

the great relief he felt at being no longer liable to be called upon to sign permits for the importing of slaves.

This remained the position till 1833, when the Imperial Act removed all remains of the system. Before the passage of the Act of July, 1793, some of the States of the Union had passed similar Acts, *e.g.* Rhode Island and Pennsylvania. New York followed in 1799 with a provision for gradual emancipation, which was followed by complete abolition in that State, 4th July, 1827. Mr. Hamilton cited several cases of slave advertisements, notably that of the Administrator, Hon. Peter Russell, who at York, on 19th February, 1800, offered Peggy, aged 40, and Jupiter, aged 15, for sale, the woman for \$150 and the boy for \$200, "payable in three years secured by bond, but one-fourth less would be taken for ready money." Mr. Russell's sister, Miss Elizabeth, had a pure negress named Amy Pompadour, who attended her mistress dressed in a red turban. Miss Russell made her a present to Mrs. Captain Denison, of York, who was the great-grandmother of several of Toronto's well-known citizens. Amy had a son, born during a visit of the Duke of Manchester to the town, who was named in memory of the duke and Mrs. Denison, Duke Denison, and lived to the middle of the century.

In the *Niagara Herald* several advertisements are found relating to slaves; so in the *Gazette and Oracle* early in the century—one refers to an Indian slave or *Pani*. Mr. Charles Field, in the *Herald* of 25th August, 1802, forbids all persons harbouring his "Indian slave Sal." Messrs. W. & J. Crooks, of West Niagara, in October 1797, advertised in the *Gazette and Oracle* "that they wanted to purchase a negro girl of good disposition from 7 to 12 years of age." It is interesting to note that these beautiful grounds of the Chautauqua Assembly were the old Crooks farm. On it still, within sight of the amphitheatre where we are now assembled, is the frame buff-painted family farm-house or homestead. Among the records in the register of St. Mark's parish church, Niagara, is the following certificate:—

"Married, 1797, Feb'y 5, Moses and Phœbe, negro slaves of Mr. Secretary Jarvis."

Another noted Niagara citizen, Colonel Thomas Butler, advertised in the *U. C. Gazette* of July 4, 1793, offering \$5 reward for his "negro man servant named John."

An account was given of Solicitor-General Gray and his slaves, Dorinda Baker and her children, Simon and John. Mr. Gray lost his life on the schooner *Speedy*, a Government vessel wrecked on Lake Ontario,