CELEBRATING 250 YEARS
of Chronicling Our Community

North America's Oldest Newspaper - Since 1764

Chronicle-Telegraph

Québec

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Chronicle-Telegraph
Québec

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Insight and hindsight

We are collectively celebrating the 250th anniversary of North America's oldest newspaper – the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. Equally significant, since 1925, the *QCT* has been the only English-language newspaper published in the predominantly French-speaking Quebec City region.

In many ways, the world we write about today is radically different from that of our founders. For most of its history, the *QCT* connected Quebecers to international happenings. Today we focus on local angles typically not covered elsewhere. Yet, in 1764 William Brown (see page 31) eloquently explained the significance of a local newspaper in words that are still relevant today.

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Shirley Nadeau
QCT copy editor
rédactrice du *QCT*

"As every kind of knowledge is not only entertaining and instructive to individuals, but a benefit to the community, there is great reason to hope that a NEWS-PAPER [sic], properly conducted and written with accuracy, freedom, and impartiality, cannot fail of meeting with universal encouragement…"

Our 250th anniversary edition similarly aims to entertain, inform, and benefit the community. This requires exploring more than the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph's* remarkable and convoluted history. We aim to provoke you to think creatively and critically about what this newspaper is in our community – and what it could and should be.

We opted against a dry anniversary edition chock full of old news. Instead, our contributors prompt us to look ahead – at what the future could be – by considering what has passed. We look forward to receiving your commentaries and Letters to the Editor in response.

Whether you join us in person or in spirit, thank you for the essential part you play in our on-going celebration. We look forward to a vibrant future chronicling your community and your news.

Le passé et l'avenir

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Bethann G. Merkle
Journalist/anniversary coordinator
coordonnatrice des célébrations du 250e

Nous célébrons collectivement le 250e anniversaire du plus vieux journal en Amérique du Nord : le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. Fait à noter, depuis 1925, le *QCT* est le seul journal de langueanglaise publié dans la région de Québec, majoritairement francophone.

Sous plusieurs aspects, le monde que nous décrivons aujourd'hui est complètement différent de celui de nos fondateurs. Pendant la majeure partie de son histoire, le *QCT* offrait une couverture internationale, alors qu'aujourd'hui, il est plutôt axé sur le genre de nouvelles locales qu'on ne trouve nulle part ailleurs. Cependant, déj à en 1764, William Brown (page 31) expliquait éloquemment l'importance d'un journal local dans de s mots qui ont gardé toute leur pertinence :

Comme tout type de connaissance est non seulement divertissante et instructive pour les individus, mais aussi bénéfique pour la communauté, il y a de bonnes raisons d'espérer qu'un journal, si tant est qu'il soit bien dirigé et rédigé avec précision, liberté et impartialité, ne peut faire autrement que de recevoir un accueil universellement chaleureux […].

Notre édition du 250e vise elle aussi à divertir, à informer et à être b énéfique pour la communauté. Nous ne nous contenterons pas de présen ter l'histoire remarquable et pleine de rebondissements du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*.

Nous chercherons à vous inciter à réfléchir à la place qu'occupe ce journal dans notre communauté, mais aussi à celles qu'il pourrait et devrait occuper.

Nous avons rejeté l'idée d'une édition anniversaire remplie de vieilles nouvelles. Nos collaborateurs nous invitent à contempler autant le s futurs possibles que le passé. Nous avons bien hâte de lire vos commentaires et vos lettres en réponse à ce sujet.

Que vous soyez des nôtres en personne ou en esprit, nous vous remercions pour le rôle essentiel que vous jouez dans notre célébration. Souhaitons au *QCT* un avenir radieux au service de notre communauté et de ses nouvelles!

The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
175th ANNIVERSARY 1764-1939
The Empire's Oldest Surviving Newspaper Enterprise
THE QUEBEC GAZETTE.
THURSDAY, August 30, 1764.
LA GAZETTE DE QUEBEC.
JEUDY, le 30 d'Août, 1764.
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.
The Morning Chronicle.
The Chronicle—Telegraph
FRENCH AND ENGLISH WORKMEN COMBINE TO HONOR DOMINION DAY
OUR PROGRAMME
SWEEPING CHANGES IN TRAFFIC REGULATIONS TO BE RECOMMENDED

Letter to OUR READERS

Stacie and Ray Stanton
Publishers

When William Brown and Thomas Gilmore published the first edition of their weekly paper on June 21, 1764, we are quite sure they had no idea that 250 years later we would be here celebrating what has become North America's oldest newspaper, The *Quebec Chronicle-Télégraph*.

One of the rewards of an official celebration such as the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph's* 250th Anniversary is the opportunity it provides to look back at its history, see where it is today and plan for its future.

The history of the *QCT* is deeply intertwined with the history of Quebec City. Over the course of its 250 years, it has seen a number of different owners, has moved office locations numerous times and has undergone more than a couple of name changes. The paper has seen the challenges of new technology and the ever-changing ways in which readers consume the news. Despite these challenges, the paper has stayed true to its founding partners' dream to provide the community with a relevant and enduring voice. Indeed, the *QCT* has evolved along with the community it serves.

Today, with its unique role as the only English-language newspaper published in the Quebec City region, it is even more crucial for sustaining the community's identity and social cohesion.

We are honoured and privileged to be a part of this treasured institution's 250th Anniversary celebration. The *QCT's* long history and success is and has always been, dependent upon the unwavering dedication of its writers and contributors and upon its loyal readers. For this we are deeply appreciative. Congratulations to all involved in making this momentous milestone so special. We have every confidence that the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* will continue to hold its place as it chronicles the community it serves for years to come.

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Lettre à NOS LECTEURS

Stacie et Ray Stanton
Éditeurs

Lorsque William Brown et Thomas Gilmore publièrent la première édition de leur journal hebdomadaire le 21 juin 1764, ils ne se doutaient sûrement pas que 250 ans plus tard, nous célébrerions ce qui est aujourd'hui le plus vieux journal en Amérique du Nord : le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*.

Une célébration officielle comme le 250e anniversaire du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* a ceci de merveilleux qu'elle nous permet à la fois de revenir sur l'histoire du journal, de faire un état des lieux et de planifier l'avenir.

L'histoire du *QCT* et celle de la ville de Québec sont profondément interreliées. Au cours de ses 250 années d'existence, le *QCT* a vu se succéder bien des propriétaires, bien des domiciles et quelques changements de nom. Il a aussi été confronté au défi des nouvelles technologies et à la multiplication des manières de consommer les nouvelles. Malgré ces embûches, le journal est resté fidèle au rêve de ses fondateurs d'offrir à la communauté une voix pertinente qui traverse les époques. En effet, on peut dire que le *QCT* a évolué au même rythme que la communauté qu'il sert.

Aujourd'hui, en raison de la place particulière qu'il occupe en tant que seul journal de langue anglaise publié dans la région de Québec, il est encore plus crucial au maintien de l'identité et de la cohésion sociale de la communauté.

C'est pour nous un honneur et un privilège de prendre part à la célébration du 250e anniversaire de cette institution bien-aimée. Aujourd'hui comme hier, la longévité et la réussite du *QCT* reposent sur le dévouement sans faille de ses journalistes et collaborateurs et sur la fidélité de ses lecteurs. Nous vous en sommes extrêmement reconnaissants. Félicitations à tous ceux qui ont contribué à faire de cet anniversaire important un événement aussi marquant. L'avenir du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* nous inspire confiance, et nous sommes persuadés qu'il poursuivra encore longtemps sa mission de chroniqueur de la communauté.

Who reads the newspaper anymore, *anyway?*

While the overall newspaper scene is challenging, studies show that community newspapers are still considered Canada's most trustworthy news and ad sources, and that three out of five English-speakers in Quebec read their local newspaper.

Here in Quebec City, we like to think we offer an antidote to the overwhelming volume of disheartening news that floods daily news outlets. As a "good news newspaper" our newspaper serves a distinct community in the provincial capital. And our sense of that community is justifiably broad.

In light of 2011 Canada Census results, we estimate the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph's* total potential reach at well over 20,000 individuals. This number includes the area's established English-speaking community, an extensive population of English-speaking immigrants, and French-speakers interested in reading local news and events in English.

Although the majority of our readership lives in the greater Quebec City area, our weekly distribution stretches from Shannon (near the Canadian Forces Base Valcartier) to Thetford Mines. Our subscriber list also includes a healthy number of national and international readers.

Local news is still thriving.

In addition to promising national survey results, the *QCT* regularly wins awards from the Quebec Community Newspaper Association for our original local content. In 2013 alone, we won awards in five categories, and one of our journalists was named Outstanding Photojournalist of the Year. In 2014, we were once again shortlisted (top three finalists) in five categories[1], and one of our journalists was the provincial winner in another national journalism competition.

Statistics and demographics aside, what do our readers think?

We posed this question to the community months ago: "In the 21st century, what does a community newspaper mean for our community and beyond?"

The responses we received spanned the gamut. Some pondered the historic or contemporary role of community newspapers. Some reminisced about how a community newspaper shaped their past experiences. Above all, the following essays are thought-provoking and insightful explorations of what a community newspaper is and can be.

[1]2014 awards were announced after this edition went to print; see www.qctonline.com for how we fared.

DRIVE SAFELY!

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

FINAL EDITION

SPUTNIK 1 ROCKET IS DOWN SAYS WEST

Still Orbiting Says Russia

Eight Children Die In Cottage Blaze

SUNLAND SURVIVES GROUNDING

N. Zealand Premier Elect Calls For Ban On A-Tests

BACK AT WORK

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* and the INFORMATION AGE

It might not be obvious at first but two centuries ago, the reasons for creating a newspaper were as valid then as they are in today's techno-driven world. The need for information still fuels the same endeavours all around the world, sometimes at a scale that seemed unthinkable just 20 years ago.

Pierre Asselin
Editorialist and journalist at *Le Soleil*

The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph (QCT)* is not the only one celebrating an anniversary in 2014. The World Wide Web is coming of age: two very different mediums and two very different anniversaries. The Web is 10 times younger – it has only been 25 years since Tim Berners-Lee first submitted to CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research) his plan for a system that would give thousands of scientists access to information stored on any computer, next door or at the other end of the world.

Now you probably don't see much connection between the traditional print newspaper and Berners-Lee's idea about linking documents on computers through phone lines. But with the explosion of the Web, since the first website went online in 1991, we can see what the two mediums have in common.

Whether we get our information by means of print or silicon chips, the information is, and always has been, about the community. And to thrive, communities need information. The two work hand in glove. If you happen to be a butterfly hunter, or if you like watching stars, listening to rockabilly or, like me, tinkering endlessly with your computer, you can be part of a community. Thanks to the Internet, you connect with people who share the same interests.

We call this era of ours the Information Age. But the Information Age predates the silicon chip. By millennia.

When our ancestors painted animals on the walls of caves, they did it to share information. The drumbeats of Africa had the same purpose: to send information from one place to another, from one group to another. The hunt was successful; a war has started; someone died yesterday; a baby was born today. All the important news, as well as mundane and trivial gossip – it could be told and retold with just the percussive sounds of sticks or hands hitting a tightly-wrapped skin.

What difference is there between cave paintings, drum beats, and typeface printed on a sheet of paper? Not much. Three mediums, one need: information, it's what binds the community together. The more information you have, and the more relevant it is, the stronger the bond. What we know about each other, about the society in which we live, allows us to make better decisions. It helps us understand the events that slowly shape our world, and sometimes it gives us a chance to change the outcome. That is why information matters so much to us.

You might think that, 250 years ago, people didn't think in those terms. I mean, even 50 years ago people didn't use that language. But take a look at what William Brown wrote on the prospectus he printed to announce his bilingual *Quebec Gazette* in 1764. Part of his objective, he said, was "...bringing about a thorough Knowledge of the English and French Language to those of the two Nations now happily united in one in this Part of the World (...); by which Means they will be enabled to (...) communicate their Sentiments to each other as Brethren (...) bringing to their Knowledge the Transactions of the different and most distant Nations of the World…"

The idea that communication is essential to the community was obvious, even then. These words explain why the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* is still relevant today, even though the way we share information has changed dramatically. Newspapers like *Le Soleil*, where I've worked for over 30 years now, must reinvent themselves, and fast. The *QCT* faces the same challenges: What will the next business model look like? How do we maintain our community of readers?

Everything is accessible now, through the Internet. Can we compete against this overdose of information? I like to think that we can. There will always be a need for local information. And local information can be a lot of things. A lot!

The situation in which the *QCT* finds itself at this point is as much a challenge as it is an opportunity. The *QCT*'s priority is and must be to keep Quebec City's Anglos, as we say, well informed about what's happening in their community. But William Brown also had a broader vision when he launched his paper. Through *The Quebec Gazette* he hoped to reach both French- and English-speaking communities, so they could "communicate their sentiments to each other." To what extent he achieved that, I don't know, but this goal is still an opportunity that should not be dismissed.

Those of us who speak *la langue de Molière* have much to learn from our fellow citizens who speak the language of Shakespeare. I think the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* can write for, and be read by, both communities, just like *Le Soleil* or *le Journal de Québec*.

The rapid change of the media landscape forces everyone to think "outside the box" so to speak, because that box is falling apart. This challenge is as much a threat as a new beginning. For us, at *Le Soleil*, it means thinking about new formats, like video and mobile platforms, more live news. What does it mean for the *QCT?* For all publications, format is the first priority, and the *QCT* embraced the question early on with its website. But this could also be an opportunity for the newspaper to redefine its scope. There is a lot going on in Quebec City, sometimes even too much in a day for *Le Soleil* to cover. Could the *Chronicle-Telegraph* expand its coverage and offer more in-depth feature articles and interviews with personalities from a wider spectrum? Give more space to opinion, on paper as well as in blogs?

I have no doubt that there has always been a strong will to do all those things at the *QCT*, but the challenge is double-edged. On one hand, can a small newspaper afford to do them? And on the other, can it afford *not* to?

These two questions haunt just about every publisher in the country today. We all want to tailor the coverage we offer in the hope that it will increase our readership. Every day, that is the challenge in this fascinating business of ours. I think that for both of us, *Le Soleil* and the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, the only way forward is to use the new tools technology brings us, so that we can improve our content, expand our scope, and link more people together.

Le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* ET L'ÈRE DE L'INFORMATION

On serait tenté de croire le contraire, mais les raisons qui motivaient la création d'un journal il y a deux siècles demeurent valides aujourd'hui, dans notre monde technologique. Le besoin d'information continue d'alimenter ces entreprises partout dans le monde, parfois à une échelle qui aurait été impensable il y a 20 ans.

Pierre Asselin
Editorialist and journalist at *Le Soleil*

Le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph (QCT)* n'est pas le seul à célébrer un anniversaire en 2014. C'est aussi une année importante pour le World Wide Web : deux médias très différents et deux anniversaires très différents. Le Web est dix fois plus jeune : il y a 25 ans seulement, Tim Berners-Lee présentait au CERN (Organisation européenne pour la recherche nucléaire) son plan pour la création d'un système qui permettrait à des milliers de scientifiques d'accéder à des informations stockées sur n'importe quel ordinateur dans le monde.

Vous ne voyez probablement pas grand lien entre le journal traditionnel et l'idée de Berners-Lee de lier des documents entre ordinateurs par les lignes téléphoniques. Mais depuis l'explosion de la toile qui a suivi la mise en ligne du premier site Web en 1991, le lien entre les deux apparaît plus clairement.

Qu'on obtienne notre information grâce à l'impression ou grâce à des puces de silicone, cette information porte, aujourd'hui comme hier, sur la communauté. Pour prospérer, les communautés ont besoin d'information. Les deux sont inséparables. Que vous soyez chasseur de papillon ou que vous aimiez observer les étoiles, écouter du rockabilly ou, comme moi, bidouiller sur votre ordinateur, vous pouvez faire partie d'une communauté. Grâce à l'Internet, vous pouvez établir des liens avec des gens qui partagent vos intérêts.

Nous appelons notre époque l'ère de l'information. Pourtant, l'ère de l'information précède la puce de silicone… de plusieurs millénaires.

Quand nos ancêtres peignaient des animaux sur le mur des cavernes, c'était pour échanger de l'information. Les rythmes de tambour en Afrique avaient le même objectif : envoyer de l'information d'un endroit à l'autre, d'un groupe à l'autre. La chasse a été couronnée de succès, la guerre a été déclarée, quelqu'un est mort hier, un enfant est né aujourd'hui. Toutes les nouvelles, grandes ou petites, pouvaient être communiquées et transmises par le son de bâtons ou de mains tapant sur une peau.

Quelle est la différence entre les peintures des cavernes, les rythmes de tambour et les caractères imprimés sur une feuille de papier? Pas grand-chose. Trois médias, un seul besoin : l'information. C'est le liant de la communauté : plus vous détenez d'information et plus elle est pertinente, plus le lien vous unissant sera fort. Ce que nous savons les uns sur les autres et sur la société dans laquelle nous vivons nous permet de prendre de meilleures décisions. Cette information nous aide à comprendre les événements qui transforment notre monde et nous donne parfois la chance de les orienter. Voilà pourquoi l'information est si importante pour nous.

On pourrait penser qu'il y a 250 ans, les gens ne pensaient pas en ces termes. Évidemment, puisqu'on n'utilisait même pas ces mots il y a 50 ans! Mais regardez bien ce que William Brown avait écrit sur le prospectus qu'il avait imprimé pour annoncer sa *Quebec Gazette* bilingue en 1764. Son objectif était en partie, disait-il « […] d'apporter une connaissance profonde de la langue anglaise et française aux membres de ces deux nations maintenant unies pour le meilleur dans cette partie du monde […], afin qu'ils soient en mesure de […] se communiquer mutuellement leurs sentiments en tant que frères [...], et d'échanger leurs connaissances sur les différentes nations du monde, bien éloignées […] ».

Ainsi, même à cette époque, l'idée que la communication est essentielle à la communauté allait de soi. Ces mots expliquent pourquoi le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* est toujours pertinent, même si la manière dont nous échangeons l'information a énormément évolué. Les journaux comme Le Soleil, où je travaille depuis plus de 30 ans, doivent se réinventer au plus vite. Le *QCT* est confronté aux mêmes défis : quel doit être le prochain modèle d'affaires? Comment maintenir notre communauté de lecteurs?

De nos jours, tout est accessible par l'Internet. Pouvons-nous faire concurrence à ce raz-de-marée d'information? J'aime à penser que oui. Le besoin d'information locale existera toujours. Par ailleurs, l'information locale peut prendre toutes sortes de formes.

La situation dans laquelle le *QCT* se trouve aujourd'hui est à la fois un défi et une occasion à saisir. La priorité du *QCT* est et doit rester d'informer les anglophones de Québec des événements touchant leur communauté. Mais William Brown avait aussi une vision plus large quand il a lancé son journal. Par la *Quebec Gazette*, il espérait pouvoir toucher autant les anglophones que les francophones, pour qu'ils puissent « se communiquer mutuellement leurs sentiments ». Je ne me prononcerai pas sur la réussite de son projet, mais j'y vois une idée qui mérite considération.

Ceux d'entre nous qui parlent la langue de Molière ont beaucoup à apprendre de leurs concitoyens qui parlent la langue de Shakespeare. Je pense que le *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* peut écrire pour, et être lu par, les deux communautés, comme *Le Soleil ou Le Journal de Québec*.

Le changement rapide du paysage médiatique nous force tous à explorer de nouvelles façons de faire, parce que les anciennes sont en voie de disparition. Ce défi est à la fois une menace et un nouveau départ. Pour nous au *Soleil*, cela se traduit par de nouveaux supports, comme les plateformes vidéo et mobiles, et la publication de davantage de nouvelles en continu. Comment cela se traduira-t-il pour le *QCT*? Le support est la priorité numéro un de toutes les publications, et le *QCT* a déjà répondu à ce défi avec son site Web. Cependant, on pourrait aussi y voir une occasion pour le journal de redéfinir sa portée. Il se passe beaucoup de choses à Québec, au point que *Le Soleil* est parfois incapable de tout couvrir. Le *Chronicle-Telegraph* pourrait-il offrir une couverture plus poussée avec des articles de fond et des entrevues avec des personnalités provenant de différents horizons? Y aurait-il lieu de donner plus d'espace à l'opinion, sur papier et sous forme de blogues?

Je n'ai aucun doute que la volonté de faire toutes ces choses a toujours été présente au QCT, mais c'est un défi à double tranchant. D'un côté, est-ce qu'un petit journal peut se permettre de les faire? D'un autre côté, peut-il se permettre de ne pas les faire?

