Joseph Berens, Jr., was the son of Joseph Berens, a stockholder in the Hudson's Bay Company from 1773 until his death in 1825. His date of birth has not been established. On 11 February 1795 Joseph Berens, Jr., of Christ Church, Oxford was admitted to Lincoln's Inn, and it is known he practised law. He married in 1799, Charlotte, daughter of Richard Benyon. They had three sons and one daughter. He was elected member of the Committee of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1801, Deputy-Governor in 1807, and Governor in 1812. He served as Governor until 1822 and a member of the committee until 1833. Mr. Berens died at Kewington, Kent, on 11 January 1853 at 79 years of age.