

Charles was born on March 28, 1860 in Sebringville, Perth County, Ontario.

His father was Samuel Rollin HESSON who was born in Ireland and his mother was Margaret Jane POOLEY who was born in Ontario. Samuel was the youngest of seven children that John HESSON and his wife brought from County Antrim, Ireland to Dundas, Ontario in 1830. Sadly John died in Dundas leaving his widow to raise the seven children. When Samuel was about 14 years old the family moved to lands in the area known as the Queen's Bush, in the western part of the province, about four miles from Stratford, then called Little Thames. When Samuel grew up he moved to Stratford, where he married Margaret POLLEY on March 28, 1860. He then moved to Sebringville, Perth County where he opened a general store which included the post office and he also acted as a justice of the peace. In 1865 Samuel moved the family back to Stratford. Samuel continuously represented North Perth in the House of Commons from 1878 to 1891.

Charles attended public school in Stratford where he graduated from high school. He studied law for three years before deciding to give that profession up and head to Manitoba where he worked for the Hudson's Bay Company and for a time was in charge of the freight shipments for the Indian and North-West Mounted Police department supplies. He then went to Brandon, Manitoba and was in the real estate business there. He left Brandon in 1882 returning to Stratford. In January 1883 he began a career in the Inland Revenue Department of the Federal Government in Brantford, then Woodstock, Ingersoll and Windsor before ending up in St. Catharines in December of 1886 where he was appointed Deputy Collector. A year later he was promoted to the Collectorship upon the death of the incumbent, Mr. SEYMOUR. He remained in that position until the amalgamation of the Inland Revenue and Customs Department in 1921 when he retired.

In 1887 Charles married to Agnes Ada LIZARS, the youngest daughter of Dr. J. L. LIZARS, of Toronto. They had three children.

Charles lived in Louth Township for 16 years prior to his death at his summer home, "Louthaven" on the lake shore on Friday, October 16, 1936 at the age of 76 years. His funeral was held on Monday, October 19 in St. George's Anglican Church after which his remains were taken to be buried in the family plot (section H, grave 108) in the Avondale Cemetery in Stratford, Ontario, Percy HULSE being the undertaker.

Until his death he was the honorary president of the Lincoln County Historical Society; he had been an executive member of the Ontario Historical Society; a member of the Library Board; a founding member of the St. Catharines Horticultural Society; member of the Ontario Horticultural Society; member of St. George's Anglican Church and a former warden. He was survived by his wife, two daughters, Mrs. Frederic CONRADI of St. Catharines, Mrs. W. W. (Mona) SANDERSON of Niagara Falls, New York and one son Lionel Ashton HESSON, a well known architect in St. Catharines; three sisters in Stratford and three grandchildren.