Ces deux questions hantent tous les journaux du pays actuellement. Nous voulons tous adapter notre couverture dans l'espoir d'augmenter notre lectorat. C'est un défi de chaque instant dans ce fascinant milieu qui est le nôtre. Je crois que pour *Le Soleil* comme pour le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, la seule voie d'avenir passe par l'utilisation de nouveaux outils technologiques pour améliorer notre contenu, augmenter notre portée et créer des liens entre toujours plus de personnes.

For the things I really need to know, the local paper is where I find my answers.

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Peter O'Donohue
U.S. Consul General, Quebec City (retired)

Newspapers and I go back a long way together.

As a kid growing up in coastal Connecticut – we're talking over half a century ago – having a paper route of one's own was a status symbol in my part of town, and kids competed fiercely to have one. I confess that, a relative latecomer to the game in my neighbourhood, I only managed to carve out a very small and temporary route of my own, but frequently helped a friend with a much larger area deliver his papers. There was hardly a day that we didn't set out on our bikes like a couple of Pony Express riders on a mission. Certain that our customers were avid to know what was going on in the world – and in our local community – it was our job to get the news to them.

I'm pleased to say that most days, notwithstanding snow, sleet, hail, flat tires or broken spokes, the news got through.

Not content just to deliver the papers, I also made a point of reading them and was intrigued even then by the sheer variety of newspapers we delivered. Sure, there was our hometown staple, the *Norwalk Hour*, but there were also a variety of papers from some of the larger nearby towns, as well as a fair number of New York City newspapers that went to customers with a broader world view. And each paper had its own focus, its own readership and, indeed, its own personality. Like a group of opinionated and mouthy New Englanders (or New Yorkers), all these papers wore their personality on the front page, and it was immediately obvious which was Republican, which was Democrat, which one focused on the then-spiralling crime rate, on world events, on sports, or on purely local affairs.

Our hometown paper wasn't much on world events or the ups and downs of the Cold War, but if our Mayor cut a ribbon, the *Hour* was on top of it. Far more important, our local paper provided in-depth coverage of the daily fishing situation – a very big deal in a waterfront New England town – as well as good coverage of local sports and school events, births, deaths and marriages, and local politics. Not bad for a medium-sized paper, and I expect most of its readers didn't feel any urgency to look further afield for their daily news.

The love of newspapers that was awakened in me during my delivery-boy years has remained a lifelong passion. As I moved on to college and, later, graduate school – long before the advent of the Internet – I developed the habit of devouring a good newspaper with my morning coffee. One of my fondest memories of my graduate school years in the Washington, D.C., area was listening for the pre-dawn clunk of the *Washington Post* as it hit my driveway. I could rush outside, coffee in hand, knowing that a whole world of knowledge and information lay at my feet. In those days, the *Washington Post*, sadly winnowed in recent years by Internet competition, provided superb coverage of the gamut – world and local events, business, scientific developments, and more. The *Post's* daily "Style" section was practically a newspaper in itself, with terrific coverage of books, the arts, and a range of social and cultural events particular to the D.C. area. It was a treasure trove of community information, albeit for the largish community of D.C., Maryland and Virginia residents with a need to be connected.

Large or small, good newspapers provide invaluable insights into the communities they serve. Throughout my life, I've made a point of picking up local newspapers wherever I find myself. Although the Internet has forced a cutback in the coverage of local and regional newspapers, most communities in North America are still served by local papers that offer a wealth of detail about local life. Maybe it's the would-be anthropologist in me (my college major) but whether I'm in small-town Iowa, Kentucky, Northern Ontario, Quebec or anyplace else, I find endlessly fascinating the wealth of detail that community newspapers provide about their readership.

I'm an avid reader, among other bits, of local obituaries and wedding announcements, both of which provide unique insights. Obituaries tell us how local people have lived their lives, what jobs they've held, what families they've raised, what life experiences they've lived and what kind of memories they've left behind. Wedding announcements give us a picture of the educational and work experience of younger people and where they hope to go with their lives. This is fascinating stuff that is usually well-supplemented by good coverage of local school and social events, business and job information (even the classified ads can be very revealing) that together give us a pretty good snapshot of what life is like in community X, Y or Z.

In my professional experience – 29 years as a U.S. diplomat – newspapers have been an invaluable professional tool. Wherever I've been – Canada (I served both in Ottawa and in Quebec City), India, Cameroon, Bosnia, Tunisia, or Kuwait – local newspapers served as a road map into the heart of local culture and as a valuable exercise in deciphering the local language I attempted to master (with very mixed success). Local newspapers thrive in many of these areas – less dependent on the major international wire services – and are consequently full of local life, colour, customs and opinions. Sometimes such local coverage seems odd by Western tastes (I recall, for example, a serious discussion in some Cameroonian newspapers of the phenomenon of "penis theft" by sorcerers and witches and, in some Kuwaiti newspapers, fears expressed that Swine Flu was being disseminated by Israel), but it always provides insights into local folks' preoccupations, concerns, beliefs and aspirations.

I wound up my diplomatic career in Quebec City – three of the best years of my life – and I'm pleased to say that my daily perusal of the papers there – in both French and English – was an important part of my Quebec experience. French papers in Quebec retain an independence of spirit and world-view that is quite different from their English counterparts and effectively represent the interests and concerns of the wider French-speaking community.

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Pour trouver l'information dont j'ai vraiment besoin, rien ne vaut la presse locale.

Peter O'Donohue
Consul général des États-Unis, Québec (retraité)

Mon histoire d'amour avec les journaux ne date pas d'hier.

Je suis né sur la côte du Connecticut, et là où j'ai grandi, il y a plus d'un demi-siècle, le fait d'avoir sa propre ronde de journaux était une véritable marque de prestige. La concurrence était féroce, et je dois bien l'admettre, comme je m'étais lancé dans la course un peu tard, j'avais dû me contenter d'une toute petite ronde temporaire. J'ai toutefois souvent aidé un de mes amis qui avait beaucoup de journaux à livrer. Pratiquement tous les jours, nous enfourchions nos vélos à toute vitesse tels des cavaliers en mission pour le Pony Express. Animés par l'idée que nos clients avaient soif de connaître ce qui se passait dans le monde et dans notre communauté, nous considérions qu'il était de notre devoir de livrer les dernières nouvelles.

Je suis bien heureux de vous dire que malgré la neige, la grêle, le verglas, les crevaisons et les rayons cassés, les journaux arrivaient presque toujours à bon port.

Je ne me contentais pas de livrer les journaux. J'en faisais aussi systématiquement la lecture et déjà à l'époque, j'étais intrigué par les différents journaux que nous livrions. Il y avait bien sûr le journal local, le *Norwalk Hour,* mais il y avait également tous les journaux des villes voisines de plus grande envergure ainsi qu'un bon nombre de journaux new-yorkais, destinés à des lecteurs aux horizons plus vastes. Chaque journal avait ses grands thèmes, ses lecteurs, et, pour ainsi dire, sa personnalité. La plupart d'entre eux reflétaient celle-ci dès la première page, tels des résidents de New York ou de Nouvelle-Angleterre bavards et aux idées bien arrêtées. Nous pouvions immédiatement dire lesquels étaient républicains ou démocrates, lesquels couvraient surtout les crimes (la criminalité était galopante à l'époque), la situation internationale, les sports ou simplement les affaires locales.

Le journal local faisait rarement état des grands événements internationaux et des hauts et des bas de la guerre froide, mais lorsque le maire coupait un ruban, le *Norwalk Hour* était au premier rang. Qui plus est, il offrait un relevé quotidien détaillé des conditions de pêche, ce qui est d'une importance capitale dans les villes côtières de la Nouvelle-Angleterre, ainsi qu'une bonne couverture des équipes de sport locales, des activités scolaires, des naissances, des décès, des mariages et de la politique locale. Ce n'était pas mal du tout pour un journal de taille moyenne, et je ne crois pas que les lecteurs ressentaient le besoin d'aller voir plus loin pour connaître les nouvelles du jour.

Mon amour de la presse, né à l'époque où je livrais les journaux, ne m'a jamais quitté. Quand je suis entré à l'université, bien avant l'arrivée d'Internet, et plus tard, lors de mes études supérieures, j'ai pris l'habitude de lire un bon journal, le matin, en buvant mon café. L'un des meilleurs souvenirs de mes années d'études supérieures dans la région de Washington est le bruit que faisait chaque matin le *Washington Post* qu'on livrait devant ma porte. Je pouvais alors me précipiter au-dehors, tasse de café à la main, en sachant qu'un monde d'information et de connaissance serait là, à mes pieds. Le *Washington Post,* à ma grande tristesse malmené dans les dernières années par la concurrence d'Internet, offrait à l'époque une formidable couverture de l'actualité : événements locaux et internationaux, affaires, science et plus encore. Sa section quotidienne « Style » était pratiquement un journal en soi, où l'on retrouvait d'excellents articles sur la littérature, les arts, ainsi que sur un grand nombre d'activités sociales et culturelles de la région. C'était une véritable mine d'information pour les habitants des environs, ainsi que pour les résidents du Maryland et de la Virginie qui souhaitaient demeurer en contact avec la capitale.

Petits ou grands, les bons journaux en disent long sur la communauté à laquelle ils s'adressent. Toute ma vie, je me suis fait un devoir de lire la presse locale de l'endroit où je me trouvais. Bien que l'arrivée d'Internet ait obligé de nombreux journaux locaux et régionaux à restreindre leurs activités, la plupart des localités nord-américaines possèdent toujours un journal local qui leur permet de se tenir au fait des événements de leur communauté. Que je me trouve dans une petite ville de l'Iowa, du Kentucky, du Nord de l'Ontario, du Québec ou d'ailleurs, l'anthropologue que j'aspirais autrefois à devenir (j'ai fait des études d'anthropologie à l'université) ne se fatigue jamais de découvrir ce que la presse locale révèle au sujet de ses lecteurs.

J'adore notamment lire les avis de décès et de mariage, qui sont très éloquents. Les avis des décès racontent la vie des gens. Ils parlent de leur emploi, de leur famille, de leurs expériences de vie et des souvenirs qu'ils laissent derrière eux. Les avis de mariage nous font connaître les jeunes, les études qu'ils ont faites, leur travail, et ce qu'ils souhaitent faire dans la vie. Toutes ces choses sont fascinantes, et accompagnées de bons articles sur les activités sociales et scolaires, les affaires et l'emploi (même les petites annonces peuvent en dire long), elles permettent d'avoir un portrait assez juste de ce à quoi peut ressembler la vie dans la communauté X, Y ou Z.

Pendant mes 29 années de carrière comme diplomate pour les États-Unis, les journaux se sont avérés d'irremplaçables outils professionnels. Peu importe où je me trouvais, au Canada (j'ai été en poste à Ottawa et à Québec), en Inde, au Cameroun, en Bosnie, en Tunisie ou au Koweït, les journaux étaient des feuilles de route qui me conduisaient au cœur de la culture locale et me permettaient de m'exercer à déchiffrer la langue locale, une entreprise qui ne fut malheureusement pas toujours couronnée de succès. La presse locale est à cet égard fort généreuse. Moins dépendante des agences de transmission internationales, elle est par le fait même plus près de la vie et des couleurs locales, de l'opinion du peuple et des traditions. Ce type de couverture peut parfois paraître étrange aux yeux des Occidentaux (je me souviens, par exemple, d'une série d'articles parfaitement sérieux dans les journaux camerounais au sujet de soi-disant « vols de pénis », perpétrés par des magiciens et des sorcières, ou de journaux du Koweït qui accusaient Israël d'être à l'origine de l'épidémie de grippe porcine), mais il permet toujours d'en savoir plus les préoccupations, les inquiétudes, les croyances et les aspirations de la population locale.

J'ai terminé ma carrière de diplomate dans la ville de Québec. Au cours de ces trois années, qui ont été parmi les plus belles de ma vie, la lecture attentive des journaux anglophones et francophones a beaucoup contribué à l'enrichissement de mon expérience.

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Roots, home, community, and the *QUEBEC CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH*

What is home? If you're a member of my family, that's a tough question to answer. I've lived in four different parts of the world – Asia, the U.S., Montreal, and now Quebec City. My extended family is spread out even further.

Sovita Chander
President, Literary and Historical Society of Quebec
Vice-president and co-owner, Caristix

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Is home the place where you put down roots? How do I begin to answer that question for myself, when I have roots in all the places I've lived – and in India, where I've never even visited?

There are two possible ways to answer these questions, for someone like me.

The first is to say, "I'm in exile. I've been pulled up too many times to have true roots. So no place is home. I feel at home nowhere in the world because I fit nowhere." That perspective would say: to take hold, roots must run deep. If you pull up stakes, you run the risk of losing your roots. Pull up and you become lost. You lose your culture, your bearings, your language.

Then there's another choice, which says, "My roots are everywhere. Every place is home, because I take it all with me. I fit anywhere." I've chosen this second path, and here's what I've learned: the key to laying down roots anywhere is finding community. Getting to know people. Making friends. Getting the lay of the land.

The best way to do that is to learn the community news. Not the wars and scandals and politics of the day that you expect to find on CBC, CNN or the BBC. Instead, it's about the everyday stories. The everyday triumphs. The everyday changes and small shifts that make up a community. These are the stories that only community newspapers such as the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* can tell.

I've read about the school board, cultural activities, school happenings, and so much more in the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. One story in particular stands out. It was about a group of St. Lawrence students in 2011. They had been selected to take a training course to become patient-care attendants at St. Brigid's. These students had spent three weeks learning how to provide care for residents – how to help with meals, bathing, and many other daily needs that we all must accomplish with dignity. They learned how to work with nurses and the other caregivers in a nursing home.

This project touched on the essence of community: bringing young people who need work experience together with their elders and others who need compassionate help. There was a lovely photo accompanying the story, showing all the fresh-faced students in their scrubs, outside on a sunny summer day. This story deserved coverage.

Yet I have a confession to make. It wasn't just the idea of helping people that made the article memorable for me. It was also because I saw my son's grinning face smack in the middle of the photo. You see, I saw his roots. They are here, at home, *chez nous*, in Quebec City.

This is a story that only the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* could have told. I hope it keeps telling these stories for another 250 years. These stories are the soil in which we sink our roots.

Les racines, la maison, la communauté et le *QUEBEC CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH*

Qu'est-ce qu'on appelle la maison? Pour les membres de ma famille, la réponse est loin d'être évidente. J'ai habité à quatre endroits dans le monde : en Asie, aux États-Unis, à Montréal et maintenant à Québec. Ma famille élargie est encore plus dispersée.

Sovita Chander
Présidente, Literary and Historical Society of Quebec
Vice-présidente et copropriétaire, Caristix

La maison est-elle l'endroit où l'on pose ses racines? Comment pourrais-je répondre à cette question, alors que j'ai des racines dans tous les endroits où j'ai vécu, et même en Inde, bien que je n'y ai jamais mis les pieds?

Lorsqu'on est dans ma situation, il y a deux manières de répondre à ces questions.

La première est de se dire : « Je suis en exil. J'ai été déracinée trop souvent pour avoir de véritables racines, donc je n'ai pas de chez-moi. Je ne me sens à la maison nulle part dans le monde, parce que je suis étrangère partout. » Selon cette idée, pour bien prendre, les racines doivent être profondes. Si vous quittez le sol natal, vous courez le risque de perdre vos racines, et sans racines, vous êtes perdu. Vous perdez votre culture, vos repères et votre langue.

Cependant, il y a une autre façon de voir, qui consiste à dire : « J'ai des racines partout. Je suis toujours à la maison, parce mon chez-moi me suit partout. Je ne suis étrangère nulle part. » Voilà le chemin que j'ai choisi, et voici ce qu'il m'a appris : pour s'enraciner, la clé est de s'intégrer à la communauté. D'apprendre à connaître les gens. De se faire des amis. De prendre le pouls de l'endroit.

La meilleure façon de s'y prendre est de suivre les nouvelles locales. Pas les guerres, les scandales et les politiques qu'on voit tous les jours à CBC, à CNN ou à la BBC, mais plutôt les histoires du quotidien. Les petites victoires, les petits changements qui font le quotidien d'une communauté. C'est le genre d'histoire que seuls des journaux locaux comme le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* peuvent raconter.

La lecture du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* m'en a appris beaucoup sur la commission scolaire, les activités culturelles, les activités scolaires et bien d'autres choses. Je me rappelle un article en particulier, publié en 2011, qui traitait d'un groupe d'étudiants de St. Lawrence. Ils avaient été sélectionnés pour suivre une formation de préposés aux bénéficiaires au CHSLD St. Brigid's. Ces étudiants avaient passé trois semaines à apprendre comment prendre soin des résidents en les aidant à se nourrir, à se laver et à accomplir une multitude d'autres tâches quotidiennes avec dignité. Ils avaient aussi appris à travailler avec les infirmières et les autres membres du personnel du CHSLD.

Ce projet reflétait l'essence du mot « communauté » : il rapprochait des jeunes qui avaient besoin d'une expérience de travail et des aînés et d'autres personnes qui avaient besoin d'une aide empreinte de compassion. L'article était accompagné d'une très belle photo, prise à l'extérieur sous un soleil d'été, sur laquelle on voyait les jeunes étudiants dans leur uniforme de travail. C'est une histoire qui méritait d'être racontée.

J'ai un aveu vous à faire. Ce n'est pas seulement l'idée d'aider les gens qui a rendu cet article aussi mémorable pour moi. C'est aussi parce que j'ai vu le visage souriant de mon fils au milieu de la photo. Et qu'à ce moment, j'ai vu ses racines. Elles sont ici, *chez nous*, à Québec.

Voilà une histoire que seul le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* aurait pu raconter. J'espère qu'il continuera à raconter de telles histoires pour 250 autres années, car ces récits sont le sol dans lequel nous prenons racine.

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
With The Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764
Quebec, Tuesday, August 1, 1967
FRENCH OPPOSITION SLAMS DE GAULLE

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
With the Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764
Quebec, Thursday, June 6, 1968
SENATOR KENNEDY DIES
Messages Of Grief Continue Pour In
WEDNESDAY'S NOMINATIONS
Never Regained Consciousness

MY *QCT* YEARS:
the daily, the weekly, and the future

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Joe Lonergan
President, Irish Heritage Quebec

I delivered the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* in the 1960s. My run took in Moncton and Park Avenue, Casot, de Manrèse, Saint-Cyrille, Lemesurier, Learmonth and Grande Allée and consisted of about 40 customers. This, however, paled in comparison with my *Montreal Gazette* runs – upward of 120 customers and three times the geography. The *Chronicle* was an evening paper and easier on the shoulder, for each copy was only about one-sixth the weight of a *Gazette*. My contacts were Mr. Mountain and later Mr. Monaghan. They came around every two weeks or so to pick up the lion's share of the money I had collected from my customers. Things ran so smoothly that I don't remember a real conversation with either of them beyond the requisite civilities, hello and goodbye. Mr. Mountain, despite his name, was not of mountainous size. Mr. Monaghan was stocky in comparison, with the Gaelic word for "turf" *(mona)* embedded in his name and his features. The *Chronicle's* delivery bags were white, an unhappy choice; thanks to the newsprint, they soon assumed a dirty white/grey appearance. The canny metropolitans of the *Gazette* had long ago opted for a deep blue.

A major feature of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, and many other town papers, was the syndicated Saturday supplement, with its richer paper and full colour. Not weighty enough to be resented by paperboys, it was loved for its colour comics – *Li'l Abner, Joe Palooka, Dick Tracy* and the like. *Pogo*, I confess, baffled me, while *Mark Trail* and *Mary Worth* left me cold. If you were looking for real humour, I guess the best was *Grin and Bear It*. Back to the daily edition, one nostalgic feature was *Ripley's Believe It or Not*, a poor man's portal to the incredible.

The true glory of the *QCT* of my memory was its local coverage. Any local activity of significance (though perhaps significant *only* to the locals) found its way into the *Chronicle*, which in turn found its way through thousands of doors. I was only one of scores of young people who carried the *Chronicle*. And, in Upper Town at least, every pharmacy and tobacconist's had its stack of *Chronicles*. Do you remember the ads – Maurice Pollack, The Canadian Import Company? And the theatres – the Empire, the Cartier and the Capital? Or items making reference to groups like the Killarney Club, the I.O.D.E, the Girl Guides, the Scouts, the Cubs and school cadet corps?

The *Chronicle* of today continues to report on the activities of the English-speaking communities. Some might see the paper in its present version as meager next to the paper of a half-century ago. That is irrefutable, but it only reflects the change in the demographics and the socio-economic and political evolution of the English-speaking population of Quebec City and area. That is another story and a harder tale to tell.

Personally, I have no clear memory or hard evidence of the paper's transition from a daily that included international news to a weekly that dealt only in local community news. I know it was daily/international in 1970 but then it gets foggy. As a young man I took off to study in Halifax in 1970-71 and again in 1973-75. The Quiet Revolution had been percolating for well over a decade by then, and you might say it culminated on November 15, 1976, with the election of the Parti Québécois. That "revolution" put paid to the English-speaking community as I knew it, and the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* followed suit. The Charter of the French Language, enacted in the PQ's first term in office, made French the business language in the province. Bill 101 prevented the inflow of the immigrants who may have wished to enter English-speaking schools.

