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MAY 19 1856

# A LETTER

FROM

**T. S. SHENSTON, J. P.**

TO THE

**INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF BRANTFORD,**

**Respecting the late extraordinary conduct of the Mayor.**

**FELLOW TOWNSMEN,**

My deportment during the three and a half years that I have resided amongst you, has I trust, been such, as to convince you that it has been my earnest desire to "live at peace with all men," and I certainly had good reason to hope, that by taking no part whatever in any public matter, and avoiding all public meetings, I should not have found myself in my present position; and I hope that by adopting this course to obtain a hearing, instead of convening a public meeting "under the act," by requisition to the sheriff, it will be taken as an additional proof of my desire to live in peace and allay the present excitement.

Although I frankly acknowledge that I feel very much pained to find myself in antagonism with any portion of my fellow townsmen, and mixed up with so much excitement, truth compels me to add, that I am not aware of having done one act, or of having said one word, that justice did not most imperatively demand, and before the searcher of all hearts I can solemnly declare, that my only object was to see justice done to the young lady, and to all parties concerned; and that I did no more for Miss Jennings than I would have done for Miss Mathews, Miss McKay, or any other person *similarly situated*.

Had there existed any unfriendly feeling either between the Mayor or Mr. McKay and myself, I would most certainly have declined at once to act. Neither of these gentlemen will pretend to say that any such feeling did exist.

The *Courier* and Councillors Quinlin, Hurst, and Girvin state that I have never before acted as a Magistrate in this County, thereby wishing it to be inferred that I will only trouble myself about County