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MR. CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON, Q.C.

In the reign of Charles II., Christopher Robinson, Esq., of Cleasby, Yorkshire, England, came to America as private secretary to Sir William Berkley, Governor of Virginia, in which office he subsequently became his successor. His second son was John Robinson, President of the Council of Virginia, from whom was descended Christopher Robinson, the father of Sir John Beverley Robinson, Chief Justice of Upper Canada, whose third son, Christopher, is the subject of this sketch.

Sir John's father, when a boy of 17, joined Colonel Simcoe's regiment of Queen's Rangers as an ensign, and served in that corps on the Royalist side until the peace of 1783, when he emigrated with other United Empire Loyalists to New Brunswick. A few years afterwards he came to Upper Canada, where he was appointed Deputy Surveyor-General. He was called to the bar in 1797; residing at that time in Kingston, which he left for York, now Toronto, in 1798.

Did space permit, it would be interesting here to refer more at length to the career of one of the greatest men Canada has produced, the late Sir John Beverley Robinson, but the story of his life can be found elsewhere. We may, however, note in passing, two interesting incidents connected with the life of the younger brother of Mr. Christopher Robinson, Major-General Charles W. Robinson. While Sir John was yet a student, he served as a lieutenant in the York Militia in the War of 1812, and was present at the battles of Detroit and Queenston Heights. The colors of two of the American regiments, one taken at each battle, found their way to England, and were placed in the chapel of Chelsea Hospital. Some few years ago, when General Robinson, as Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital, sat in his pew in this chapel, there were hanging above him the two flags that his father had seen captured some eighty years previously in another continent. Again, in 1820, John Beverley Robinson, then Attorney-General, visited England, and was there offered the position of