

One day a young negro came to Shehey's hotel and asked for shelter. He had not been in the locality more than a day or two before telegraphic messages were received by John Rolph enquiring about a runaway slave. The messages gave a description of the man, and word was sent back that he was in the neighborhood. Negotiations were opened with Shehey by the slave owner, who promised \$300 for the negro's safe delivery on United States territory. So long as he remained in Canada he was perfectly safe. During the time these arrangements were going on Shehey treated the negro royally, and one day he proposed that they go for a little trip. Before they started they called at the telegraph office where arrangements were finally made for the owner to meet his slave at the Niagara frontier. While here Shehey had occasion to leave the office, and the negro was alone with John Rolph. For some time John had been struggling between a telegraph operator's duty not to divulge telegraphic messages, and a desire to help the young negro out of the danger which threatened him; so when Shehey was gone John said:

"Don't you cross any water when you go on your trip."

"Oh, Massa! Massa!" cried the negro, "is there anything wrong?"

"I can't tell you anything more." was the response, "but mind you don't cross any water or you'll be in great trouble"

Shehey and the negro started on their journey, and in a few days the former was back again thoroughly disgusted with the turn things had taken. When they reached the Niagara frontier the negro had refused to cross, and nothing could induce him to leave Canada. So the \$300 remained in the hands of the former slave owner.

A few weeks later the negro came back to Borelia. He had travelled all the way from Niagara to thank John Rolph for his warning.

Next to Shehey's hotel was J. W. Allison's drygoods store, and beside that was a general store run by Wm. Mackie, who also bought grain. Next came J. D. Cottingham's dental parlors. J. A. Murray was associated with Cottingham for about five years. Then there was a storehouse, and beside that were a blacksmith shop and a wood working shop. James Swan ran the former, and Oliver Gerow the latter. These two men worked together considerably. Beside these shops were some dwellings, and now we have come down the north side of Queen St as far as Mrs Whitfield's store. Here we could then have found an alley leading to the school where James Baird taught some of the men who live here to-day such as Charles Kellett and Wm. Beatty. More houses followed.