

In spite of his youth—he was then only sixteen—his ability attracted the favorable notice of the then Principal, T. J. Robertson, and of the then Chief Superintendent of Education, Rev. Dr. Ryerson, through whose influence he was appointed successively assistant master of the Provincial Model School, head master of the Hamilton Central School, assistant master of the Model Grammar School, second master of the Normal School, and, finally, in 1866, Principal of the same institution, which position he filled till 1871. During the whole term of his connection with the Normal School he was professor of chemistry and botany in Rolph's Medical School, which was the medical faculty of Victoria University. He prosecuted the study of medicine meanwhile, and took his degree of M. D. On his retirement from educational work in 1871 he settled in Chicago, but after a brief residence there returned to Canada and began the active practice of medicine in Port Perry. In 1874 he was defeated by Mr Goldwin Smith in a contest for a seat in the Council of Public Instruction. He was eminently successful in his profession, and in November 1894, he was elected a member of the Ontario Medical Council. In that connection he will long be remembered for the strong fight he made for a number of years for a change in the composition of the council. His chief objection was to the presence upon the council of colleges not teaching medicine, and his fight was to a great extent successful when the matter came before the Legislature. Having succeeded in his effort, he became an ardent supporter and one of the most useful members of the reformed council.

Between 1858 and 1871, Dr. Sangster prepared and published a number of school books, which became the exclusively authorized text books in the public schools of the province. Perhaps the best known of the series was "Sangster's Arithmetic." He was also noted for his talents as a writer upon public questions and his powers as a public speaker. In July, 1892, he was the orator of the day at the "hoisting of the flag" ceremony in London, Ont., when he spoke upon the subject, "One Century's Transformation in Canadian Life," and at the Normal School jubilee celebration at Toronto, November, 1897, he delivered a remarkably able address on "Progress in Education." During the equal rights movement in 1890 he was the author of a series of letters signed "Gacchus," which attracted much attention. Among his later public appearances was the one at the reunion of former Central School pupils in Hamilton, where he was the honored guest of many of those whom he had taught half a century ago. Dr. Sangster's first wife, was Miss Mary Smith, and eight children were born to them. Of these, four are still living, as follows: Mrs. Arnold Pettit, of London, Ont.; Mr. John A. Sangster, a