Easily one-half of the English/Scots community trickled away between 1960 and 1976. The Jewish community I would say dropped by at least eighty percent. They had been faithful customers and advertised their businesses regularly in the paper. Did they feel that their businesses had peaked? And it must have been increasingly difficult for the younger generation to find a Jewish life-partner. As the demographic pool shrank, was it becoming impossible not to see your children partner with Gentiles? The Irish, for their part, had been marrying French Canadians for centuries; some moved away and the rest figured out how to have fewer children. Among the city's small Chinese population, many had attended English-speaking churches and their children English language schools.

You remember talk of "two solitudes?" Inasmuch as there was truth to the notion, I think it's clear that there were more than two in Quebec City. The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* had always been a fine bridge and catered to all components of the English-speaking community of communities. But the disappearing act continued.

As its demographic base dwindled, the paper got into difficulties. Dave Cannon, Ross Rourke and later Karen Macdonald did their best for the greater community to keep the institution alive, but the whole operation kept shrinking. As for the English-speaking population, newcomers trickled in and out. Bill 101 did its work. Some newcomers who stayed were puzzled by our history while others no doubt often looked askance at the community's nostalgic concern for what had been.

Many members of the English-speaking community have worked in some capacity for the *Chronicle*. And no doubt every one of us has found our name somewhere, sometime in its columns. Blame Pauline Marois and her predecessors if you will. But we've ourselves to blame as well, if we don't support our own institutions. The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* is one of them. The church we attend is another, as are the schools our children go to. What are people without their institutions, and what are institutions without people?

MES ANNÉES AU *QCT:*
le quotidien, l'hebdomadaire et l'avenir

Joe Lonergan
Président, Irish Heritage Quebec

J'étais camelot pour le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* dans les années 1960. Ma route couvrait les avenues Moncton, du Parc, Casot, de Manrèse, le boulevard Saint-Cyrille, l'avenue Lemesurier, la rue Learmonth et la Grande Allée, pour un total d'une quarantaine de clients. Cependant, ce n'était rien en comparaison à mes routes pour la *Montreal Gazette* : plus de 120 clients et un territoire trois fois plus étendu. Le *Chronicle* était un journal du soir et il tirait moins l'épaule, parce que chaque exemplaire pesait environ un sixième d'un exemplaire de la *Gazette*. Mes contacts étaient M. Mountain, et plus tard M. Monaghan. Ils venaient me voir aux deux semaines pour prendre la part du lion de l'argent que j'avais recueilli auprès de mes clients. Les choses allaient si rondement que je ne me rappelle pas avoir eu une vraie conversation avec aucun d'entre eux, hormis les politesses d'usage, bonjour et au revoir. M. Mountain, malgré son nom, n'avait pas la taille d'une montagne. M. Monaghan, lui, était plutôt trapu et le mot gaélique pour « tourbe » (mona) figurait aussi bien dans son nom que dans son apparence. Les sacs de livraison du Chronicle étaient blancs, un choix mal avisé : l'encre du journal aidant, ils prenaient bientôt une couleur blanc sale ou grise. Les astucieux métropolitains de la *Gazette*, quant à eux, avaient depuis longtemps adopté le bleu foncé.

Un des attraits majeurs du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, et de plusieurs autres journaux locaux, était le supplément du samedi, imprimé en couleur sur du papier de meilleure qualité. Pas assez lourd pour faire ronchonner les camelots, il était apprécié pour ses bandes dessinées en couleur : *Li'l Abner, Joe Palooka, Dick Tracy* et compagnie. Je dois l'avouer, je ne comprenais rien à *Pogo*, et *Mark Trail* comme *Mary Worth* me laissaient de marbre. Pour les amateurs d'humour, le meilleur était sans doute *Grin and Bear It*. Dans les éditions quotidiennes, je me souviens avec nostalgie de *Ripley's Believe It or Not*, le portail du pauvre vers l'extraordinaire.

À mon souvenir, la vraie force du *QCT* était sa couverture locale. Tout événement local important (du moins, important pour les gens du coin) était mentionné dans le *Chronicle*, qui était lu dans des milliers de foyers. Nous étions une foule de jeunes à livrer le *Chronicle*. De plus, en haute-ville à tout le moins, toutes les pharmacies et les tabagies avaient leur pile de *Chronicles*. Vous souvenez-vous de ces publicités : Maurice Pollack, The Canadian Import Company? Et des cinémas : l'Empire, le Cartier et le Capital? Ou des articles faisant référence à des groupes comme le Killarney Club, I.O.D.E, les guides, les scouts, les louveteaux et les corps de cadets scolaires?

Le *Chronicle* d'aujourd'hui continue de relater les activités des communautés anglophones. Certains verront dans la mouture actuelle du journal un pâle reflet de ce qu'il était il y a un demi-siècle. C'est irréfutable, mais ce n'est qu'une conséquence de l'évolution démographique, socioéconomique et politique de la population anglophone de Québec et ses environs. Voilà une autre histoire, bien plus difficile à raconter.

Personnellement, je n'ai pas conservé de souvenirs précis de la transition qui a vu passer le journal de quotidien abordant les nouvelles internationales à un hebdomadaire centré exclusivement sur les nouvelles locales. Je sais qu'il s'agissait encore d'un quotidien « international » en 1970, mais après, mes souvenirs s'embrouillent. Je suis parti étudier à Halifax en 1970-71, et de nouveau de 1973 à 1975. À cette époque, la Révolution tranquille avançait tranquillement depuis plus de dix ans déjà, et on peut dire qu'elle a culminé le 15 novembre 1976 avec l'élection du Parti Québécois. Cette « révolution » a été le chant du cygne de la communauté anglophone telle que je l'avais connue, et le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* en a évidemment souffert. La Charte de la langue française, établie dans le premier mandat du PQ, a fait du français la langue des affaires dans la province. La loi 101, quant à elle, a empêché les immigrants d'inscrire leurs enfants dans les écoles de langue anglaise.

Plus de la moitié de la communauté anglaise et écossaise a plié bagage entre 1960 et 1976. Quant à la communauté juive, je dirais qu'elle a perdu au moins 80 % de ses membres. Ils avaient été des clients fidèles et annonçaient régulièrement leurs commerces dans le journal. Avaient-ils l'impression que les belles années étaient derrière eux? Par ailleurs, il devait être de plus en plus difficile pour les jeunes de se trouver une douce moitié juive. Devant le rétrécissement de la communauté, était-il devenu inévitable de voir ses enfants se marier à des non-juifs? Pour leur part, les Irlandais se mariaient déjà aux Canadiens français depuis des siècles; certains ont déménagé, et les autres ont compris comment avoir moins d'enfants. Parmi la petite communauté chinoise de la ville, plusieurs fréquentaient les églises anglophones et inscrivaient leurs enfants aux écoles anglophones.

Vous souvenez-vous du discours sur les « deux solitudes »? Il y avait bien une certaine vérité à cette notion, mais il y en avait plus que deux à Québec. Le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* a toujours été un pont entre les différents éléments de la communauté des communautés anglophones. Malgré tout, l'effritement s'est poursuivi.

Sa base démographique s'érodant, le journal a connu des difficultés. Dave Cannon, Ross Rourke et plus tard Karen Macdonald ont fait tout leur possible pour garder cette institution en vie pour le bien de la communauté, mais le journal a continué de perdre des plumes. Quant à la population anglophone, quelques nouveaux se sont installés et d'autres nous ont quittés. L'effet de la loi 101 s'est fait sentir. Certains des nouveaux qui se sont établis ici étaient intrigués par notre histoire, tandis que d'autres devaient regarder de travers la nostalgie qui habitait la communauté.

De nombreux membres de la communauté anglophone ont travaillé d'une manière ou d'une autre pour le *Chronicle*. Et il ne fait aucun doute que chacun d'entre nous a déjà vu son nom imprimé quelque part dans ses pages. On peut bien jeter le blâme à Pauline Marois et à ses prédécesseurs, mais nous devons aussi porter notre part de blâme si nous n'appuyons pas nos propres institutions. Le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* est l'une d'entre elles. Nos églises en sont d'autres, tout comme les écoles que fréquentent nos enfants. Qu'est-ce qu'une communauté sans ses institutions, et que sont les institutions sans communauté?

NEVER A DULL MOMENT
at the *QCT*

I started working for the QCT in the fall of 1979 on a part-time basis while completing a journalism degree at Université Laval. I was reasonably fluent in French after studying at Ottawa University and I thought that living in Quebec City for a year would take my language abilities up a notch … then I met a local girl and well, you know the story, I never left town.

David Johanson
Former managing editor

I began full time for the newspaper the following spring. The business had recently been purchased by four partners, lawyers Ross Rourke, Jean Lemelin, and Dave Cannon and broadcaster Bob Dawson. They were quite committed to the project and fun to work for, as they gave the staff lots of room to be creative. The office was located in the same building as the lawyers had their office at 980 Holland Avenue.

It's always amusing to reflect on the cost of living as you go back in time. I remember that the cost of a copy of the *QCT* at the corner store was 25 cents, a yearly subscription $12. An editorial was written to justify these figures!

One of the major innovations was to start in May of 1980 a tourist supplement called *Bonjour Québec.* The centre-fold of the *QCT* became a map of Old Quebec, surrounded by ads from restaurants, bars and other tourism-related businesses. The feature went a long way to help stabilize finances.

I worked as managing editor and also did some reporting and feature stories. We had a good team of freelance writers and regular contributors. Pam Cheers, a Quebec City native, covered community events, as did Ron O'Dowd, also from a local family. Freelance photography was supplied by Jacques Boissinot and Scott Kingsland, who was the AV man at St. Lawrence College. Dave Cannon wrote a column called "The Law and You."

"Never a dull moment" would best sum up my three years at the *QCT*.

One of our most colourful contributors was Leo McCullen, a retired building inspector. He liked to say that "history is everywhere." One morning he came flying into our offices on Holland Ave. with a first edition of the *Quebec Gazette;* one of his former colleagues had found a copy of the very first edition of the paper and it was in absolutely mint condition. It had been used as insulation in the wall of a house on Avenue Royale in Beauport. If I remember correctly, it was dated Thursday, June 21, 1764. Leo wrote a lot of articles for the paper. He was a friend of David Cannon, one of the owners at the time.

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

A real challenge in providing news coverage for the English community was the fact that it is so geographically spread out, from rural communities such as Valcartier to the diaspora around the city. When we journalists were stretched too thin, we could count on the help of many community events contributors who did the reporting for us, typed an article and brought the story in. This was long before the advent of email.

One of the great pleasures of journalism is of course meeting people from all walks of life. Through his contacts at CKMI television station, Bob Dawson chanelled many stories to us in the form of professional hockey players, artists, singer-songwriters, businessmen and an assortment of other "characters." One of those was Madame Henriette Belley, a fortune teller who drew cards and interpreted dreams. She told me in an interview that "Prime Ministers, Members of Parliament, counts and empresses" had been among her clients over a 60-year career. She also had 5,000 outfits and 600 hats. Somehow she stands out more than most of the politicians.

Perhaps the most difficult aspect of the work, apart from the tyranny of deadlines, was the printing technology available at the time. We worked with Velox sheets and offset printing. Without the advantage of word processing, corrections were time-consuming and everything was done on a cut-and-paste basis. After the mad dash to press at the *Journal de Québec*, we welcomed "Happy Hour" late on Tuesday afternoons.

The newspaper played an important role at that time as a voice for the English-speaking community and of course, it still does.

Best wishes for the ongoing success of the *QCT.*

ON NE S'ENNUYAIT JAMAIS
au *QCT*

J'ai commencé à travailler pour le *QCT* à l'automne 1979; je travaillais à temps partiel tout en étudiant le journalisme à l'Université Laval. Je parlais relativement bien français après mes études à l'Université d'Ottawa, et j'avais dans l'idée de vivre un an à Québec pour améliorer ma maîtrise de la langue… mais j'ai rencontré une fille du coin et, vous me voyez venir, je ne suis plus jamais reparti.

David Johanson
Ancien rédacteur en chef

J'ai commencé à travailler à temps plein pour le journal dès le printemps suivant. L'entreprise venait d'être achetée par quatre associés : les avocats Ross Rourke, Jean Lemelin et Dave Cannon, et l'animateur Bob Dawson. Le projet leur tenait beaucoup à cœur et ils étaient des patrons merveilleux, car ils laissaient aux employés le loisir d'être créatifs. Nos bureaux étaient situés dans le même édifice que ceux des avocats, au 980, avenue Holland.

Il est toujours amusant de songer au coût de la vie jadis. Je me souviens qu'un exemplaire du QCT coûtait 25 sous chez le marchand de journaux, et un abonnement d'un an, 12 $. Un éditorial avait été publié pour justifier ces prix!

L'une des grandes innovations a été le lancement en mai 1980 d'un supplément touristique appelé *Bonjour Québec*. La page centrale du *QCT* contenait une carte du Vieux-Québec, entourée de publicités de restaurants, de bars et d'autres commerces liés au tourisme. Cette page a fait beaucoup pour la santé financière du journal.

J'ai travaillé comme rédacteur en chef, mais j'ai aussi fait des reportages et quelques topos. Nous avions une bonne équipe de pigistes et de collaborateurs réguliers. Pam Cheers, native de Québec, couvrait les événements locaux, tout comme Ron O'Dowd, lui aussi natif de la région. Nos photographes pigistes étaient Jacques Boissinot et Scott Kingsland, qui était responsable de l'audiovisuel au Collège St. Lawrence. Dave Cannon écrivait une chronique intitulée *The Law and You*.

« On ne s'ennuyait jamais », voilà comme je résumerais mes trois années au *QCT*.

L'un de nos collaborateurs les plus colorés était Leo McCullen, un inspecteur en bâtiment à la retraite. Il aimait à dire que « l'histoire est partout ». Un matin, il est arrivé à toute allure dans nos bureaux de l'avenue Holland avec en main la première édition de la *Quebec Gazette* : un de ses anciens collègues avait trouvé un exemplaire de la toute première édition du journal, en parfaite condition. Il avait été utilisé comme isolant dans le mur d'une maison de l'avenue Royale, à Beauport. Si je me rappelle bien, la date inscrite sur le journal était le 21 juin 1764. Leo a écrit de nombreux articles pour le journal. C'était un ami de David Cannon, un des propriétaires de l'époque.

Lorsqu'on cherche à offrir une couverture médiatique à la communauté anglophone, l'un des grands défis auxquels on est confronté est son éparpillement; on la trouve en effet autant dans des villages comme Valcartier que dans la diaspora autour de la ville. Lorsque la rédaction ne suffisait plus à la tâche, nous pouvions compter sur l'aide de nombreux collaborateurs locaux, qui écrivaient des articles sur les événements dans leur secteur et nous les envoyaient. C'était bien avant l'arrivée du courriel.

Un des grands plaisirs du journalisme est, bien entendu, le fait de rencontrer toutes sortes de gens. Grâce à ses contacts à la station de télévision CKMI, Bob Dawson nous apportait bon nombre de filons à exploiter sous la forme de joueurs de hockey professionnels, d'artistes, d'auteurs-compositeurs-interprètes, d'hommes d'affaires et d'un vaste éventail de « personnages ». L'un de ces personnages était madame Henriette Belley, une diseuse de bonne aventure qui tirait les cartes et interprétait les rêves. En entrevue, elle m'a affirmé que pendant ses 60 ans de carrière, elle avait été consultée par « des premiers ministres, des députés, des comtes et des impératrices ». Elle avait quelque 5 000 habits et 600 chapeaux. Je ne sais pas pourquoi, mais elle m'a laissé un souvenir plus fort que la plupart des politiciens.

Outre la tyrannie des dates de tombée, l'aspect du travail qui était sans doute le plus difficile était la technique d'impression que nous utilisions à l'époque. Nous travaillions avec des feuilles de Velox et l'impression offset. Sans l'avantage des logiciels de traitement de texte, les corrections étaient laborieuses et tout était fait à la main en coupant et collant. Après la ruée vers les presses du *Journal de Québec*, nous prenions un verre bien mérité le mardi en fin d'après-midi.

Ce journal jouait à l'époque un rôle important en tant que voix de la communauté anglophone, un rôle qu'il continue de jouer aujourd'hui encore.

Longue vie et bon succès au *QCT!*

A lifelong CONNECTION TO THE *QCT*

The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* has been part of my life for about 40 years. The *QCT* was always a point of reference in our household growing up, connecting our family in Shannon with the rest of the English-speaking community farther afield.

Richard Walling
Executive Director, Jeffrey Hale Community Partners; former *QCT* general manager

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

We would look for articles of interest concerning community events, such as the Shannon Irish Show, or school activities about St. Patrick's High School, which I attended.

When I was around 11, the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* became my first employer. I was a paperboy for the then-daily *QCT*, delivering it to about 20 households in Shannon. In 1972, about a year into my position, the paper became a weekly. I continued to deliver it for a few years once a week. I have fond memories of the *QCT* because as a youth it provided me with money to buy things I could not have afforded otherwise. For example, it took me almost a year to save up enough to buy a Ping-Pong table, which was a great source of entertainment and fun for many years.

The first time I had my picture in a newspaper was in the *QCT* in 1974; as a cadet, I was chosen to represent Base Valcartier at a gathering of cadets in England that year. After university I returned to Quebec City and got a job with Voice of English-speaking Quebec, first as director of health and social services, then as executive director.

At this point the QCT became more than a point of reference for me. Now it was an essential partner in reaching out to the community and providing it with information about itself that could only be found in the *QCT*. At the time, the paper was owned by David Cannon and its editor was Karen Macdonald. I worked closely with Karen and the paper, and I came to realize the importance of the *QCT* to the very vitality of the English-speaking community of the Quebec City region.

For in a time when the Internet was non-existent, the QCT was the main vehicle through which one got a sense of community. It was through the *QCT* that various organizations found out about each other. The *QCT* was where the major issues facing the community were discussed, such as the closing of schools. The *QCT* told us who about a new baby born and who had died in the community. It was, in effect, all about community life.

In 1987 I moved from VEQ to become general manager of the *QCT* – a position I held until 1991. For part of this period I also assumed the role of editor; in both of these roles I was exposed to the challenges facing the *QCT*. The paper's primary challenge was to stay alive – to maintain a tool essential to our community, at a time when the community was shrinking (thus the readership was declining) and other forms of media such as the Internet were in full expansion. There was nevertheless a belief that we had to make the *QCT* work, and that if the paper disappeared it would be a direct reflection on the vitality of the community. Owner David Cannon and I tried out many different approaches, and finally entered into a partnership with Karen Macdonald and her husband François Vézina who eventually became the owners. Karen and François believed in the paper and its essential role in the community and brought back a sense of stability and some growth to the paper.

At this time, I transitioned to become executive director of Jeffery Hale Community Partners (then known as Holland Centre). That was in 1991, and I occupy the position to this date. I still look to the *QCT* as an essential partner of the community and of the work that goes on here. It is as relevant today as it was in the 1970s, or for that matter in 1764 when it was first published under the name *The Quebec Gazette*.

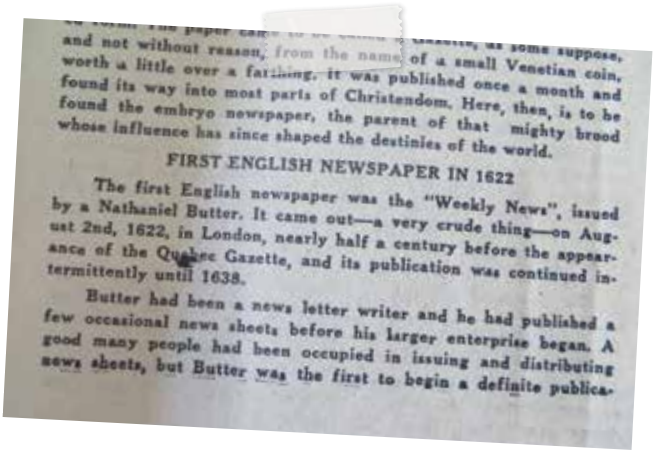
I am a proud subscriber of the *QCT* and read it every week. It remains my main source of community information and continues to make me and my family feel part of the English-speaking community in the Quebec City region. My hope is that the *QCT* will continue to be part of my family's life and the community's life for many generations to come.

On the 250th anniversary of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* let me say congratulations to the Ray and Stacie Stanton, and to all those currently involved in the paper. They are part of a long list of people who over the years have stood up and worked to keep the *QCT* alive. In so doing they contribute to the very life of our community. They deserve not only our congratulations but our continued support moving forward.

