

able and zealous adherent of the Royal Cause, during the troubles that ended in the American revolution. The success of the colonial party obliged him to retire with his family to England in 1775. Mr. Sewell was educated chiefly at the Bristol Grammar School, and afterwards entered Brazen-nose College, Oxford, but did not remain long at the University ; for a prospect of advancement opening in New Brunswick, he sailed for St. John's in 1785, and commenced the study of the law under Mr. Chipman, afterwards Chief Justice of that Province. On completing his Clerkship in 1789, he considered that Canada offered a better field for his talents, and removed to Quebec, where he rose rapidly in his profession, being appointed Solicitor General in 1793, Attorney General in 1795, and Chief Justice in 1808. In the year following his appointment as Attorney General, he was returned to the Provincial Parliament by the Borough of Sorel, which he continued to represent for many years ; and by his official station at that time, and subsequently by his seats in the Executive and Legislative Councils, he acted a conspicuous part in the history of the province. In 1832 an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on him by Harvard University, the oldest and principal seat of learning in his native country.

Chief Justice Sewell was an original member of the Literary and Historical Society, at its foundation in 1824. At one of its earliest meetings he read as an Inaugural Address, an " Essay on the Juridical History of France, antecedent to the erection of the Sovereign Council of Quebec in the year 1663." This paper is prefixed to the first volume of the Society's Transactions. To the second volume he contributed two papers :—one on the causes of the extraordinary dark days which occasionally occur in Canada—the other on Russian Stoves, by the introduction of which into these Provinces he conceived that great economy of fuel might be effected. He took an active part in promoting the union of the Literary and Historical Society with the Society for the encouragement of Arts and Sciences ; and filled the office of President of the united body for three successive years. When impaired health, and the pressure of official duties obliged him to decline a further con-