

Among the aphorisms given is this one: "Issuers of paper-change, are entitled to thanks from the Public for the great accommodation such change affords. They might render the accommodation more extensive were they to emit a proportionate number of half-penny bills." At one place the query is put, "When will the beard be worn, and man allowed to appear with it in native dignity? And if so, how long before it will become fashionable to have it greased and powdered?" In the almanac for 1815, towards the end, the following paragraph appears: "York supernatural prices current: Turnips 1 dollar per bushel: Potatoes long at 2 ditto. Salt 20 ditto: Butter per lb. 1 ditto: Indifferent bread 1 shilling N. Y. cy. per lb.: Conscience a contraband article."

In Bennett's time the Government press was, as we have seen, set up in Mr. Cameron's house on King Street. But at the period of the war in 1812 Mr. Cameron's printing office was in a building which still exists, viz., the residence of Mr. A. Mercer on Bay Street. During the occupancy of York by the United States force, the press was broken up and the type dispersed. In the possession of Mr. Mercer may still be seen a portion of the press which on that occasion was made useless. For a short period Mr. Mercer himself had charge of the publication of the *York Gazette*.

In 1817 Dr. Horne became the editor and publisher. On coming into his hands the paper resumed the name of *Upper Canada Gazette*, but the old secondary title of *American Oracle* was dropped. To the official portion of the paper, there was nevertheless still appended abstracts of news from the United States and Europe, summaries of the proceedings in the Parliaments of Upper and Lower Canada, and much well-selected miscellaneous matter. The shape continued to be that of a small folio, and the terms were four dollars per annum in advance; and if sent by mail, four dollars and a half.

XXIX.—QUEEN STREET, DIGRESSION AT CAROLINE STREET. HISTORY OF THE EARLY PRESS CONTINUED

In 1821 Mr. Charles Fothergill (of whom we have already spoken) became the Editor and Publisher of the *Gazette*. Mr. Fothergill revived the practice of having a secondary title, title, which was now *The Weekly Register*; a singular choice, by the way, that being very nearly the name of Cobbett's celebrated democratic publication in London. After Mr. Fothergill came Mr. Robert Stanton, who changed the name of the private portion of the *Gazette* sheet, styling it "*The U. E. Loyalist*."

About the year 1820 Mr. John Carey established the *Observer*, a folio of a very rustic, unkempt aspect, the paper and typography and matter being all somewhat inferior. It gave in its adherence to the government of the day, generally: at a later period it wavered. Mr. Carey was a tall, portly personage who, from his bearing and costume might readily have been mistaken for a non-conformist minister of local importance. The *Observer* existed down to about the year 1830. Between the *Weekly Register* and the *Observer* the usual journalistic feud made its appearance, which so often renders rival village newspapers ridiculous. With the *Register* a favorite sobriquet for the *Observer* is "Mother C—y." Once a correspondent is permitted to style it "*The Political Weathercock and Slang Gazetteer*." Mr. Carey ended his days in Springfield on the River Credit, where he possessed property.

The *Canadian Freeman*, established in 1825 by Mr. Francis Collins was a sheet remarkable for the neatness of its arrangement and execution, and also for the talent exhibited in its editorials. The type was evidently new and carefully handled. Mr. Collins was his own principal compositor. He is said to have transferred to type many of his editorials without the intervention of pen and paper, composing directly from copy mentally furnished. Mr. Collins was a man of pronounced Celtic features, roughish in outline, and plentifully garnished with hair of a sandy or reddish hue. Notwithstanding the colorless character of the motto at the head of its columns "*Est natura hominum novitatis avida*"—"Human nature is food of news," the *Freeman* was a strong party paper. The hard measure dealt out to him in 1828 at the hands of the legal authorities, according to the prevailing spirit of the day, with the revenge that he was moved to take—and to take successfully—we shall not here detail. Mr. Collins died of cholera in the year 1834. We have understood that he was once employed in the office of the *Gazette*; and that when Dr. Horne resigned, he was an applicant for the position of