The *QCT's* 250 years is something to be proud of. It is testimony to a community that has had its low points and challenges but remains strong today because of institutions such as the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*.

Le *QCT* : UNE RÉFÉRENCE POUR LA VIE

Le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* fait partie de ma vie depuis près de 40 ans. Dans ma jeunesse, le *QCT* était un point de référence pour notre famille à Shannon, car il nous liait au reste de la communauté anglophone de la région.



and not without reason, from the name of a small Venetian coin, worth a little over a farthing, it was published once a month and found its way into most parts of Christendom. Here, then, is to be found the embryo newspaper, the parent of that mighty brood whose influence has since shaped the destinies of the world.

FIRST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER IN 1622

The first English newspaper was the "Weekly News", issued by a Nathaniel Butter. It came out—a very crude thing—on August 2nd, 1622, in London, nearly half a century before the appearance of the Quebec Gazette, and its publication was continued intermittently until 1638.

Butter had been a news letter writer and he had published a few occasional news sheets before his larger enterprise began. A good many people had been occupied in issuing and distributing news sheets, but Butter was the first to begin a definite publica-

Richard Walling
Directeur général, Partenaires communautaires Jeffery Hale; ancien Directeur Général

Nous guettions les articles sur les événements dans le village, comme le Irish Show de Shannon, ou sur les activités scolaires à l'École secondaire St. Patrick, où j'ai étudié.

Quand j'avais autour de 11 ans, le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* est devenu mon premier employeur. J'ai été camelot pour le *QCT* à l'époque où il avait encore un tirage quotidien, j'en assurais la livraison à quelque 20 familles de Shannon. En 1972, environ un an après mes débuts, le journal s'est mué en hebdomadaire. J'ai continué à le livrer une fois par semaine pendant encore quelques années. J'ai de beaux souvenirs du *QCT*, parce qu'avec mon salaire de camelot, j'ai pu m'acheter des choses que je n'aurais pu me permettre autrement. Par exemple, j'ai économisé pendant presque un an pour acheter une table de ping-pong, qui a été source de plaisir et de divertissement pendant de longues années.

La première fois que ma photo a paru dans un journal, c'était dans le *QCT*, en 1974. Jeune cadet, j'avais été choisi pour représenter la base de Valcartier à un rassemblement de cadets qui avait lieu en Angleterre cette année-là. Après l'université, je suis revenu à Québec et j'ai travaillé à Voice of English-speaking Quebec, tout d'abord comme directeur de la Santé et des services sociaux, puis comme directeur général.

À cette époque, le QCT est devenu plus qu'un point de référence pour moi, il est devenu un partenaire essentiel qui me permettait de communiquer avec la communauté et de lui fournir de l'information sur elle-même qu'elle ne pouvait trouver nulle part ailleurs. À l'époque, le propriétaire du journal était David Cannon, et la rédactrice en chef, Karen Macdonald. J'ai travaillé en étroite collaboration avec Karen et avec le journal, et j'en suis venu à réaliser pleinement l'importance du *QCT* pour la vitalité de la communauté anglophone de la région de Québec.

À l'époque où l'Internet n'existait pas encore, c'est le *QCT* qui nous donnait l'impression d'être liés au reste de la communauté. C'est par le *QCT* que diverses organisations prenaient conscience l'une de l'autre. Le *QCT* était le lieu où se discutaient les grands enjeux touchant la communauté, comme la fermeture d'écoles. Le *QCT* nous apprenait qui venait de naître et qui nous avait quitté. Bref, il était complètement axé sur la vie de la communauté.

En 1987, j'ai quitté VEQ pour devenir directeur général du *QCT*, poste que j'ai occupé jusqu'en 1991. Pendant un certain temps, j'ai aussi occupé le rôle de rédacteur en chef, et dans ces deux rôles, j'ai été exposé aux difficultés auxquelles le *QCT* était confronté. Le grand défi du journal était de rester en vie, de maintenir un outil essentiel pour notre communauté, à un moment où cette communauté allait déclinant (entraînant par le fait même une baisse du lectorat) et où d'autres formes de médias, comme l'Internet, étaient en pleine expansion. Nous avions néanmoins la conviction que le *QCT* devait survive, car la vitalité de la communauté souffrirait grandement de sa disparition. David Cannon et moi avons tenté diverses approches avant de nous associer à Karen Macdonald et à son mari François Vézina, qui sont devenus propriétaires par la suite. Karen et François croyaient au journal et à son rôle essentiel pour la communauté; ils ont su insuffler une belle stabilité et une certaine croissance au journal.

À cette époque, j'ai quitté mes fonctions pour devenir directeur général des Partenaires communautaires Jeffery Hale (qui s'appelait alors Holland Centre). C'était en 1991, et j'occupe toujours ce poste. Le *QCT* est toujours à mes yeux un partenaire essentiel de la communauté et de tout ce qui s'y réalise. Il est aussi pertinent aujourd'hui que dans les années 1970, ou même qu'en 1764, année de sa fondation sous le nom de *The Quebec Gazette*.

Je suis un fier abonné du QCT et je le lis chaque semaine. C'est toujours ma principale source d'information sur la communauté et il continue de nous procurer, à ma famille ainsi qu'à moi-même, ce sentiment d'appartenance à la communauté anglophone de la région de Québec. J'espère que le *QCT* continuera à faire partie de la vie de ma famille et de la communauté pour de nombreuses générations.

En ce 250e anniversaire du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, permettez-moi de féliciter Ray et Stacie Stanton et tous ceux qui participent actuellement à la création du journal. Ils s'ajoutent à la longue liste de gens qui se sont battus et ont travaillé au fil des ans pour garder le *QCT* en vie. Par leurs efforts, ils contribuent à la vitalité de notre communauté. Ils méritent non seulement nos félicitations, mais aussi notre soutien indéfectible.

Soyons fiers des 250 ans du *QCT*. Cet anniversaire témoigne de la vitalité d'une communauté qui a connu des difficultés, mais qui demeure forte grâce à ses institutions, comme le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*.

A love AFFAIR

R. Clive Meredith
Former *QCT* copy editor

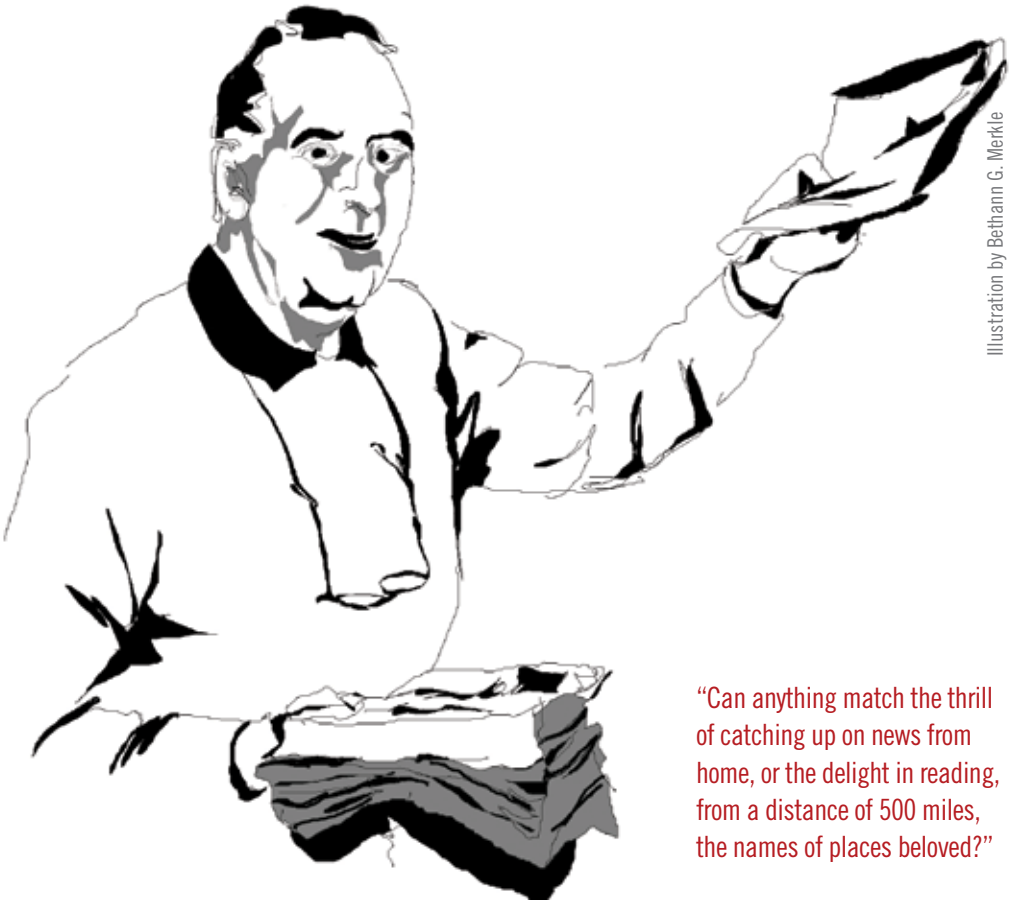


Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

The following is an extract from in all weathers, in all seasons: A Quebec Scrapbook, *published by R. Clive Meredith in 1989.*

Buade Street; seven o'clock on a drab Sunday morning. It's snowing slightly.

As I observe the premises on the corner of rue du Trésor, I see nothing to indicate that in other times this entire building throbbed with everything associated with the printing and publishing of a daily newspaper.

For this was once the home of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Was there more than one edition a day in those glory days? I can't recall. But I do remember carrier boys making sure the *Chronicle* found its way every evening to the homes of its many subscribers.

One of those homes was mine – 121 (later 1045) Moncton Avenue.

I have known the *Chronicle* – have read it, written for it and loved it – for as long as I can remember.

My earliest remembrance, actually, is of a typo in a list of Grade 4 students in St. George's School who had passed their year. A "C" had been copied as an "O" and the name might as well have been the only one on the page: Olive Meredith.

At the age of twelve I was sent to an Ontario boarding school, and I made sure the *Chronicle* came with me. Can anything match the thrill of catching up on news from home, or the delight in reading, from a distance of 500 miles, the names of places beloved? Faithfully I would devour my copy – even the calls for tenders! Then there were the "Social Notes." Here I could always count on seeing the odd familiar name – including, occasionally, my own!

In time I graduated, came back home, found a job, married a very nice lady, started raising a family and...pursued a love affair with a newspaper.

At the *Chronicle*, however, things were changing. The sixties and seventies brought an Anglo exodus.

Valiantly, the staff struggled to keep publishing on a daily basis. Eventually this became impossible, and we mourned the passing of the old familiar daily. From its ashes, however, there rose a new, tabloid-form weekly.

With the change of ownership, the new proprietors stared long and hard at reality. Result: a paper that stopped being what it could never be, and put all its efforts into being what it could be: the voice of a community which, while smaller, stood just as tall as ever.

My love affair was as vibrant in 1986 as it had been ten, twenty, forty years previously, and indeed it remains so today.

The *QCT* may be a shadow of its Buade Street self, but North America's Oldest Newspaper still provides vital information to the community it serves. It maintains a cherished sense of heritage and it constitutes a centuries-old symbol of the English presence in the queen of the world's cities.

To have had a hand in all this has been an honour, a privilege, and great fun.

"Can anything match the thrill of catching up on news from home, or the delight in reading, from a distance of 500 miles, the names of places beloved?"

IN THIS ISSUE Sixteen Colored Comics . . WEEKEND Picture Magazine

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

FINAL EDITION

BILL OF RIGHTS LAUNCHED

Many MPs Absent During Brief Holiday Session

MILITARY PARADE MARKS NATIONAL FESTIVAL IN QUEBEC

Castro Seizes Oil Cos.

Une histoire D'AMOUR

R. Clive Meredith
Ancien réviseur du *QCT*

Extrait de In all weathers, in all seasons: A Quebec Scrapbook, publié par R. Clive Meredith en 1989.

Rue Buade, sept heures du matin, par un dimanche gris. Il neige un peu.

Observant le bâtiment sis au coin de la rue du Trésor, je ne vois rien pour indiquer qu'à une autre époque, cet édifice vibrait au rythme de l'impression et de la publication d'un quotidien.

C'était là l'ancienne demeure du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Y avait-il plus d'une édition par jour à cette époque glorieuse? Je ne me souviens plus. Mais je me souviens des camelots qui veillaient à ce que le *Chronicle* parvienne chaque soir dans les foyers de ses nombreux abonnés.

Un de ces foyers était la mienne : le 121 (et plus tard le 1045), avenue Moncton.

J'ai connu le *Chronicle* – je l'ai lu, j'y ai écrit et je l'ai aimé – d'aussi loin que je me souvienne.

Mon premier souvenir du journal est celui d'une coquille dans une liste d'élèves ayant terminé leur quatrième année à l'école St. George's. Un « C » était devenu un « O », résultant en ce nom qui me sautait au visage : Olive Meredith.

À douze ans, j'ai été envoyé dans un pensionnat en Ontario et je me suis assuré que le *Chronicle* m'y accompagne. Y a-t-il quelque chose de plus plaisant que de recevoir des nouvelles de la maison ou de lire, malgré les 500 milles qui vous séparent, le nom de lieux qu'on aime tant? Je dévorais toujours mes exemplaires de la première à la dernière ligne… même les appels d'offres! Il y avait aussi la section des Social Notes. J'étais toujours certain d'y trouver un nom familier, y compris le mien, à l'occasion!

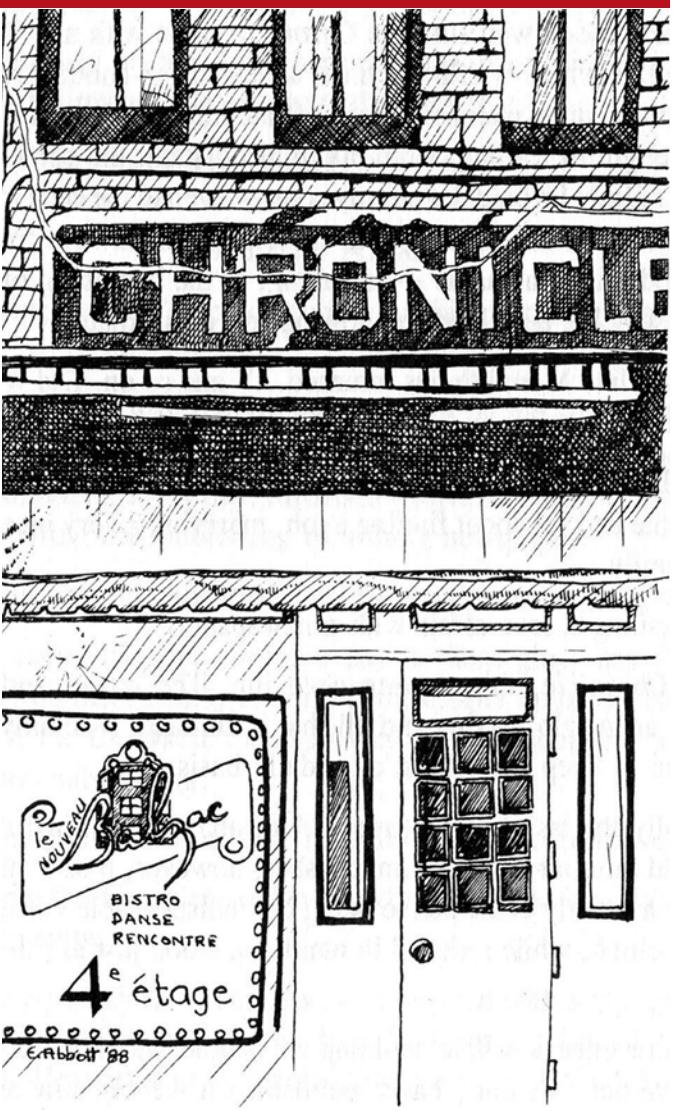
J'ai fini par obtenir mon diplôme, je suis revenu à la maison, j'ai trouvé un travail, j'ai épousé une femme merveilleuse, j'ai commencé à élever une famille et… j'ai entamé une relation passionnelle avec un journal.

À cette époque, toutefois, le *Chronicle* connaissait de grands bouleversements. Les années 1960 et 1970 avaient vu un exode de la population anglophone. Aux prix d'efforts titanesques, la rédaction réussissait encore à publier une édition quotidienne, mais un jour, cela est devenu impossible, et nous avons dû nous résigner à la fin de notre cher quotidien. De ses cendres est né un nouvel hebdomadaire en format tabloïde.

Le journal a changé de main, et les nouveaux propriétaires ont regardé la réalité en face. Résultat : un journal qui a cessé d'essayer d'être ce qu'il ne pouvait plus être pour tout miser sur ce qu'il pouvait être : la voix d'une communauté qui, bien que plus petite qu'avant, n'avait rien perdu de sa fierté.

J'éprouvais autant d'amour pour le journal en 1986 que dix, vingt ou quarante ans auparavant, et je l'aime toujours autant aujourd'hui. Le *QCT* n'est peut-être plus que l'ombre de ce qu'il était à la grande époque de la rue Buade, mais le plus vieux journal en Amérique du Nord continue de fournir de l'information vitale à la communauté qu'il sert. C'est un lien précieux à notre patrimoine et un symbole plusieurs fois centenaire de la présence anglaise dans la reine des villes du monde.

D'avoir pu participer à cette aventure aura été pour moi un honneur, un privilège et un grand plaisir.



The side entrance to the former *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* building on rue du Trésor which in 1988 led upstairs to the Balzac Bistro. This sketch by Elizabeth Abbott appears in Clive Meredith's book *In all weathers, in all seasons.*

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Reflections of a PRINT MAN

Several years ago, acting on one of those impulses driven by the notion that one day we might regret not *carping* the *diem*, my wife and I became prospective owners of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Peter Black
Producer/Studio Director, CBC Radio

Our stint as potential media barons didn't last long – indeed about as long as it took to have an early evening coffee. After then-owners Karen Macdonald and François Vézina patiently explained the economic underpinnings of the venerable paper, it became clear that operating the *QCT* was a labour of love for them, not profit.

We learned that not only could we not hope to make a nickel with the paper, but to become the owners we'd likely have to buy the house in the wilds of Sainte-Foy where Karen and François lived. That's because they had built an addition for the newsroom, including a darkroom – it was only the dawn of digital – for chief photographer Mike Reshitnyk.

At the time Mike was one of a small but dedicated staff at the paper, which also included affable ad man Ron Devost and the ubiquitous, indefatigable reporter and editor Michèle Thibeau. Then there was columnist and proof-reader Clive Meredith. A compilation of his columns *In all weathers, in all seasons* was an invaluable introduction for me to the historic lore of another era in Quebec City, and to a delightful man with countless stories to tell.

Alas, with two children to clothe and feed, the idea of selling our house and sinking what little we had into a mad scheme to operate a paper – even a historic gem of Canadian journalism – somehow didn't seem right.

My interest – I wouldn't go as far as to say dream – in becoming a newspaper publisher is based on the fact that, even though I have been working in the "electronic" medium of radio for over 20 years, I still consider myself an ink-stained wretch at heart – a print man.

To be a print man it helps a lot if you've actually seen a newspaper being printed.

My first job as a reporter was with the newspaper I had hawked as a boy in the innumerable little taverns of the rough-and-tumble mining town where I grew up, collecting a quarter a copy from the late afternoon crowd of off-shift workers quaffing a brew before heading home for dinner. My career as a newsie didn't last long, though the wonder and excitement of watching the papers roll off the massive, thundering presses in the floor below the editorial offices stuck with me.

Years later, I got my first job as a reporter at that same newspaper, having taken a major pay cut from the stultifying civil service desk job I'd landed freshly out of university to seize the chance to become a reporter. This was the era of Woodward and Bernstein of Watergate fame. And, okay, gonzo journalism madman Hunter S. Thompson, too, was a role model for us budding scribes.

I'll never forget that job interview with the editor. He was an almost comically surly man, in a tiny, messy office complete with a framed portrait of Sir Roy Thomson, the Baron of Fleet Street, scowling down at me. Incidentally, years later, I would learn that the same Roy Thomson had owned the *Chronicle-Telegraph* in its last years as a daily. I found a certain irony in the fact that for several years I wrote a column in the *QCT,* thereby working for two former Thomson holdings in my career.

Back to that beast of an editor. For all his nasty traits, he did drill into the green reporters under his tutelage (and thumb) the fundamental dictum of local journalism: "Names (spelled correctly, damn it!) sell newspapers." Stripped of its crass profit motive, this means "It's the community, stupid."

That lesson was reinfo rced in another of my print-man incarnations. As the editor of *The Westmount Examiner,* I was called upon to emphasize "community" as the driving motivation of the paper to an even greater level. It was there that the phrase "Westmount dog bites man" became legend, with the editorial staff bent on a mission to ferret out a local connection to any and all news events.

