

Municipal Officers of Ontario.

The Warden of Hastings.

Mr. John Sterling Dench, Warden of the county of Hastings, was born in the township of Murray, near Weller's Bay, forty-one years ago. He is the eldest son of the late Capt. Dench. At the age of three years he removed to Trenton with his father and mother, and was educated at Trenton high school. At nineteen years of age he went on the farm now occupied by him in Sidney, near Trenton. As a farmer, Mr. Dench has been successful and progressive. He was appointed assessor of the township in 1884, and held the position two years, when he entered the township council. He was elected deputy-reeve in 1888, and has been a member of the county council ever since. Mr. Dench has shown great aptitude as a



MR. JOHN STERLING DENCH.

The Provincial Municipal Auditor.

Mr. J. B. Laing was born in Scotland and educated in Edinburgh High School. He came to Canada in 1856 and settled in London in 1859, where he engaged in the wholesale dry goods business until 1887, when he removed to Toronto and opened an office as an accountant. He was associated with Mr. Cross as expert accountant in connection with the famous Connoly and McGreevy charges before the Special



MR. J. B. LAING.



Municipalities and School Boards. It is not expected that these will be ready for some months. Treasurers who may be in need of new books are advised to continue the old system or keep a blotter until the forms for the new books are approved.

County Clerk of Hastings.

Mr. Aylsworth was born in Ernestown and was educated at the Newburgh Academy, he afterwards taught school for a short time and then studied surveying, receiving his license as a Provincial Land Surveyor in 1861. After five years of general practice he became connected with the Rathbun Co. as their surveyor and general agent, which position he held for twenty-five years. Mr. Aylsworth's Municipal experience dates from 1871, when he was appointed to take the census prior to the incorporation of the village of Mill Point now known as the town of



MR. W. R. AYLSWORTH.

legislator and is an able debater. The subject of this sketch is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was the District Deputy Grand Master of Prince Edward District in 1896. He is Supreme Warden of the Canadian Order of Home Circle and also a member of the A. O. U. W. He is a Conservative in politics, and was president of the West Hastings Liberal-Conservative Association during the past year.

Commission of the House of Commons. Mr. Laing was frequently employed as arbitrator in commercial circles and when appointed was auditor of the Toronto General Trusts Company. During the last six or seven years he has conducted numerous municipal audits under appointment by Commission from the Governor-in-Council, the last audit being for the County Council of Dufferin in 1896.

As a special municipal auditor his services have always been most satisfactory to all concerned, and to a wide circle of friends his appointment to a position of so much importance will no doubt be a source of much gratification. Mr. Laing's office is in the Attorney General's Department and he is at present engaged in considering the forms of books suitable for Treasurers of

Deseronto. In 1872 he was elected Reeve and represented the village and town for twenty-one years always being elected by acclamation. He was Warden of the County of Hastings in the years 1878 and 1881, and in January 1893 was appointed clerk of the County Council.

Mr. Aylsworth is a Liberal in politics, and in 1878 and 1892 was the unsuccessful nominee of his party in East Hastings for election to the House of Commons. He is also one of Her Majesty justices of the peace having been appointed in 1863.

"Porters are mighty strong men."

"Think so."

"Yes, I saw one raise a barrel of flour just now with the greatest of ease."

"H'm! That's no great feat. That's self-raising flour."

Editor—You live in a boarding-house, don't you?

Paragraphic Serf—I do.

Editor—How is it we never get any tough spring chicken jokes from you?

Paragraphic Serf—They can't afford chicken where I board. I write hash jokes.