

ested parties, he was recalled ere he had enjoyed the pleasure of meeting his Parliament in their new Chambers, erected on the spot he had so judiciously selected as the capital of Upper Canada. This, the first Parliament meeting at York, was prorogued on the 30th of July. President Russell continued to preside over the administration of affairs until 1799, assembling the Legislature at York on the 5th June, 1798, and on the 12th of June, 1799. And here also, for more than twenty-five years, did Governor Hunter, Governor Gore, the gallant General Broek, General Sheaffe, Sir Gordon Drummond, and Sir Perigrine Maitland, open and close the Annual Parliamentary sessions, with such state display as the circumstances of the times and place allowed. It became necessary that the state openings and closings of the Legislative Chambers should have due legal, and official notice, so a Queen's Printer was appointed at Newark, in 1795. The *Upper Canada Gazette and American Oracle* was established, and thus the first Upper Canadian newspaper was started as a semi-Government sheet. In 1800 the printing of the *Gazette* was removed to York. It has been said that at the present day every little town or village that can boast of a church and tavern must have its newspaper, in which to expatiate on the superiority and salubrity of its respective locality; but the founders of the early capital had their newspaper before any church was built, but we fear not before the erection of any tavern. This sheet did little to make known the advantages or beauties of the new town. Local items were not deemed worthy of much notice. Extracts from the New York and Albany papers, as well as from the Quebec *Gazette*, of news from six to ten weeks old, with the Governor's Proclamations, formed the main portion of its contents. It was a small sheet, about fifteen by nine inches, having a total circulation of about one hundred and fifty copies, printed on a very coarse brownish-white paper, and occasionally, when the ordinary supply ran out, it was issued on a coarse blue paper, similar in color to that now used on the backs of Government Blue Books, and of a quality about equal to the common wrapping paper now used by grocers and others.