It's not all that different in my current longstanding role with the public broadcaster based here in Quebec City, where all of us got the regional religion. The telling of stories about the community – after all, we are called the Quebec Community Network and some of us still have the refrigerator magnets to prove it – is our *raison d'être,* passion, joy and legislated mandate.

I come from a small town and had parents who were involved in the community, be it visiting shut-ins, singing in the church choir, volunteering at the hospital or serving on the library board. Perhaps that's why I feel so at home among the community the *QCT* serves.

Though I've long abandoned any notion of being a newspaper mini-baron, I am pleased and relieved the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* has found benevolent publishers who understand not only the historic importance of the venerable rag but share the passion for community newspapers.

Réflexions d'un HOMME DE PRESSE

Il y a plusieurs années, agissant sous le coup de l'instinct, persuadés que nous regretterions de ne pas avoir *carpé* le *diem*, ma femme et moi sommes devenus des acheteurs potentiels du *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Peter Black
Producteur et réalisateur, CBC Radio

Notre règne de barons de presse potentiels n'a pas duré bien longtemps, à peine le temps d'un café au début de la soirée. Après que les propriétaires de l'époque, Karen Macdonald et François Vézina, eurent patiemment expliqué les rouages économiques du vénérable journal, il nous est apparu évident que le *QCT* était pour eux plus une passion qu'une source de profits.

Nous avons appris que non seulement nous ne ferions pas un sou avec le journal, mais que pour en devenir les propriétaires, nous serions sans doute obligés d'acheter la maison blottie dans la nature de Sainte-Foy où vivaient Karen et François. Ceci parce qu'ils avaient bâti une annexe à la salle de rédaction qui comprenait une chambre noire (le numérique commençait à peine) pour le photographe en chef Mike Reshitnyk.

À l'époque, Mike était l'un des quelques employés du journal, peu nombreux, mais dévoués, parmi lesquels on trouvait aussi le sympathique publiciste Ron Devost et l'infatigable reporter et rédactrice en chef Michèle Thibeau, qui était partout à la fois. Il y avait aussi le chroniqueur et réviseur Clive Meredith. En lisant une compilation de ses chroniques *In all weathers, in all seasons,* j'ai découvert le Québec d'une autre époque, mais aussi un homme charmant ayant mille histoires à raconter.

Malheureusement, avec deux enfants à nourrir et vêtir, l'idée de vendre notre maison et d'investir nos maigres économies dans un plan rocambolesque d'achat d'un journal, tout joyau du journalisme canadien soit-il, ne nous a pas parue du meilleur aloi.

Mon intérêt (je n'irais pas jusqu'à dire rêve) envers l'édition d'un journal me vient du fait que, bien que je travaille dans le médium « électronique » de la radio depuis plus de 20 ans, je me considère toujours comme un passionné aux mains pleines d'encre, un homme de presse.

Évidemment, pour être un homme de presse, il est bon d'avoir déjà assisté à l'impression d'un journal.

Mon premier emploi de reporter était pour le journal que j'avais vendu jeune garçon dans les innombrables petites tavernes de la petite ville minière où j'ai grandi, récoltant 25 sous par exemplaire vendu à la foule de travailleurs qui quittaient le travail en fin d'après-midi et vidaient leur bière d'un trait avant de prendre le chemin de la maison. Ma carrière de camelot n'a pas duré longtemps, mais la magie et l'excitation de voir les journaux sortir des immenses et bruyantes presses qui siégeaient à l'étage, sous la salle de rédaction, ne m'ont jamais quitté.

Des années plus tard, j'ai décroché mon premier emploi de reporter à ce même journal, encaissant une importante diminution de salaire par rapport à l'abrutissant emploi de bureau que j'avais obtenu à la sortie de l'université pour la chance de devenir journaliste. C'était l'époque de Woodward et Bernstein et de l'affaire du Watergate. Et admettons-le, le journalisme gonzo du grand maboul Hunter S. Thompson était aussi un modèle pour nous, aspirants scribes.

Je n'oublierai jamais cette entrevue avec le rédacteur en chef. Un homme d'une mauvaise humeur caricaturale, dans un minuscule bureau en désordre que complétait une photo encadrée de Sir Roy Thomson, le baron de Fleet Street, et qui me toisait avec mépris. Incidemment, des années plus tard, j'ai appris que ce même Roy Thomson avait été propriétaire du *Chronicle-Telegraph* lors de ses dernières années comme quotidien. J'ai vu une certaine ironie dans le fait qu'ayant écrit une chronique dans le *QCT* pendant plusieurs années, j'aurai travaillé pour deux anciens journaux de Thomson dans ma carrière.

Mais revenons à ce terrifiant rédacteur en chef. Malgré tous ses défauts, il a bien entré dans le crâne des petits bleus sous sa tutelle (et son joug) les diktats fondamentaux du journalisme local : « Les noms (écrits sans faute, maudit!) vendent des journaux ». Si on met de côté la notion de profit un instant, on peut lire : « Ce qui compte, c'est la communauté. »

Cette leçon s'est vue renforcée dans une autre de mes incarnations d'homme de presse. En tant que rédacteur en chef du *Westmount Examiner,* j'ai dû mettre encore plus l'accent sur la communauté comme raison d'être du journal. C'est à cette époque que la phrase « Un homme mordu par un chien à Westmount » est entrée dans la légende, et que la rédaction se donnait pour mission de trouver un lien avec la communauté dans tous les événements.

Cette façon de voir est assez similaire à celle qui prévaut chez mon employeur de longue date, notre diffuseur public ici à Québec, où nous avons tous la religion de la région. Le fait de raconter des histoires touchant la communauté – après tout, nous sommes le *Quebec Community Network,* et certains d'entre nous ont encore des aimants de frigo pour le prouver – est notre raison d'être, notre passion, notre joie et notre mandat législatif.

Je viens d'une petite ville et mes parents étaient impliqués dans la communauté : ils visitaient les gens seuls, chantaient dans la chorale de l'église, faisaient du bénévolat à l'hôpital et siégeaient sur le conseil de la bibliothèque. Peut-être est-ce là ce qui explique que je me sente autant chez moi dans la communauté que sert le *QCT.*

Même si j'ai depuis longtemps abandonné toute notion de devenir un mini-baron de la presse, je suis heureux et soulagé que le *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* ait su trouver des éditeurs au grand cœur qui non seulement comprennent l'importance historique de ce vénérable journal, mais qui sont en plus de véritables passionnés du journalisme régional.

Following in NEILSON'S FOOTSTEPS

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Karen Macdonald
News Director/Station Manager, Global Montreal; former *QCT* owner and editor

When I first discovered John Neilson through the history of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, I felt privileged to be following in his footsteps.

At the time, my husband François Vézina and I were the newspaper's new publishers, trying to learn everything we could about our little gem. While Neilson was not the founder of *The Quebec Gazette*, he was definitely this newspaper's most illustrious publisher. Even more importantly, for me at least, he represented everything that was great about being "an Anglo in Quebec City," a designation I am still very proud to bear.

Born in Scotland in 1776, John Neilson first came to Quebec City to help his elder brother Samuel with his publishing business. He was a proud Presbyterian – there's a plaque for him at St. Andrew's Church in Old Quebec – but he was buried at St. Andrew's in Valcartier Village, his place in the cemetery marked by an impressive tombstone. He also had a pew in the Catholic parish of Quebec City. Neilson was married to Marie-Ursule Hubert, and together they had 10 children. The story goes that the boys were brought up as Presbyterians while the girls were raised Roman Catholics.

During his 71 years Neilson wore many hats. Besides owning *The Quebec Gazette* and its printing press, he owned the principal bookshop in the Canadas until 1820. And at various times in his life he was a farmer, a politician and a militia officer. Neilson was fluently bilingual and moved between both the English and the French communities with great ease. As a politician he worked closely with Louis-Joseph Papineau against the union of Upper and Lower Canada, until they had a falling out. Papineau wanted fast action from Great Britain and feared the assimilation of French Canadians, while Neilson proposed a more moderate approach.

That image, of a statesman moving seamlessly among many different communities, is what so many of us Anglo-Quebecers have aspired to – building bridges between different communities, bringing people together.

That was what François and I enjoyed most during our 14 years with the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* – moving among communities, building bridges. We felt welcome everywhere – at city halls both in Shannon and in Quebec City, at Presbyterian and Baptist churches, synagogues, and at the Festival d'Été and the Shannon Irish Show.

That capacity also makes our community especially important to the Quebec City region. An English-speaking community is a valuable asset to the region. It's encouraging to see how our leadership has taken advantage of that special place our community holds in the city. Community organizations like Voice of English-speaking Quebec and the Eastern Quebec Learning Centre understand that. Many of their activities create and maintain bridges between French and English and the many other communities that call Quebec City home.

Neilson's biographers in the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography* describe him as one of the "earliest exemplars of the 'Canadian' in the modern sense: bilingual, connected with people of various origins, optimistic about the country's future." That same description applies to so many Quebec City Anglos I know today.

An old friend of mine, the late Owen Carter, used to smugly point out that "Quebec City Anglophones" were different. Our ability to collaborate at all levels, regardless of language, was, he said, a very special trait in our community. Carter helped fight the battle to keep the Jeffery Hale Hospital open and connected to the English-speaking community. He passed away before it became the dynamic institution it is now, but he would be so proud to see how significant it is for the community today.

Similarly, we often speak proudly of how English-speakers are staunch federalists in Quebec, and when they travel elsewhere in Canada, they just as staunchly defend Quebec – acting as ambassadors for the French language and the uniqueness of Quebec's culture, savouring that *je ne sais quoi* that makes it a distinct society..

It's this willingness to bridge the cultural divide between Anglophones and Francophones that I so admired in John Neilson. I saw a little of that willingness in Philippe Couillard during the recent election campaign when he bravely (and surprisingly) praised bilingualism, saying repeatedly that all Quebecers want their children to be bilingual. His message is that there is a place for all in Quebec.

English-speakers struggled with identity and place in this province once again over the last year and a half. The election of the Parti Québécois in September 2012 and the extremely divisive debate around the Charter of Values had many Quebecers once again asking themselves if they belonged. Of course, we belong. John Neilson belonged too.

Now we have the chance to build for the future. We have to make sure everyone knows the important role we played in the city's history and why we are valued contributors to the community today.

That's part of the legacy of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* – an institution that has been a testimony to the vitality and contribution of Quebec City's English-speaking community for the past 250 years. Long live the *QCT!*

DANS LES TRACES DE JOHN NEILSON

Karen Macdonald
Chef des nouvelles/directrice de station, Global Montreal; ancienne propriétaire et éditrice du *QCT*

Lorsque, en m'intéressant à l'histoire du *Québec Chronicle-Telegraph*, j'ai découvert celle de John Neilson, je me suis tout de suite sentie privilégiée de suivre ses traces.

À l'époque, mon mari François Vézina et moi étions nouvellement éditeurs du journal et voulions tout savoir sur le petit bijou que nous avions entre les mains. John Neilson n'est pas le fondateur de la *Québec Gazette*, mais il est sans aucun doute le plus célèbre de ses éditeurs. De plus, et c'est ce qui compte pour moi, il représente tout ce qu'il peut y avoir de bien à être un anglophone à Québec, un titre que j'ai toujours porté avec grande fierté.

Né en Écosse en 1776, John Neilson s'est d'abord rendu à Québec pour aider son frère Samuel à s'occuper de sa maison d'édition. John était un fier presbytérien. Une plaque à son nom a d'ailleurs été installée à l'église St. Andrew, dans le Vieux-Québec, et une impressionnante pierre tombale marque l'endroit où il a été enterré dans le cimetière St. Andrew de Valcartier. Il payait également son banc à la paroisse catholique de Québec. John a épousé Marie-Ursule Hubert, avec qui il a eu 10 enfants. On raconte que ses garçons ont reçu une éducation presbytérienne, alors que ses filles ont été élevées dans la religion catholique.

Au cours des 71 années de sa vie, John Neilson a revêtu de nombreux chapeaux. En plus de posséder le journal *The Quebec Gazette* et ses presses à imprimer, il a été propriétaire de la plus importante librairie canadienne jusqu'en 1820. Il a aussi été agriculteur, politicien et officier de la milice. John s'exprimait parfaitement dans les deux langues et était aussi à l'aise chez les francophones que chez les anglophones. Comme homme politique, il s'est opposé à l'union du Haut-Canada et du Bas-Canada aux côtés de Louis-Joseph Papineau, jusqu'à ce qu'une querelle mette fin à leur association. Papineau souhaitait que la Grande-Bretagne agisse rapidement et craignait que les Canadiens français ne soient assimilés. Neilson, pour sa part, proposait une approche plus modérée.

Cette image d'un homme d'État qui passait sans difficulté d'une communauté à l'autre représente ce à quoi nous, Anglo-Québécois, sommes si nombreux à aspirer : bâtir des ponts entre les communautés, rassembler les gens.

C'est ce que François et moi avons le plus apprécié au cours des 14 années passées à la tête du *Québec Chronicle-Telegraph* : côtoyer les différentes communautés et tisser des liens. Nous nous sentions les bienvenus partout : à l'hôtel de ville de Shannon et de Québec, dans les églises presbytériennes et baptistes et dans les synagogues, au Festival d'été de Québec et au Shannon Irish show.

C'est cette faculté d'adaptation qui rend notre communauté si importante pour la région de Québec. La présence d'une communauté anglophone est un atout précieux et il est encourageant de voir à quel point nos leaders arrivent à tirer profit de ce statut privilégié. Les organismes communautaires comme l'Eastern Quebec Learning Centre et Voice of English-speaking Québec l'ont bien compris. Plusieurs de leurs activités permettent en effet de créer et d'entretenir des liens entre les communautés francophones et anglophones ainsi qu'avec d'autres communautés de la ville.

Dans le *Dictionnaire biographique du Canada*, on décrit John Neilson comme l'un des « premiers prototypes du "Canadien" au sens contemporain : bilingue, lié à des personnes de diverses origines, croyant en l'avenir de son pays ». Cette définition pourrait convenir à beaucoup des anglophones de Québec que je connais.

Un vieil ami aujourd'hui décédé, Owen Carter, disait souvent d'un air suffisant que les « anglophones de Québec » étaient différents. Notre capacité à collaborer dans toutes les sphères sans égard à la langue était selon lui l'une des caractéristiques particulières de notre communauté. Owen s'est battu pour que l'hôpital Jeffery Hale demeure ouvert et qu'il conserve ses liens avec la communauté anglophone. Il est décédé avant que l'hôpital ne devienne l'institution dynamique qu'il est aujourd'hui, mais il serait extrêmement fier de constater à quel point le Jeffery Hale occupe aujourd'hui une place importante dans notre communauté.

Au Québec, les anglophones sont généralement considérés comme d'ardents fédéralistes. Cependant, lorsqu'ils voyagent ailleurs au Canada, c'est le Québec qu'ils défendent avec ferveur. Ils jouent le rôle d'ambassadeurs du français et du caractère unique de la culture québécoise, qui, grâce à son petit je ne sais quoi, fait du Québec une société distincte.

C'est cette volonté de rassembler anglophones et francophones que j'admire tant chez John Neilson. J'ai perçu un peu de cette volonté chez Philippe Couillard au cours de la dernière campagne électorale lorsqu'il a rassemblé son courage pour faire l'éloge du bilinguisme (à la surprise de plusieurs), en disant à plusieurs reprises tous les parents du Québec souhaitaient que leurs enfants deviennent bilingues. Ce qu'il voulait dire, essentiellement, c'est qu'il existe une place pour tous au Québec.

Au cours de la dernière année et demie, les anglophones du Québec se sont beaucoup interrogés sur leur identité et sur leur statut. L'élection du Parti Québécois en septembre 2012 et les débats extrêmement houleux autour de la charte des valeurs ont fait se demander à de nombreux Québécois s'ils avaient vraiment leur place ici. Bien sûr que nous avons notre place ici. Tout comme John Neilson avait la sienne.

Nous avons aujourd'hui la chance de bâtir l'avenir. Nous devons veiller à ce que tout le monde connaisse le rôle que nous avons joué dans l'histoire de la ville et les raisons qui font de nous un atout pour la communauté.

Cela fait partie de l'héritage du *Québec Chronicle-Telegraph*, une institution qui témoigne depuis 250 ans de la vitalité et de la précieuse contribution de la communauté anglophone à la ville de Québec. Longue vie au *Québec Chronicle-Telegraph*!

The Quebec Daily Telegraph.

VOL. XVI. No 224. QUEBEC, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 1, 1891 PRICE ONE CENT.

Help Wanted, Etc., 25 cts. each issue

WANTED.

WANTED—A Clerk. Apply to Mm. Thomson, St. Peter Street. 224-2

WANTED—A General Servant. In a small family. Good wages paid to a competent person. Apply to 19 Hollinger street, Ouebec. 224-2

WANTED—A smart, active Boy for the Grocery Trade. Apply to Lamb, 27 St. John street. 224-2

WANTED—A Salesman; must speak both languages fluently. C. Rinfret, 224-2 Fabrique street.

WANTED—A Clerk. Apply to Mess. Ross, Ste. Ste. Catherine street. 224-2

BURROUGHS' SALES.

ESTATE WILLIAM VENNER.

FIRM UNDERSIGNED HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED by the Executors to sell that good [illegible] Residence on Chaudière Street, [illegible] from the city, and known as [illegible]

This Property is of an elegant style, built of stone and brick, with large wide balconies, and contains from 12 to 20 rooms, fitted up with all modern improvements, such as hot and cold water, bath, gas, furnace, [illegible] Stable, large hay loft, [illegible] Coach House, carriage coach-house, stable large hay loft, [illegible] Garden, [illegible] of the [illegible] Terms of Sale: Cash, [illegible] Sale will be without reserve. Terms of Sale: Cash, [illegible] Sale will be without reserve. Sale to take place on the premises, Saturday, the 10th day of October, 1891, at 3 o'clock p.m. [illegible] Sale will be without reserve. Terms of Sale: Cash, [illegible] Sale will be without reserve. Sale to take place on the premises, Saturday, the 10th day of October, 1891, at 3 o'clock p.m. [illegible]

AUCTION SALE.

By A. J. Burroughs & Co.

Sale of a Very Large Assortment of the [illegible] Furniture of All Descriptions, Pianos, Safes, Etc.

Messrs. Burroughs & Co. will sell on Friday, the 2nd October, at the usual quantity of house furniture, Mr. Thomas Gibson's residence, Mr. Thomas Gibson's residence, Mr. Thomas Gibson's residence

The birth of the PRESS IN QUEBEC

Charles André Nadeau
historian

New France never had a newspaper. Six months after the Treaty of Paris was signed on February 10, 1763, confirming the transfer of the colony to Great Britain, two young printers from Philadelphia, William Brown and Thomas Gilmore, formed a partnership and came to Quebec City to practise their trade. Until 1778, they published the only newspaper in the province. These 14 years represent the laborious birth of the press in Quebec.

On June 7, 1764, Thomas Gilmore landed in Quebec City with the equipment necessary for the operation of a printing shop – a manual press, specialized tools, ink, paper and typographic characters. Such products were not yet available in North America, and Gilmore made arrangements with his London suppliers to ensure the regular provisioning of the office.

The first task of the new enterprise was the creation of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec*. The first weekly edition appeared on June 21, 1764, printed on 14" by 9.5" paper, and the format was an in-folio of four pages. The first half of the regular publications contained news items and was divided into two columns, English on the left and the French translation on the right. The other half included local advertising.

The Gazette described itself as a vehicle for information and entertainment and a service to the public. The front page of the first issue stated that the publishers' objective was to keep readers apprised of developments in the political affairs of Europe, and particularly England.

The Gazette had a limited readership during its first years. The initial subscriber list contained only 143 names. Five years later, it reached 225. In the summer of 1776, following the end of the city siege by the American patriots, which had caused a temporary interruption of service, the owners indicated a willingness to resume publishing if they could obtain at least 200 regular customers. Thus the number of customers did not increase significantly in the paper's first decade.

The British administrators were the first to recognize the advantages of the new publication, and they promptly made use of it. The edition of July 5, 1764, contained a call for tenders for the refurbishing of Château Saint-Louis, the governor's residence. However, the government saw *The Quebec Gazette* as the ideal tool for an even more important function: disseminating directives and announcements to the public. The October 4, 1764, edition contained an order from Governor Murray defining what constituted a legal publication for the purpose of provincial ordinances: it included a public proclamation made by the provost marshal or his deputy in the three main cities, Montreal, Trois-Rivières and Quebec, and publication in The Quebec Gazette. A few months later, this regulation was amended to order every parish priest to subscribe to the newspaper and read to his congregation all pertinent ordinances published in its pages every week.

