

from the firm hope that, equally insensible to the impulse of popular feeling and the impulse of power, you will pursue what is right. This has been the body of your decisions: may it be the spirit of your counsels! (Signed by fifty-two persons, residing in the Town and Township of York.) The names not given. These words were addressed to Mr Justice Thorpe. His reply was couched in the following terms. "Gentlemen, with pleasure I accede to your desire. If you make me your representative I will faithfully discharge my duty. Your confidence is not misplaced. May the first moment of dereliction be the last of my existence. Your late worthy representative I lament from my heart. In private he was a warm friend; at the Bar an able advocate, and in Parliament a firm patriot. It is but just to draw consolation from our Governor, when the first act of his administration granted to those in the U. E. list and their children, what your late most valuable member so strenuously laboured to obtain. Surely from this we have every reason to expect that the liberal interests of our beloved sovereign, whose chief glory is to reign triumphantly enthroned on the hearts of a free people, will be fulfilled, honoring those who give and those who receive, enriching the Province and strengthening the Empire. Let us cherish this hope in the blossom: may it not be blasted in the ripening." A postscript is subjoined: "P.S. If influence, threat, coercion or oppression should be attempted to be exercised over any individual, for the purpose of controlling the freedom of election, let me be informed.—R. T."

We now proceed on our prescribed course. So late as 1833 Walton in his "York Commercial Directory, Street Guide, and Register," when naming the residents on Lot Street, as he still designates Queen Street, makes a note on arriving two park lots to the westward of the spot where we have been pausing, to the effect, that "here this street is intercepted by the grounds of Capt. McGill, S. P. Jarvis, Esq., and Hon. W. Allan: past here it is open to the Roman Catholic Church, and intended to be carried through to the Don Bridge."

The process of levelling up, now become so common in Toronto, has effectually disposed of the difficulty temporarily presented by the ravine or ancient water-course, yet partially to be seen either in front of or upon the park lots occupied by the old inhabitants just named; and Queen Street, at the present hour, is an uninterrupted thoroughfare in a right line, and almost on a level the whole way, from the Don in the east to the Lunatic Asylum in the west, and beyond on to the gracefully curving margin of Humber Bay. The unfrequented and rather tortuous Britain Street is a relic of the deviation occasioned by the ravine, although the actual route followed in making the detour of old was Duchess Street.

XXVIII — QUEEN STREET — DIGRESSION AT CAROLINE STREET — HISTORY OF THE EARLY PRESS

A little to the south of Britain Street, between it and Duchess Street, near the spot where Caroline Street, slightly diverging from the right line, passes northward to Queen Street, there stood in the early day a long, low wooden structure, memorable to ourselves, as being, in our school-boy days, the Government Printing Office. Here the *Upper Canada Gazette* was issued, by "R. C. Horne, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty." We shall have occasion hereafter to notice among our early inhabitants some curious instances of change of profession. In the present case, His Majesty's Printer, was in reality an Army Surgeon, once attached to the Glengarry Light Infantry. And again, afterwards, the same gentleman was for many years the Chief Teller in the Bank of Upper Canada. An incident in the troubles of 1837 was "the burning of Dr. Horne's house," by a party of the malcontents who were making a shew of assault upon the town. The site of this building, a conspicuous square two-story frame family residence, was close to the toll-bar on Yonge Street, in what is now Yorkville. On that occasion, we are informed, Dr. Horne "berated the Lieutenant Governor for treating with allowed rebels, and insisted that they were not in sufficient force to give any ground of alarm."

The *Upper Canada Gazette* was the first newspaper published in Upper Canada. Its first number appeared at Newark or Niagara on Thursday, the 18th of April, 1793. As it was apparently expected to combine with a record of the acts of the new government some account