

climate not agreeing with him, he settled in East Woodstock, where he did an extensive business at his trade, and built, among other buildings, the east half of the three-story brick block known as the "Elgin Block." In 1848 he had his dwelling house, shop and the Elgin Block destroyed by fire while uninsured. During 1846, 1847 and 1848, he was a member of the council of the District of Brock as the representative of the township of East Oxford. For several years he was school trustee for the town of Woodstock.

September 3, 1849—when 27 years of age—Mr. Shenston was appointed magistrate, and the Return of Convictions showed that during the last two years of his residence in that county, he did more magisterial business than all the other seventy-five magistrates in the county. In 1851 he published the "County Warden and Municipal Officers' Assistant," which had a considerable circulation in every county of the Province. In 1852 he published the "Oxford Gazetteer," a volume of 216 pages, containing a neat map of the county, drawn by himself.

In 1849 Mr. Shenston sold out his premises and business. For a year or two before he left that county, he was secretary-treasurer of the Woodstock and Norwich Road Company; county clerk of Oxford, and secretary of the board of education for that county, and a school trustee for the town of Woodstock. In 1852 he was census commissioner for the county, and received a notification from the Statistical Department that his return was the best that had been received.

While in that county he was somewhat active in politics, being a zealous and influential Reformer, being for some years the medium of communication between the electors of that county and their member the Hon. (now Sir) Francis Hincks, who never resided in the county.

On January 21, 1853, when the county of Brant was formed, he was appointed Registrar, and has held that office ever since. This appointment necessitated his removal to Brantford, the county town. In 1853 he was appointed a magistrate for the county of Brant and commissioner in Queen's Bench. In consequence of some most unexpected turn in some business matter, it became necessary for him to assume the responsibilities of the editorship of the *Tri-Weekly Herald* for eight months, during the year 1857.

From January 1, 1869, in a house furnished rent-free by Ignatius Cockshutt, he sustained an orphans' home for twenty to twenty-two orphan girls, being, however, aided to the extent of one-half by Mr. Cockshutt for the last five years.

In 1864 he set up the type and printed, entirely with his own hands, a small work of 135 pages on the subject of Baptism. He is senior deacon of the first Baptist church, and with trifling exceptions, has been superintendent of the Sunday-school of that church for nearly twenty-five years; he is president of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario and Quebec; and of the Religious Tract Society for the city of Brantford, and has been secretary of the Brantford Bible Society for several years; is local director for the Bank of Commerce; president of the Royal Loan and Savings Company, and one of the largest land owners in the city.

Mr. Shenston is emphatically a self-educated man, and ever busy with his pen. He has just