The postal service was of prime importance to the publishers of the first provincial newspaper. The point of contact for its distribution and the sale of advertising in other localities was the post office. During the four years of military government (1760 to 1764), a courier system linking Quebec City, Montreal and Albany (later the capital of New York State) was put in place, without which Brown and Gilmore would not have been able to provide news to their readers.

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

Half *The Gazette's* subscribers were French-speaking, then known as *Canadiens*. A bilingual newspaper, of necessity, required a good translator. Neither Brown, of Scottish origin, nor Gilmore, born and raised in Ireland, was sufficiently proficient in French to fill this need. The colony required translators for other reasons, too, in particular for the publishing of official proclamations and the administration of justice. An announcement in the third edition of *The Gazette* by a man named Galway, indicates that a few enterprising individuals had established residence in the colonial capital to take advantage of the situation. Brown and Gilmore hired some of these newcomers on a yearly contract. In their prospectus, they stressed the fact that the bilingual newspaper was an excellent way to learn a second language. However, the amateur translators filled the French version of the paper with Anglicisms, barbarisms and mistakes. It seems that only the French-Canadians were able to learn the other language properly.

One of the obstacles to the distribution of the newspaper was its cost. The first annual subscription amounted to 15 shillings, which seems reasonable compared with American weeklies of the period. But in the difficult post-war economic conditions of the early British regime, the monetary situation presented quite a different outlook. The rent paid by Brown and Gilmore for their shop was 14 and a half shillings per week, almost the equivalent of a single annual subscription. Their weekly room and board was 13 shillings. In such a context, the cost of the paper appears prohibitive and partly explains the limited number of regular customers.

William Brown and Thomas Gilmore published a newspaper, but they did not employ any journalists and were not reporters themselves. For the first two pages, they borrowed, stole, cut and copied content from the London publications. During his trip to England to acquire a press, Gilmore took out subscriptions to various British newspapers, including the *London Magazine*, the *London Gazette*, *the Morning Chronicle* and the *St. James Chronicle*.

The advertisers themselves wrote the advertisements comprising the second half of the Quebec City weekly. Local news items were practically non-existent, being limited to shipping news and quotidian matters such as lost-and-found items and obituaries. During the second year, there were sometimes short items relating Canadian news, mainly brief reports on trials. Thus, journalistic writing made little progress during the early years of *The Quebec Gazette*.

Contributions from the public were also slow in coming. A few readers did venture to send in articles, but generally signed their writings using a pen name. These early personal expressions were primarily political in nature. The first such article, in the ninth edition of the paper, described the miseries endured by garrison children and called for the government to intervene. However, Brown and Gilmore printed few texts about local issues. Rather, they stated that their weekly was not an instrument for the benefit of the political factions, and insisted on publishing only what was they considered "proper," a word that reveals their unwillingness to attract the attention of the authorities, whether civil or religious. Such editorial restraint can largely be explained by the fact that the printing office received government subsidies. Indeed, on the front page of *The Gazette* the royal coat of arms was displayed, reminding the public of the paper's semi-official role. On rare occasions, people in the English-speaking community sent in political articles. The *Canadiens* on the other hand, preferred to address religious topics.

Bearing in mind that from November to May no shipping reached Quebec City, the printers told their readers in the first edition that it would often be necessary to present texts of an entertaining and educational nature, which, in the parlance of the time, meant literary works. Thus, readers from both cultures were invited to submit compositions, and many did so anonymously. Their favourite genre was poetry. During this period the newspaper was the only print medium where poets could present their texts, as we see from the imposing compilation of Sister Jeanne d'Arc Lortie, *Les textes poétiques du Canada français 1606-1867*. Between 1760 and 1790, no poetry was published other than in the Quebec weekly and two Montreal papers. The first French poem appeared on August 2, 1764. But very few Canadiens sent in verse for the columns of the local press. In the 1,325 editions of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec* printed before December 1790, there were 320 poems published, only 24 of which were in French.

Among its benefits, the newspaper brought the colony improved communications regarding administrative and economic activities; it heightened readers' interest in world affairs, particularly European; it provided a means for readers in both language groups to gain some knowledge of a second language; and it was the only vehicle that published poetry by local writers.

In 1768, Brown and Gilmore reimbursed their debt to William Dunlop, their sponsor in Pennsylvania. The printing shop's accounting books showed the publishers were in the black. The newspaper had become a useful addition to colonial life, even though it didn't attract a large readership. Among its benefits, the newspaper brought the colony improved communications regarding administrative and economic activities; it heightened readers' interest in world affairs, particularly European; it provided a means for readers in both language groups to gain some knowledge of a second language; and it was the only vehicle that published poetry by local writers.

On the other hand, *The Quebec Gazette* did not encourage or develop local journalism, it published little local news, and it abstained from taking a stance in provincial politics. Access to its pages did not generate much popular involvement. On these points, the period from 1764 to 1776 proved rather a developmental phase. The large majority of contributors to the paper, in the form of letters to the editor or literary texts, came from the English-speaking minority, The *Canadiens* seemed content rather to observe. For them too, this was a beginning phase, perhaps the seeds of a not very quiet revolution.

THE QUEBEC GAZETTE. LA GAZETTE DE QUEBEC.

Nomb. 1.

THURSDAY, June 21, 1764. JEUDY, le 21 Juin, 1764.

The PRINTERS to the PUBLICK.

As every kind of knowledge is not only entertaining and instructive to individuals, but a benefit to the community, there is great reason to hope, that a NEWS-PAPER, properly conducted, and written with ACCURACY, FREEDOM, and IMPARTIALITY, cannot fail of meeting with universal encouragement; especially as it is allowed by all, that such a paper is at present much wanted in this colony.

Every one expects, and expects with reason, that when the attention of the publick is solicited, the principles should be laid down, on which the claim to publick favour is founded.

Our design therefore is to publish in English and French, under the title of THE QUEBEC GAZETTE, a view of foreign affairs, and political transactions; from which a judgment may be formed of the interests and connections of the several powers of Europe: We shall also take particular care to collect the transactions, and occurrences of our mother-country, and to introduce every remarkable event, uncommon debate, extraordinary performance, and interesting turn of affairs, that shall be thought to merit the notice of the reader as matter of entertainment, or that can be of service to the publick as inhabitants of an English colony.

With regard to the MATERIAL OCCURRENCES of the American Colonies, and West-Indian Islands, we may venture to affirm, that from the extensive correspondence established for this purpose in each of them, many interesting TRUTHS will be laid before the publick, with all becoming impartiality and candour.

The rigour of winter preventing the arrival of ships from Europe, and in a great measure interrupting the ordinary intercourse with the southern provinces, during that season, it will be necessary, in a paper designed for general perusal, and publick utility, to provide some things of general entertainment, independent of foreign intelligence; we shall, therefore, on such occasions, present our readers with such Originals, both in Prose and Verse, as will please the FANCY, and instruct the JUDGMENT. And here we beg leave to observe, that we shall have nothing so much at heart, as the support of VIRTUE and MORALITY, and the noble cause of LIBERTY: The refined amusements of LITERATURE, and the sparkling sons of well polished WIT, shall also be considered as necessary to the collection; interspersed with other chosen pieces, and curious essays, extracted from the most approved authors: So that Reading PHILOSOPHY, with POLITICKS, HISTORY, &c. the youth of both sexes will be improved and persons of all ranks agreeably and usefully entertained——Upon the whole, we will labour to attain to all the excellencies that so much variety will permit; and give as much variety as will consist with a reasonable oeconomy. And as this part of our project cannot be carried into execution without the correspondence of the INGENIOUS, we shall take all opportunities of acknowledging our obligations, to those who shall take the trouble of furnishing any matter which shall tend to entertainment, or instruction.

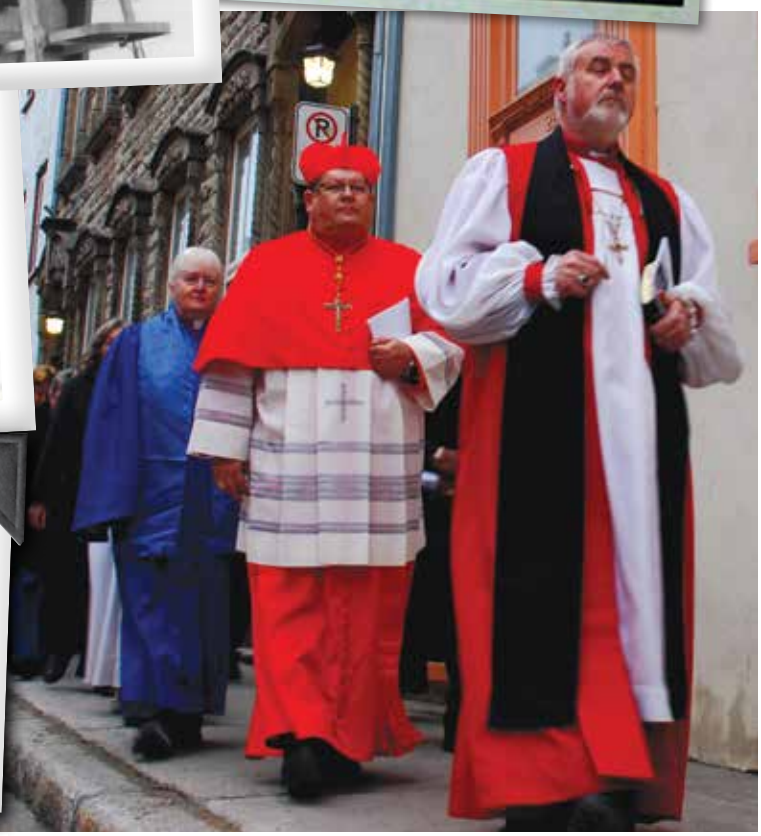
As many disappointments may accrue to such subscribers as reside in the remote parts of the country, by want of care in those to

(Image from Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph archives)

The first edition of The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec, was published on June 21, 1764.

North America's Oldest Newspaper - Since 1764 TM
Chronicle-Telegraph
Québec
WEDNESDAY, July 6, 2011 , 247th year, No. 27
Canada Post Publication no. 40026512 - EDITION VALID UNTIL July 13, 2011 -
Search Archives 1764-1970 log onto www.oldestnewspaper.com
www.qctonline.com Quebec City $1.32 plus GST and QST
Outside Quebec City $2.00 plus GST and QST
twitter.com/QCTonline
Duke and Duchess of Cambridge arrive in Quebec City, Sunday, July 3, 2011
Photo by Jay Ouellet
• Emergency
• Diagnostic Services
North America's Oldest Newspaper - Since 1764 TM
Chronicle-Telegraph
Québec
It's beginning to look a lot like...

CANADA'S SHARE
IN WAR, VICTORY,
AND PEACE
VICTORY
The Quebec Chronicle



CELEBRATING 250 YEARS of Chronicling Our Community

North America's Oldest Newspaper - Since 1764

Chronicle-Telegraph

Québec

A Look Back at Noteworthy News

How the happenings of North America's oldest newspaper fit into historic news, events, and the history of newspapers

Circa 59 BC The Roman Empire published *Acta Diurna,* government announcement bulletins, as ordered by Julius Caesar. They were carved in metal or stone and posted in public places.

2nd and 3rd centuries AD In China, *tipao* (newssheets) were commonly used among court officials during the late Han dynasty; during the same era, the first movable type printing was developed in China

Pre-European contact Diverse First Nation cultures live in the Quebec City region

1430s Johannes Gutenberg revolutionizes printing technology through innovation and invention

1535-1536 Jacques Cartier first explores the modernday Quebec City region, and overwinters at the mouth of the Saint-Charles River

1556 The government of Venice first published the monthly *Notizie scritte* (written notices) which cost one *gazetta* (a Venetian coin of the time). This price was the origin of gazette, which eventually became synonymous with "newspaper."

1605 The German-language *Relation aller Fürnemmen und gedenckwürdigen Historien* is first printed. This is often recognized as the first newspaper.

1656 *Opregte Haarlemsche Courant from Haarlem* is first printed. Since 1942, it has been the Haarlems Dagblad: Oprechte Haerlemse Courant 1656. This paper considers itself to be the oldest newspaper still publishing.

1690 In Boston, Benjamin Harris publishes *Publick Occurrences Both Forreign and Domestick,* considered to be the first newspaper in the American colonies

September 5, 1760 The Huron-Wendat of Lorrette(ville) (now known as Wendake, a reserve within Quebec City) sign a treaty of peace and friendship with Britain, represented by Brigadier General James Murray

February 10, 1763 France cedes New France, including Quebec City, to Britain. Prior to this point, printing presses were forbidden in Quebec.

CIRCA 59 BC

July 3, 1608 Samuel de Champlain establishes a strong relationship with local First Nations and founds the settlement that will become Quebec City

1620 The first English-language newspaper, *Corrant out of Italy, Germany, etc.,* is published in Amsterdam

1631 The first newspaper in France is published as the *Gazette de France*

1645 *Ordinari Post Tijdender,* now known as *Postoch Inrikes Tidningar,* is first published in Sweden. The oldest newspaper still in existence, it now publishes solely online.

March 23, 1752 John Bushell publishes the first edition of Canada's first newspaper, the *Halifax Gazette,* which was government-controlled as were all papers in Canada until the late 1890s.

August 5, 1763 William Brown and Thomas Gilmore sign an agreement to open a printing shop in Quebec City and to publish a newspaper

June 21, 1764 First edition of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec,* a bilingual weekly

January 28, 1774 William Brown becomes sole owner of *The Quebec Gazette*

January 12, 1793 Brown's nephew, John Neilson inherits *The Quebec Gazette*

1820-1831 Construction of the Citadelle takes place under the direction of Lieutenant Colonel Elias Walker Durnford of the British Royal Engineers

May 2, 1832 *The Quebec Gazette* becomes a daily

July 23, 1840 The Act of Union merges Upper and Lower Canada into the Province of Canada, which remains a British colony until 1867

October 29, 1842 *The Quebec Gazette* ceases being a bilingual publication

1844 Montreal serves as the capital of the Province of Canada until 1849, when the city's parliamentary buildings are burned down in response to articles published in *The Gazette.*

May 18, 1847 First edition of *The Morning Chronicle,* founded by Robert Middleton and Charles Saint-Michel

November 11, 1850 Robert Middleton becomes sole owner of *The Quebec Gazette*

1852 Quebec City becomes the capital of the Province of Canada, remaining so until 1856, and then resumes the role from 1859-1866

June 21, 1864 *The Quebec Gazette* celebrates its 100th anniversary

July 1, 1867 The provinces and colonies of Canada confederate, becoming the Dominion of Canada

November 11,1871 British troops withdraw from the Citadelle and Quebec City

November 2, 1874 Merger of *The Quebec Gazette* and *The Morning Chronicle* under the name of *The Morning Chronicle*

January 8, 1935 Elvis Presley is born

June 15, 1937 The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* absorbs *The Quebec News*

June 21 1939 The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* celebrates 175th anniversary

September 10, 1939 The Parliament of Canada, in the country's first independent declaration of war, declares war on Germany

1947 Gabrielle Roy's *Tin Flute* wins the Governor General's Award for fiction

August 1, 2007 Pierre Little and Peter White become owners of the *QCT*

2008 Quebec City celebrates its 400th anniversary

November 15, 2010 Ray and Stacie Stanton acquire majority ownership the *QCT*

November 2011 Ray and Stacie Stanton become sole owners of the *QCT*

June 21, 2014 The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* celebrates its 250th anniversary and role in perpetuating 250 years of English-language newspaper heritage in Quebec City

1984 Cirque de Soleil is founded

1985 The ramparts of Vieux-Québec are declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO under the name 'Historic District of Old Québec'

1992 The Canadian Confederation celebrates its 175 anniversary

January 1, 1993 Karen Macdonald and François Vézina become owners of the *QCT*

2014

November 9, 1875 First edition of *The Daily Telegraph,* founded by James Carrel

1886 Construction concludes on the National Assembly

March 8, 1891 Frank Carrel inherits *The Daily Telegraph*

1893 Château Frontenac opens for business

August 2, 1914 Félix Leclerc is born

August 5, 1914 The Governor General declares a war between Canada and Germany

June 29, 1925 Merger of the *Quebec Chronicle* and *Daily Telegraph*

July 2, 1925 First edition of *The Chronicle-Telegraph;* only English-newspaper in Quebec City since this date

February 5, 1934 *The Chronicle-Telegraph* renamed The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*

September 21, 1934 Leonard Cohen is born

June 22, 1960 Jean Lesage's Liberal government wins the Quebec general election with 51 of 95 seats and 51 per cent of the popular vote

August 1960 The Beatles begin performing under the name that would make them international rock and roll icons

January 23, 1961 The Thompson Conglomerate becomes sole owner of the *QCT*

November 22, 1963 U.S. President John F. Kennedy is assassinated

March 30, 1968 Céline Dion is born

July 20, 1969 Apollo 11 lands on the moon

November 3, 1971 The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* becomes a weekly

October 3, 1973 Herb Murphy acquires the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*

December 16, 1979 David Cannon, Bob Dawson, Jean Lemelin and Ross Rourke become co-owners of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS of Chronicling Our Community

North America's Oldest Newspaper - Since 1764

Chronicle-Telegraph

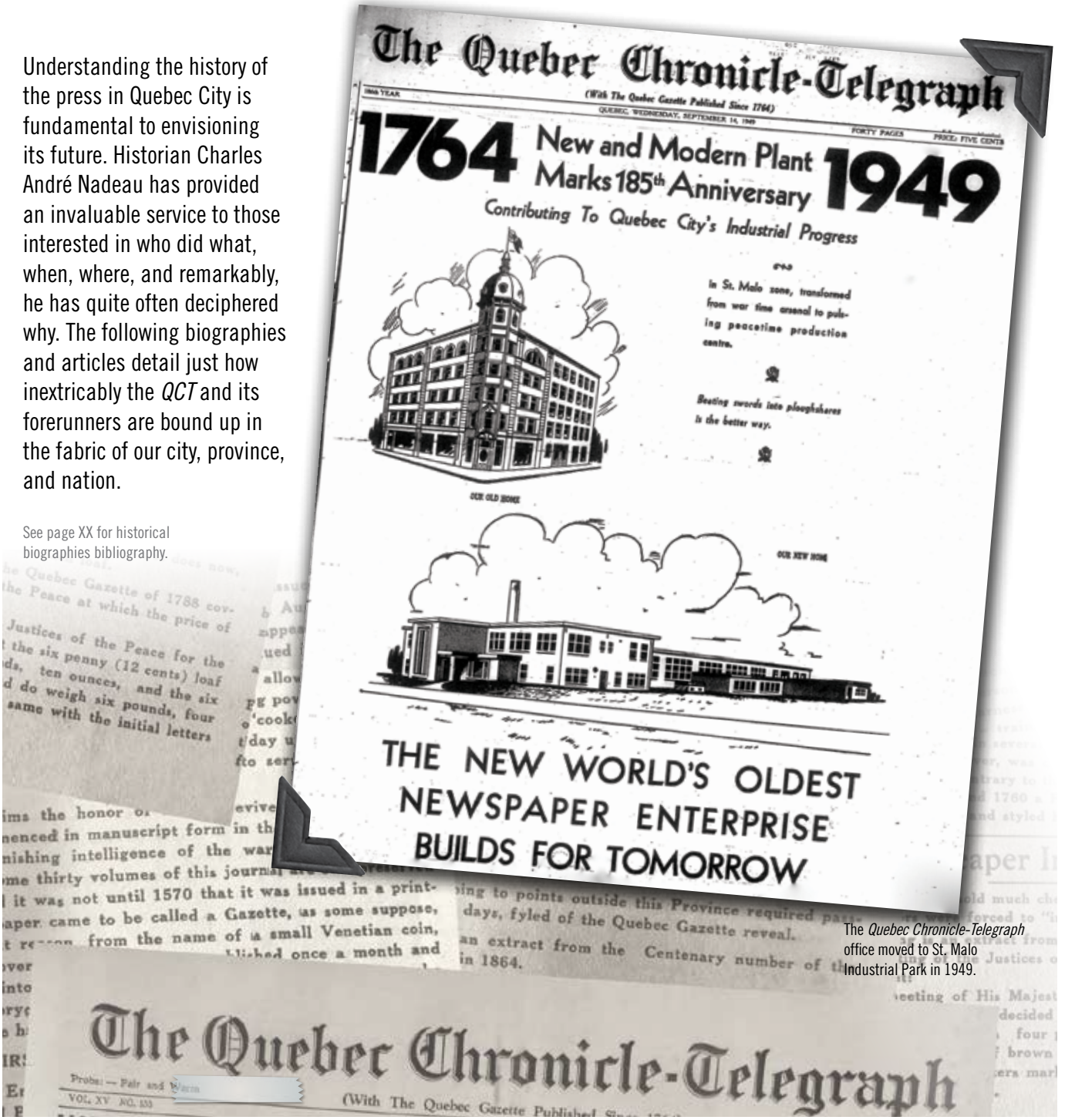
Québec

A HISTORY

by Charles André Nadeau

Understanding the history of the press in Quebec City is fundamental to envisioning its future. Historian Charles André Nadeau has provided an invaluable service to those interested in who did what, when, where, and remarkably, he has quite often deciphered why. The following biographies and articles detail just how inextricably the *QCT* and its forerunners are bound up in the fabric of our city, province, and nation.

