charles Morris, who left his New England home a soldier, and ultimately became Privy Councillor and Chief-Justice of Nova Scotia, is instructive and interesting. He was the sixth of a family of nine children. His father, also a Charles Morris, was born in Bristol, England, in 1675, came to Boston in 1696, and in 1699 married Esther Rainsthorpe, who had been here since 1684. The Rev. Charles Morris, born in Wales in 1650, was his grandfather. The subject of our sketch was born in Boston June 11, 1711, received a good education, and, like Washington, devoted much attention to the surveying of lands, becoming an acknowledged expert in such work while he was yet young. At twenty-one years of age he married Mary Read, the daughter of Hon. John Read, of Boston, the eminent lawyer and attorney-general of the province of Massachusetts Bay.

Mr. Akens, the Commissioner of Public Records, informs us that when Governor Shirley was calling for volunteers, in 1745, for the expedition under Pepperell against Louisburg, Morris offered his services, was given the command of a company, and took active part in the memorable siege and capture. After the surrender of that fortress, by the request of Governor Shirley Captain Morris made a survey of the whole of Nova Scotia with a view to British colonization. This survey was duly sent to the "Board of Trade and Plantations," accompanied by a concise account of the state of the province, a copy of which is still preserved among the archives of Halifax. In the winter of 1746-7 Shirley sent an expedition composed of New England soldiers, commanded by Noble, to hold Minas