



*Wm. J. Clarke*

when the desire for a "weekly" prevailing, and Mr. Carruthers shortly after going to the States, "The Observer," Rev. Richard Miles, Editor, took its place. "The Observer" was a weekly religious newspaper. We don't know the price of it; but no price that people would willingly pay, can keep up a paper of that kind, except (1) there is a large job-work printing patronage connected with it, or (2) it obtains a large advertising patronage. Mr. Miles was a versatile man; but he had not the conditions to make a newspaper pay, and it did not pay; and after the experiment of a year was discontinued.

For several years we had no "organ." But at the "Union" of 1854, the matter was taken up, and Rev. William Fletcher Clarke, then pastor at London, Ont., was appointed Editor of a new publication to represent the Congregationalists.

Mr. Clarke now lives at Guelph; and has for a great many years been an authority and writer on agricultural and horticultural subjects. In his

chosen field which includes *bee-keeping*, he has few equals. He is not in pastoral work, though he often preaches. We give above a portrait of the founder of the INDEPENDENT, from a recent photograph.

At the first of July, 1854, the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT—for that was the name Mr. Clarke gave his fortnightly broadsheet, came out. We remember reading with great interest, the first number, though—like the old woman who could not remember, twelve years afterward, our brother Snider's text, but remembered offering him her snuff-box, and the funny remark he made about it—we can't now recall his editorial salutation. On the first of July then, this year, it entered, as the changed line on the title-page indicated, its "thirty-seventh year of publication," and we, with (alas!) an ever-diminishing circle on the list, have read every number of it. At the end of two years from the beginning, Mr. Mellish of Brantford assumed the proprietorship, and Rev Mr. Marling, of