See page XX for historical biographies bibliography.



The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

(With The Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764)

QUEBEC, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1949 — FORTY PAGES — PRICE: FIVE CENTS

1764 New and Modern Plant Marks 185th Anniversary 1949

Contributing To Quebec City's Industrial Progress

In St. Malo zone, transformed from war time arsenal to pulsing peacetime production centre.

Beating swords into ploughshares is the better way.

OUR OLD HOME

OUR NEW HOME

THE NEW WORLD'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE BUILDS FOR TOMORROW

The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* office moved to St. Malo Industrial Park in 1949.

For brevity's sake, *The Quebec Gazette-La Gazette de Québec* is referred to as *The Gazette* following its first appearance in each article. Similarly, the names of the other newspapers referenced are shortened to two words after their first appearance.

William BROWN

The Father of Printing in Canada

Illustration by Bethann G. Merkle

The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph (QCT)* owes its origins to the first newspaper ever published in the province of Quebec, *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec.* It was first issued on June 21, 1764, and by virtue of this fact, the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* is considered to be North America's oldest continually operating newspaper.

William Brown is the man behind the creation of *The Quebec Gazette.* From his home in colonial Philadelphia he wrote to Governor James Murray to request authorization to publish a newspaper in the recently conquered British province. Before travelling to Quebec City, Brown drafted a prospectus in order to attract subscribers. Only one copy of this document remains in existence. It is considered a treasure of Canadian cultural history and is preserved in the Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library at the University of Toronto.

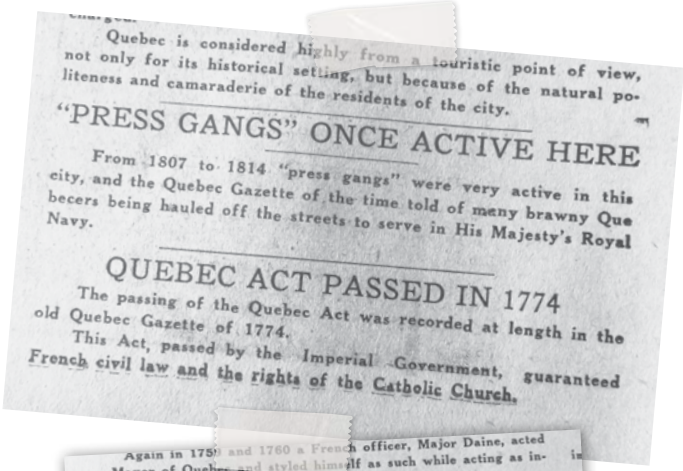
Brown was born in Nunton, in the council area of Dumfries and Galloway in Scotland. He was sent to America at the age of 15 and studied at William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. At age 17, he began to learn the printing trade in Philadelphia. He later was sent to Bridgetown in Barbados to set up a printing shop, but he came back shortly after for health reasons. Brown first set foot in Quebec City on September 30, 1763, after a rather adventurous trip on horseback which led him through Springfield, Massachusetts, Albany, New York, around Lake Champlain and to Montreal.

Once in Quebec City, Brown set up his printing office in rented quarters on St. Louis Street. The address given in the first edition of *The Gazette* is "Two doors higher than the Secretary's office." Noted historian Gilles Gallichan estimates that the location was opposite present-day Place d'Armes, more precisely, on a site now occupied partly by the Château Frontenac and partly by the restaurant Le Petit Château. As recently as 1959, a stable occupied these premises; it was later converted to a theatre and then a restaurant.

The printing shop was moved frequently during its early years. On May 25, 1765, it was located on Parloir Street. On May 5, 1774, its location was listed as "behind the cathedral," probably near the Bishop's Palace, at the top of Côte de la Montagne. On May 4, 1780, the address given is "the middle of the Big Hill," which is later indicated in the January 28, 1890, edition as 5 Mountain Hill.

William Brown never married. He died suddenly on March 22, 1789, at the age of 52. The March 26, 1789, edition of *The Gazette* reported the event and mentioned that on the day of his funeral his remains were accompanied by a great number of respectable citizens to the place of interment in St. Matthew's burial ground on St. John Street.

His nephew, Samuel Neilson, who had come from Scotland a few years earlier, inherited the business. The March 26, 1789, edition is the first one showing Samuel Neilson as publisher.



Quebec is considered highly from a touristic point of view, not only for its historical setting, but because of the natural politeness and camaraderie of the residents of the city.

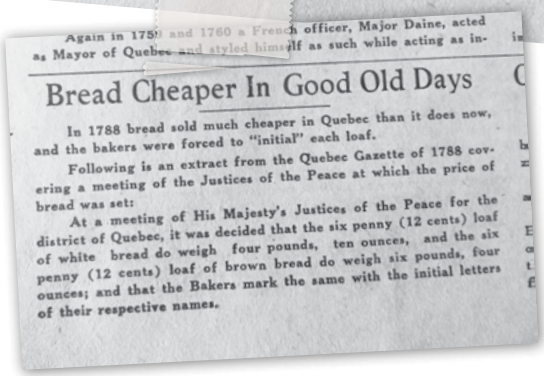
"PRESS GANGS" ONCE ACTIVE HERE

From 1807 to 1814 "press gangs" were very active in this city, and the Quebec Gazette of the time told of many brawny Quebecers being hauled off the streets to serve in His Majesty's Royal Navy.

QUEBEC ACT PASSED IN 1774

The passing of the Quebec Act was recorded at length in the old Quebec Gazette of 1774.

This Act, passed by the Imperial Government, guaranteed French civil law and the rights of the Catholic Church.



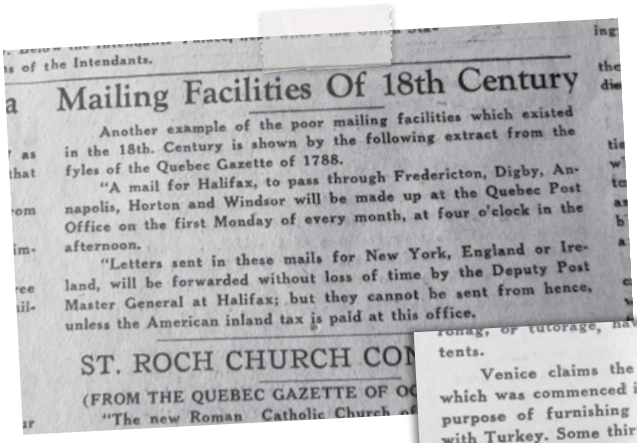
Again in 175[illegible] and 1760 a French officer, Major Daine, acted as Mayor of Quebec and styled himself as such while acting as in-

Bread Cheaper In Good Old Days

In 1788 bread sold much cheaper in Quebec than it does now, and the bakers were forced to "initial" each loaf.

Following is an extract from the Quebec Gazette of 1788 covering a meeting of the Justices of the Peace at which the price of bread was set:

At a meeting of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the district of Quebec, it was decided that the six penny (12 cents) loaf of white bread do weigh four pounds, ten ounces, and the six penny (12 cents) loaf of brown bread do weigh six pounds, four ounces; and that the Bakers mark the same with the initial letters of their respective names.



of the Intendants.

Mailing Facilities Of 18th Century

Another example of the poor mailing facilities which existed in the 18th. Century is shown by the following extract from the fyles of the Quebec Gazette of 1788.

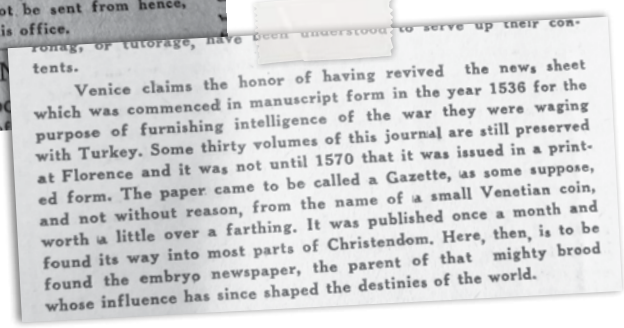
"A mail for Halifax, to pass through Fredericton, Digby, Annapolis, Horton and Windsor will be made up at the Quebec Post Office on the first Monday of every month, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

"Letters sent in these mails for New York, England or Ireland, will be forwarded without loss of time by the Deputy Post Master General at Halifax; but they cannot be sent from hence, unless the American inland tax is paid at this office.

ST. ROCH CHURCH CO

(FROM THE QUEBEC GAZETTE OF O

"The new Roman Catholic Church o



tents.

Venice claims the honor of having revived the news sheet which was commenced in manuscript form in the year 1536 for the purpose of furnishing intelligence of the war they were waging with Turkey. Some thirty volumes of this journal are still preserved at Florence and it was not until 1570 that it was issued in a printed form. The paper came to be called a Gazette, as some suppose, and not without reason, from the name of a small Venetian coin, worth a little over a farthing. It was published once a month and found its way into most parts of Christendom. Here, then, is to be found the embryo newspaper, the parent of that mighty brood whose influence has since shaped the destinies of the world.

Thomas GILMORE

William Brown had a partner in the founding of *The Quebec Gazette*. Thomas Gilmore had been working as an apprentice in Philadelphia at the same printing shop as William Brown. When Brown returned from Barbados and drew up the Quebec City project, he renewed his relationship with Gilmore. On August 5, 1763, the two young men signed a partnership agreement.

While Brown made his way north on horseback, Gilmore sailed to England to acquire the equipment necessary for the new enterprise. In London, he purchased type from the foundry of William Caslon, and a press, ink and paper from the shop of Kendrick Peck. He disembarked in Quebec City on June 7, 1764, and the partners set up shop in the St. Louis Street location rented from J. Thompson.

At the outset, the business received £50 a year to publish the colonial government's official announcements in *The Gazette*. In addition, the shop printed various forms, calendars and posters for the local merchants and, occasionally, pamphlets and books.

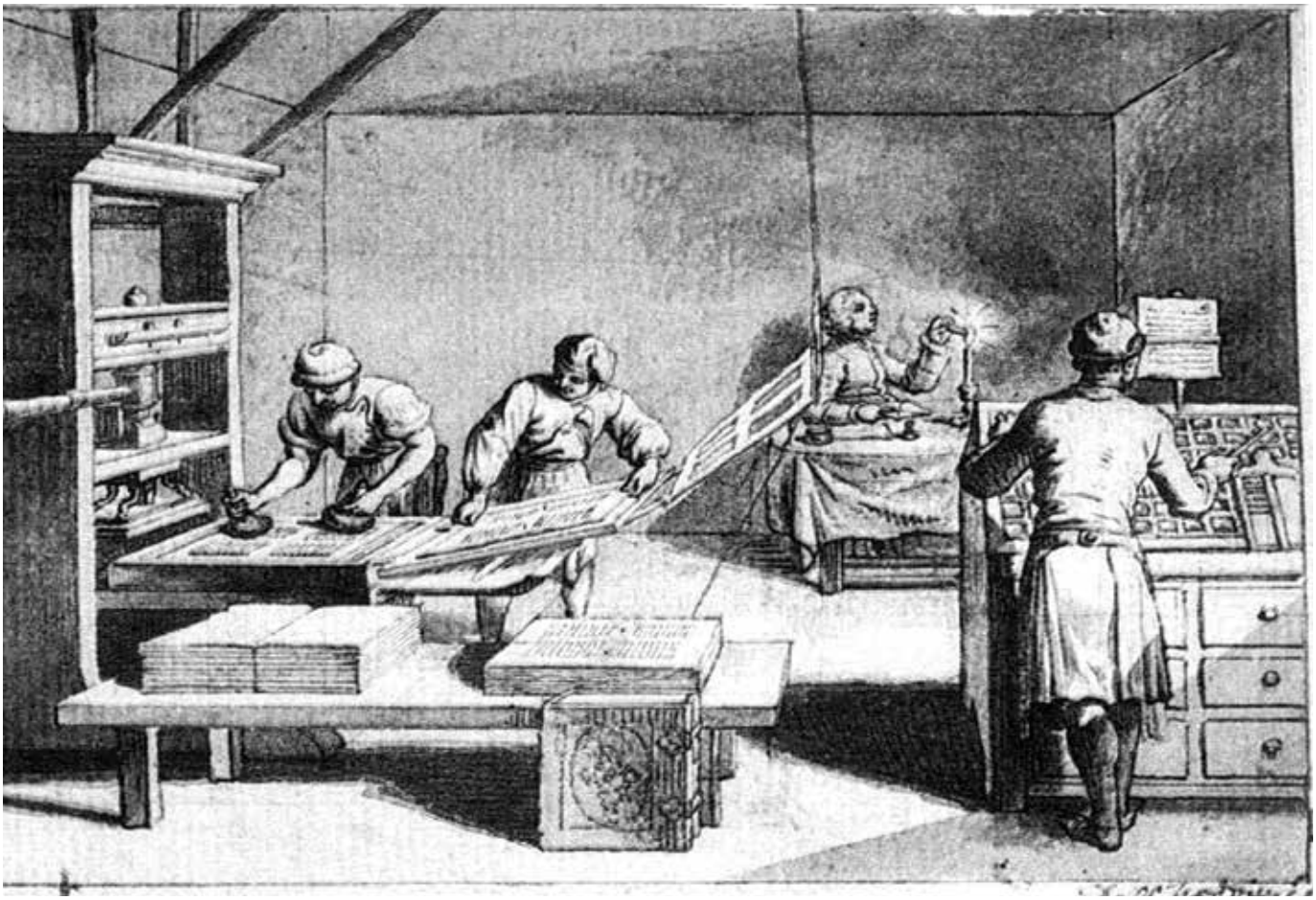
Little is known about Thomas Gilmore. It is believed that he was born in 1741 in the village of Stone, near Dublin in Ireland, or perhaps in Philadelphia. On November 6, 1768, he married Mary Lillicoe and the couple had a son, also called Thomas.

The relationship between Gilmore and Brown soured after 1768. On October 4, 1770, Gilmore signed a promissory note for £250, and Brown demanded payment twice before the Court of Common Pleas. Gilmore, an alcoholic, died at 32; he was buried on February 3, 1773. In a telling omission, *The Quebec Gazette* made no mention of the death of one of its founders.

Gilmore's widow proved a difficult partner. Brown bought her share of the business on January 28, 1774, and printed a notice to that effect in the February 3, 1774, edition of the newspaper.

Engraving circa 1770 by Daniel Chodowlecki (1726-1801)

18th century manual printing press thought to be similar to the one Thomas Gilmore brought to Quebec from England.



Benjamin FRANKLIN

The Quebec Gazette of May 2, 1848, stated that the 1763 prospectus produced by William Brown had been printed in Benjamin Franklin's shop in Philadelphia. This is unlikely. Brown and Gilmore worked for William Dunlop, the man who also lent them £450 to set up their business, and common sense would indicate that the document was put in print in Dunlop's office.

This portrait of Benjamin Franklin in 1759, by Benjamin Wilson, is presently in the White House collection.

William Dunlop was however Benjamin Franklin's brother-in-law, and if one wishes to establish a connection between the founder of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec* and the famous American, this relationship is a better possibility, particularly as it is believed that Dunlop was Brown's uncle. But, more to the point, Benjamin Franklin did in fact play a role in Quebec City, one that benefitted Brown and Gilmore – he established a postal service in the province.

The English merchants who had set up businesses in the colony often complained about the lack of facilities for the transmission of their letters and commercial papers between Quebec, Montreal and the American cities. At that time, Franklin, as one of the Deputy Postmasters General in North America, was asked to set up a postal system in Quebec.

Franklin surveyed the road between New York and Quebec City with an associate. The two men discovered the existence of a system of relay stations (road houses) already in place along the St. Lawrence River. Starting in 1734, these stations had been set up at 14-kilometre intervals on the newly opened King's Road. Travellers could change horses at these stops while making the four-to-five-day trek between Quebec and Montreal. This network greatly facilitated Franklin's job. He and his colleague did not have to create an infrastructure for transporting overland mail. They set up post offices in Montreal, Trois-Rivières and Quebec City. They contracted Hugh Finlay, a Quebec City merchant, to handle the mail, and they implemented the procedures already in place in the American colonies. Finlay continued the work. He hired mailmen and postal workers and arranged for a monthly courier from Montreal to New York to coincide with the schedule of the regular packet-boat sailing to and from Britain.

On June 10, 2013, in recognition of its beginnings, Canada Post unveiled a new stamp showing a portrait of Benjamin Franklin and a representation of Quebec City in 1763.

Franklin was back in the province in 1776 to try to convince the Canadiens to join in the revolution against England. But that is another story.

Morning Chronicle

VOL. XLII. QUEBEC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1888. No. 14,912

AFTERNOON REPORTS.

MIDNIGHT REPORTS.

CANADIAN REPORTS.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY OF CANADA.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

TRAINS LEAVE QUEBEC.

ALLAN LINE.

DOMINION LIN

CUNARD LINE.

Colonel Benedict ARNOLD

Unwillingly and unwittingly, Benedict Arnold became a contributor to the ancestor of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.* A special edition of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec,* on March 14, 1776, contained extracts from two letters written by Arnold. At that time, the American Revolution was underway and Quebec City was under siege by American rebel forces.

In the fall of 1775, Colonel Benedict Arnold led an armed contingent of 700 men through the forests of Maine and the region of Beauce, following the Kennebec and Chaudière rivers. The journey was an ordeal and the soldiers nearly starved to death. Finally, in early November 1775, they set up camp on the Plains of Abraham and awaited reinforcements. They were joined by Brigadier General Richard Montgomery and his men. Without artillery, the American commander estimated that only attacking during a snowstorm could lead to the capture of the city. Such an assault took place on New Year's Eve, 1775, and ended in complete disaster. Montgomery was killed, Arnold wounded, and 431 men taken prisoners.

Despite his injury, Arnold took command of the remaining men and maintained the siege around Quebec City. Two messages that he had written to his superiors were intercepted by the British, and Governor Guy Carleton decided to publish extracts from them to boost the morale of the city's defenders and discourage rebel sympathizers. The letters are dated January 6 and 14, 1776. The following extract from the second letter was printed in *The Quebec Gazette:*

"The charge which has devolved upon me has been a most arduous task; our last disaster so disheartened the troops that I have had the greatest difficulty to keep them together. Our whole force since the attack amounts to no more than 700 men. We were for some time in expectation of an attack from the garrison consisting of 1,500, but they have as yet thought proper to continue in their stronghold and we have effectually blocked them up."

The caption of this reproduction of a painting by Thomas Hart (1776) reads: "COLONEL ARNOLD, Who commanded the Provincial Troops went against QUEBEC, through the Wilderness of Canada and was Wounded in storming that City, under General Montgomery." The painting is in the Anne Brown Collection at Brown University.

The American siege of Quebec forced William Brown to suspend publication of his newspaper on November 30, 1775. He and his employees were issued rifles and joined the militia taking part in the defence of the besieged capital. After a British fleet and a large army arrived in early May 1776, the attackers withdrew, and were chased south of the border on July 2, the day the American Congress voted for independence.

Brown wanted to resume publishing in May 1776, but Governor Carleton denied him permission. This was not the only time *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec* was forced to stop printing. The first time was on October 31, 1765, during the Stamp Act crisis, a key event that led to the American Revolution, and publication did not resume until May 29, 1766, when it was learned that the Act had been repealed.

In 1776, the paper's circulation resumed on 8 August. That day, the headline at the very top of the front page read: "The Resurrection No. 2."

John NEILSON

Samuel Neilson had only a brief career as owner of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec.* On January 12, 1793, less than four years after inheriting his uncle's printing shop, he died, just 22 years old. His younger brother John was his successor.

Born in 1776 in Dornal, Scotland, John Neilson joined the printing shop on Côte de la Montagne in 1791, and was only 16 when he unexpectedly became its proprietor. Being so young, he was made a ward of the Reverend Alexander Spark, the pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, until he reached the age of majority.

As he gained in experience and maturity, John Neilson made changes to his newspaper. On January 7, 1808, he introduced an enlarged format. Ten years later, he changed publication of *The Gazette* from once a week to twice a week, Mondays and Thursdays.

In its first half-century, the newspaper founded by Brown and Gilmore did not get involved in politics. After the War of 1812, however, there was a gradual change in approach at the paper. Fluently bilingual, John Neilson had married Marie-Ursule Hubert in Trois-Rivières in 1797. During the time of Governor James Craig, Neilson became a friend of the Canadian Party. In 1818, he ran for election in the constituency of Quebec and won. He remained in the Lower House until 1834.

