

impressed with the refined taste which guided the architect. It was fashioned according to the prevailing style of the country seats in England of that period. The peculiar carving and curious tiles indicate the Dutch birthright of the accomplished lady who presided over its rise and progress; while the gardens, lawn, fruit orchard, highly cultivated fields, and great deer-parks were more fit surroundings for the military scholar and Englishman. It was for many years the princely abode of a generous and courtly hospitality, and Mrs. Robinson, with affectionate deference to the family of her husband's mother, named it "Beverley."

When the revolutionary controversy commenced, Colonel Robinson opposed the measures of the British Ministry in their taxation policy, gave up the use of imported merchandise, and clad himself and his family in fabric of domestic manufacture. But, like thousands of others, he could not reconcile himself to the separation of the colonies from the Mother Country, and when hostilities broke out he greatly desired to take a neutral part. The pressure, however, upon him was so strong that he yielded, removed his family to New York, and entered the Militia raised by the Crown. His standing entitled him to high rank, and of the "Loyal American Regiment," recruited principally in New York by himself, he was commissioned Colonel. He also commanded the corps called "The Guides and Pioneers," and with his two sons in the Loyal American Regiment, was in several hot engagements during the war. Besides his active duties in the field Colonel Robinson was employed to conduct several matters of consequence for the Crown; and he figures conspicuously in cases of defection from the Whig cause (as witness his correspondence with the Whig leader in Vermont), to induce them to return to their allegiance to the King. The immense estate of his wife on the Hudson, as well as their property in New York, was confiscated by the Legislature of the State, and was sold. Several of the children of Colonel Beverley Robinson were born in this house, they all attained distinction. His son Beverley was a Lieut.-Colonel in the British Army, and settled at St. John, New Brunswick, where he was made President of the Royal Council; he died in New York in 1816. John, another son, was a member of the Royal Council, and Treasurer of New Brunswick; also Mayor of St. John, and President of the first Bank chartered in that Colony. A direct descendant of his is in Toronto now, and joined the U. E. L. Association lately; his name is William Beverley Robinson, and all his family are in St. John and Fredericton; also my grandfather, the late Sir John Beverley Robinson, Bart., of Beverley House, Toronto, whose name to this day is as well known from one end of Canada to the other as that of his illustrious ancestor is remembered in New York. The fourth son, Sir Frederick Phillipse Robinson,