

and the Registry Office was convenient to his own place of business in Ingersoll, the revenue from it and from the Post Office—for Mr. Ingersoll was in early days a very centre of administrative forces—was barely sufficient to compensate him for the assistance he provided and for the stationery he consumed.

The office was removed from Ingersoll to Woodstock, in 1848, and Mr. Ingersoll (to the satisfaction of every person) has enjoyed health and vigor, aided by an efficient staff, for the very creditable discharge of the responsible duties of that office up to the present.

The office of Sheriff of Oxford was first bestowed on James Carroll, Esq., who resigned in 1862, when Andrew Ross, Esq., was appointed. Mr. Ross's death, in 1873, made way for Geo. Perry, Esq. The office of Clerk of the Peace was first and for many years filled by Wm. Lapenotiere, Esq., who, resigning in 1863, was succeeded by F. R. Ball, Esq., Q.C., who is also Crown County Attorney and senior member of the law firm of Ball & Ball.

Mr. Foquett was Clerk of the County Court from 1840 to 1853; he was succeeded by James Kintrea, Esq., who held the office until 1869, when James Canfield, Esq., was appointed. Mr. Canfield is also Clerk of the Surrogate Court.

The office of County Treasurer was first given to Hugh C. Barwick, Esq., who discharged the duties until 1854, when James Kintrea took charge of the accounts and the finances of the County. In 1869, on Mr. Kintrea's removal from the County, the office was bestowed on the present occupant, H. P. Brown, Esq., who had been a successful manufacturer, and also a prominent municipal officer.

Prior to 1848, magistrates in Quarter Sessions conducted the business of expending moneys for public improvements. On the introduction of the municipal institutions—*i. e.*, Township and County Councils or Corporations—under the auspices of the Baldwin-Lafontaine administration, all matters pertaining to public works and local government passed into the hands of the people, whose representatives compose the Councils of those Corporations; and so well satisfied are the people with the system, that no attempt has been made to abridge the power or circumscribe the scope of popular action. Thus it is that means are found for the better development of the country, the construction of public works, and the extension of our comprehensive system of education. On the introduction of municipal institutions, the Hon. P. B. de Blaquiére was appointed by the Crown as Warden of the district. An able and a popular man was Mr. de Blaquiére, and traces of his administrative parts and of the wisdom and patriotism of the gentlemen composing the Council of the people in that early day, are still extant.

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