In 1822, to avoid a conflict of interest situation, John Neilson sold his business; two-thirds of the shares went to his son Samuel and one-third went to William Cowan. Under Samuel's management, *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec* came into conflict with Governor Dalhousie *(see A Tale of Two Gazettes).* In 1827, Samuel even faced four counts of libel. The charges were eventually dropped after the departure of the Governor. Suffering from tuberculosis, Samuel dissolved his partnership with Cowan on April 30, 1836, and bequeathed the printing shop to his brother William a month later. Samuel died on June 17, 1837.

From that date forward, although the paper stated it was "Printed and Published by William Neilson," it was actually John Neilson who, under power of attorney in 1837, took on the daily management of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec.* He ran it until his death on February 1, 1848. His remains lie in the cemetery of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Saint-Gabriel-de-Valcartier.

Photo of John Neilson by J.E. Livernois
Bibliothèque et Archives Nationales du Québec

CENTENARY NUMBER.

Quebec Gazette.

ILLUSTRATED EDITION.

VOLUME 102. QUEBEC, TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 1904. PRICE 15 CENTS.

CENTENARY OF THE QUEBEC GAZETTE.

Philippe AUBERT DE GASPÉ

The association of Philippe Aubert de Gaspé with *The Quebec Gazette-La Gazette de Québec* is representative of the relationship that existed between the provincial administration and the newspaper founded by Brown and Gilmore from its beginning in 1764 until the creation of an official government medium in 1823. Aubert de Gaspé was the sheriff of the district of Quebec from May 9, 1816, to November 4, 1822. In this capacity, he placed many announcements in the *Gazette* related to the sale of confiscated property, the maintenance of the peace and the proclamation of special events.

Philippe Aubert de Gaspé circa 1820
Encyclopédie du Patrimoine culturel
Amérique français

The April 24, 1820, edition of *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec* reported an important event in which Aubert de Gaspé was involved in the performance of his duties. King George III of Great Britain was dead, and his second son ascended the throne under the name of George IV. In his capacity as sheriff, it was the responsibility of Aubert de Gaspé to proclaim the news through the streets of Quebec. The newspaper notice tells of the matter, indicating also the other authorities who accompanied him on the occasion.

The announcements of Aubert de Gaspé in *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec* lasted barely over five years, not because the newspaper lost its affiliation with the colonial administration (see article titled *A Tale of Two Gazettes*) but because the young man lost his job, being in debt to the Crown for a large sum. He found himself on the brink of ruin and he eventually sought refuge in the family manor in Saint-Jean-Port-Joli. His creditors caught up with him a few years later and he spent, as he himself stated "three years, four months and five days" in the Quebec Gaol (later converted into Morrin College and now known as the Morrin Centre).

The owners of the *Gazette* also had money problems in their relationship with the government. But in this case the fault was the administration's. The subsidies needed to be augmented regularly, especially in view of the increased workload. Demands had to be submitted frequently and patience shown until the necessary funds were finally voted.

Aubert de Gaspé benefited somewhat from his stay in prison, becoming involved with literature. His second contact with Neilson's newspaper is related to this change in his vocation. In 1837, De Gaspé's son published a book entitled *L'influence d'un livre*. But there is no doubt that the novel owed much to the father. The work was subjected to much criticism. In the February 10, 1838 edition of *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec*, the reporter concluded that "great was the disappointment of the subscribers over M. de Gaspé's historico-poetic mish-mash." This kind of remark discouraged the young novelist, but the father, having much reflected and done extensive research later produced the highly successful *Les Anciens Canadiens*.

Louis Joseph Papineau.
Head-and-shoulders cabinet portrait, originally taken c 1860s. A note on the reverse reads: ' 'Galerie Historique Canadienne.' Fondée en 1893 par Albert Ferland, artiste et publiciste canadien, Montreal, Canada.'

Source: British Library's Canadian Copyright Collection.

Louis-Joseph PAPINEAU

During the 1820s, Louis-Joseph Papineau occasionally wrote letters that were published in *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec.* However, in any discussion about the history of the newspaper, Papineau deserves mention more because of his interaction with the publisher, John Neilson, than because of his correspondence with the paper.

When Neilson was elected to Lower Canada's Parliament in 1818, it was under the banner of the Canadian Party, then led by Papineau. The two men shared the same views about the social structure of the province, and were particularly in favour of the seigneurial system. They complemented each other, Neilson being a patient man, and a foil to the fiery Papineau. They worked well together as delegates of the House of Assembly when they travelled to London to protest the Union Bill of 1822 proposing the legislative union of Upper and Lower Canada. As the decade progressed, however, Neilson began slowly to dissociate himself from Papineau and his position.

Nonetheless, in the 1820s, Neilson proved a valuable member of the Canadian Party and *The Quebec Gazette* supported their political program. On March 29, 1830, Papineau thanked him publicly for his services. But soon a split began to develop between the two men, as Neilson sought means of reconciliation with the administration. In March 1833, he wrote "The constitution had first been betrayed by the governor and the Legislative Council, and is now being betrayed by the Assembly." The break came in 1834 following the adoption of the 92 Resolutions, which Neilson considered too radical. He consequently lost his seat at the next election.

Neilson's political demise coincided with the end of his son Samuel's leadership of the family newspaper because of illness. Back at the helm of *The Gazette*, John Neilson used his pen to combat the extreme views of the Patriot party. The period following his return as publisher is generally recognized as the high point in the life of the newspaper and its moment of greatest renown.

Samuel Neilson had transformed *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec* into a daily starting on May 2, 1832. The bilingual format was maintained in a new way. The Monday, Wednesday and Friday editions were published in English and the Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday sheets came out in French. Ten years later, John Neilson decided on a totally new approach with regard to his French-speaking readership. He hired Ronald Macdonald and tasked him to produce an independent French edition that would compete with the local publications in French. Macdonald included a significant portion of religious content in *La Gazette de Québec* in an attempt to satisfy local interest in the subject. The experiment ended in failure, six months later. On October 29, 1842, the newspaper became *The Quebec Gazette*, an exclusively English-language tri-weekly. Thus ended 79 years of bilingual reporting.

Quebec Gazette.

COMMERCIAL AND SHIPPING JOURNAL.

QUEBEC, WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 1864. PRICE TWO PENCE.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL. Coal Oil for Sale. CITY HALL. NOTICE. Firewood for Sale. O'Reilly's Mustard. W. WRIGHT, MERCHANT TAILOR. REMOVAL. W. WRIGHT, No. 2, Mountain Hill. New Music. Mr. P.P. and Mr. L.C. Mountain Herb Pills. ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY. MONTREAL OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO'Y. Summer 1864.

ROBERT MIDDLETON

The present day *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* is the result of the merger of three major newspapers over the past 250 years. The second of the trio, *The Morning Chronicle,* was founded by Robert Middleton and Charles Saint-Michel. Number 1, volume 1 of the paper appeared on May 18, 1847.

The office of *The Morning Chronicle* was also on Mountain Hill, at number 25. In the summer months the paper was a daily and, from early November to the end of April, it appeared three times a week.

Shortly after his arrival from England in 1832, Robert Middleton joined the staff of *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec.* He quickly rose through the ranks in the business. Quebec City journalist and author George Gale recalled that early in his career at Neilson's office, Robert Middleton was the only member of the editorial staff and as such, was lead writer, news editor, financial reporter, and much more.

In 1847, the political crisis about responsible government brought Middleton to found a new publication – *The Morning Chronicle* – in which he would defend the views of Robert Baldwin and Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine against editorialists such as John Neilson. With his colourful and direct style, Middleton became well reputed and much respected as a journalist.

Bibliotheque and Archives Canada
MIKAN number 3330653
Credit: Jules-Ernest Livernois

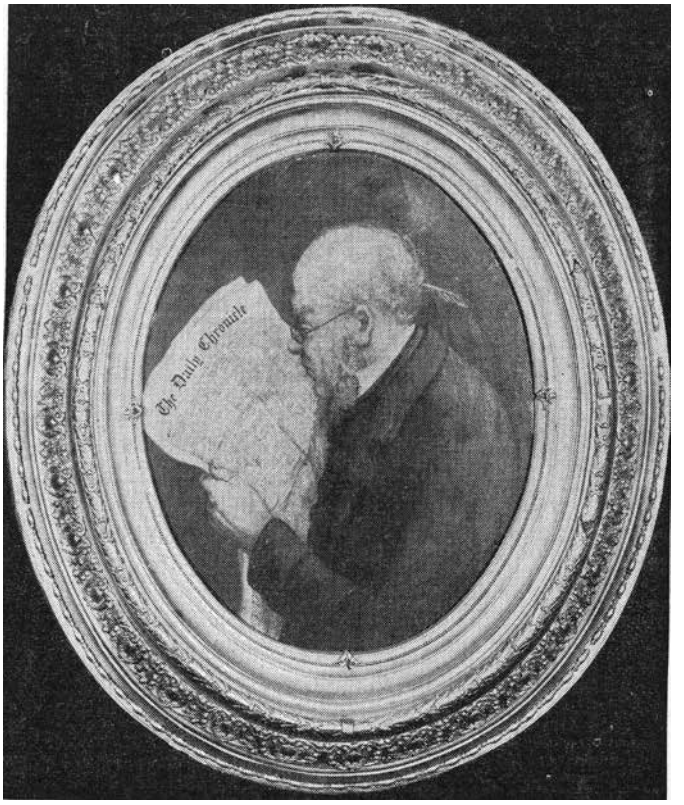
John Neilson died on February 1, 1848, and Ronald Macdonald became editor of *The Quebec Gazette* until 1849. William Neilson stayed on as the paper's printer and publisher until May 1, 1848, when his brother, John Neilson Jr., acquired full ownership. At that time *The Gazette* also became a daily in the summer and was printed three times a week in winter. Only two years after Middleton founded *The Morning Chronicle,* John Jr. managed to lure him to *The Gazette* as editor and part-owner starting on May 1, 1849.

Middleton sold his share of *The Morning Chronicle* to his partner Saint-Michel on April 10, 1849. The Brown and Neilson family connection to *The Quebec Gazette* ended on November 11, 1850, when John Jr. in turn sold his share of the partnership to Middleton, making him sole owner.

John J. FOOTE

At the *Morning Chronicle* a weekly edition was started on May 18, 1848, for distribution in the Eastern Townships.

After Middleton returned to *The Quebec Gazette,* his former partner Charles Saint-Michel managed *The Morning Chronicle.* He changed the name to *Morning Chronicle Commercial and Shipping Gazette* on November 4, 1850.



(From the June 21, 1939, 175th anniversary souvenir booklet of the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph)

This portrait is said to be of one of the two Foote brothers, early editors of *The Morning Chronicle* before it was amalgamated with the Daily Telegraph in 1925. The original used to hang in the business office of the *Chronicle-Telegraph* on Buade Street. Its present location is unknown. If anyone knows anything about the whereabouts of this painting, please contact the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Middleton's *Gazette* remained a tri-weekly until May 29, 1856, when it again became a daily. To help finance the venture, Robert Middleton went into partnership with Thomas Dawson. Unfortunately, the change proved unsuccessful and *The Gazette* returned to a three-times-a-week circulation on May 6, 1857.

On March 16, 1860, Samuel B. Foote's name appeared on the masthead of both the *Morning* and the *Weekly Chronicle* as owner and editor. The new proprietor invited his brother John to join him as a partner on January 20, 1863, and John Foote became the editor. In 1878, Samuel sold his share to his brother and left for Montreal where he founded the *Shareholder,* a financial publication.

John Jackson Foote was born in Tavistock in the county of Devon, England, on February 15, 1832. As a young man, he spent three years in Dublin, Ireland, learning the wholesale tea business. After emigrating to Canada, he settled in London, Ontario, and later joined his brother in Quebec City. He was considered a typical English gentleman of the old school. He died on April 19,1897, at the age of 65.

In the latter half of the 19th century, the advent of steam-powered, iron-hulled ships brought on a crisis in the timber trade and shipbuilding industry, with the result that the English-speaking population of Quebec City began to decline. The moving of the national capital to Ottawa and the departure of the British garrison from the Citadel compounded the exodus. Furthermore, at this time the navigable channel of the St. Lawrence was made deeper to allow ocean-going ships access to Montreal, and a new railway was located on the south shore; both these events encouraged a growing number of Quebec City financiers and professionals to seek their living further west. Consequently, local newspapers experienced significant drops in readership. When Robert Middleton died on August 27, 1874, John J. Foote saw the opportunity to buy *The Quebec Gazette.*

When John J. Foote took over the paper founded 110 years earlier by William Brown and Thomas Gilmore, he merged it with his own sheet. The last edition of *The Quebec Gazette* was dated October 30, 1874.

The November 2, 1874, edition came out anew as a daily with a new name. The *Morning Chronicle Commercial and Shipping Gazette,* marked "Volume XXVIII" and "Number 10810," indicated a continuation of *The Chronicle* with no apparent change caused by the merger with the old *Quebec Gazette.* However, in a rectangle the width of a column, this brief notice was printed in regular-sized type and repeated in subsequent editions:

MORNING CHRONICLE
Established 1847

QUEBEC GAZETTE
ESTABLISHED 1764

Incorporated 1874

Image from the *Quebec Saturday Budget*, March 14, 1891.

JAMES CARREL

Almost a year from the day the last copy of *The Quebec Gazette* was printed, a new daily newspaper appeared in Quebec City. On November 9, 1875, the first edition of *The Daily Telegraph*, selling for one penny, did not have any subscribers. Its founder, James Carrel, relied only on competitiveness among his paper boys to distribute the four-page newspaper, whose original format was even smaller than the present-day *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. In its first year the publication came out twice a day and rapidly met with success. In 1876, there were even three daily editions.

Unlike *The Morning Chronicle*, *The Daily Telegraph* was liberal in philosophy and was aimed at the working class. Born in Quebec City, James Carrel was of Irish descent and had been raised in the poor neighbourhood of Saint-Roch. His newspaper supported the labour movement and generally called for better conditions for working men. James Carrel renamed his publication *The Quebec Daily Telegraph* on December 2, 1879, and enlarged the format. He took advantage of this change to double the price to two cents.

A popular personage in his own right, James Carrel was highly respected in the press milieu. He was also involved in municipal politics, and served as an alderman for the Montcalm ward. When he died, over 2,000 people joined his funeral procession from St. Matthew's Church on St. John Street to Mount Hermon cemetery in Sillery on March 12, 1891.

James's son Frank, who inherited the business, changed the sheet back to its original name on December 15, 1891. Frank Carrel also acquired respect as a newspaper man, but his style was very different from his father's (see "Frank Carrel and *The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*" on page 46)

The Daily Telegraph was the third in the triad of major newspapers at the origin of the present-day *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. Its first and only true home since 1875 was on Buade Street at the corner of Du Trésor Street. These quarters were destroyed by fire in 1907 and the paper had to move temporarily, but it returned after the construction of the splendid building still in existence at the same location.

On July 8, 1909, Frank Carrel formed the Telegraph Printing Company to own and manage *The Daily Telegraph*. He became its president and remained in this post until the creation of *The Chronicle-Telegraph*.

THE QUEBEC DAILY TELEGRAPH.

Vol. XIV. No. 217 QUEBEC CITY, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 21, 1889. Price One Cent.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

For Cramps, Chills, Colic, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera-Morbus and all Bowel Complaints,

NO REMEDY EQUALS

PAIN-KILLER

AND

49 Years' Experience proves that PERRY DAVIS' PAIN-KILLER is the best Family Medicine

Bruises, Sprains, Rheumatism, Neuralgia

Quebec, Montmorency & Charlevoix Railway.

Open for Traffic Saturday, Aug 10th.

BUGGIES! DOG CARTS

FRANK CARREL

Adapted by Charles André Nadeau from an article by historian Jean-Marie Lebel, published in Cap-aux-Diamants *magazine, Number 23, Fall 1990*

(Photo by J. E. Livernois from the Bibliothèque et archives nationales du Québec)

Frank Carrel (1870-1940), publisher of *The Daily Telegraph,* which became the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Behind the successive mergers and traditions of 250 years of press history stands Frank Carrel. At the time of Frank Carrel's birth in 1870, he and his family lived in a small flat above his father's printing shop. Young Frank grew up amid the hustle and bustle of the press world. He recalled, "I started work on the old *Telegraph* at 11 years of age, at the big salary of $2.00 per week, filling the job of handy messenger, clerk, etc."

THE WORKING MAN'S NEWSPAPER

In the fall of 1875, his father, James Carrel, shook up the staid Quebec City press by founding *The Daily Telegraph*, a penny daily aimed at the working class. An Irish Protestant from the working-class neighbourhood of Saint-Roch, James Carrel learned his trade at *The Mercury*. The *Telegraph* demanded better working conditions and took the side of the turbulent Quebec Ship Labourers' Benevolent Society. Within a year its 40 or so paper boys were selling 3,000 copies a day.

On March 8, 1891, at age 47, James Carrel died unexpectedly. An editorialist described him as "the genial, the wholesouled James Carrel, the friend of the poor, the oppressed and the workingman, the ardent advocate of the Irish cause."

THE YOUNG PUBLISHER

Ownership and management of the newspaper fell to the deceased's only son, Frank Carrel. It was a great challenge for a 20-year-old of delicate health. However, the young publisher gave new energy and impetus to the daily, writing the editorials for many years. He called for the construction of a bridge and improvements to Old City that would help it enter the 20th century. An admirer of Wilfrid Laurier, Félix-Gabriel Marchand, and Simon-Napoléon Parent, Carrel defended the Liberal Party against regular Conservative attacks.

A PALACE OF THE PRESS

The year 1907 brought ordeals and renewal to *The Telegraph*. In Marseille on February 24, Frank Carrel was preparing to sail to Egypt when a telegram informed him that fire had destroyed the newspaper's office and printing shop.

Carrel set up temporary quarters in an old building at the back of Cyrille Duquet's jewellery store on Fabrique Hill. Sometimes lightning does strike twice and, on November 28, 1907, the temporary quarters also caught fire.

Undeterred, Carrel decided to rebuild on the site *The Telegraph* had occupied, since its founding, at the corner of Buade and Trésor streets. He hired architect Georges-Émile Tanguay to design a building adapted to his publishing business (printing the newspaper, book-binding, and job printing). In Montreal, *La Presse, La Patrie* and the *Star* were housed in large, modern buildings. In Quebec City, Carrel built a true "palace of the press," to use an expression of the time.

A TRUE GENTLEMAN

Carrel was a true "British" gentleman. An elegant, attractive man of dignified bearing, he frequented the smart people of the city's upper crust, unlike his father, who had always remained close to the working people.

Always active in his community, Carrel founded the Quebec City section of the Rotary Club in 1912 and, from 1930 to 1934, he was President of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.

A nature lover and a member of exclusive fishing clubs and golf clubs, he gladly agreed to become honorary sponsor of the association for the protection of fish and game. On more than one occasion, he called for a stop to the abuse of horses in Quebec City, particularly on Mountain Hill.

THE HAPPY WANDERER

An observant tourist sensitive to local customs, Carrel wrote reports of his travels and sent them to *The Telegraph* for publication. He later collected the articles in a book called *Canada's West and Farther West* (1911) and a second book called *A Round the World Cruise* (1917).

NEWSPAPER MERGERS

There were 15,500 Anglophones in the city in 1881, but only 8,500 by 1921. In 1903, *The Mercury* was forced to close its doors. T*he Morning Chronicle* was more financially stable, but it too was having hard times. *The Daily Telegraph's* circulation dropped from 12,000 in 1910 to about 5,000 by the early 1920s. In 1924, the Price Brothers and Carrel began to discuss the unthinkable: a merger of *The Morning Chronicle* and *The Daily Telegraph*.

On July 2, 1925, the first edition of *The Chronicle-Telegraph* appeared on newsstands. It was published by the Chronicle-Telegraph Company, owned jointly by Carrel and the Price family. Representing compromises between Conservative and Liberal positions and the wealthy with the working class, the new publication as aimed to be the communications vehicle of all local English-speakers. In 1932, Carrel became president of the company. Two years later the paper's name was changed to the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. In 1937, after working more than half a century in the newspaper trade, Carrel retired. A group of local businessmen purchased the newspaper and its premises.

AN UNOFFICIAL AMBASSADOR

Carrel made an effort to boost tourism in his articles and talks. In 1893, he published *Carrel's Illustrated Guide & Map of Quebec*. Updated and published anew almost yearly, this tourist guide became the "Michelin guide" of visitors to Quebec City for more than half a century. In 1894 and 1896 he was the driving force of the first grand winter carnivals which drew wealthy American visitors to Quebec City.

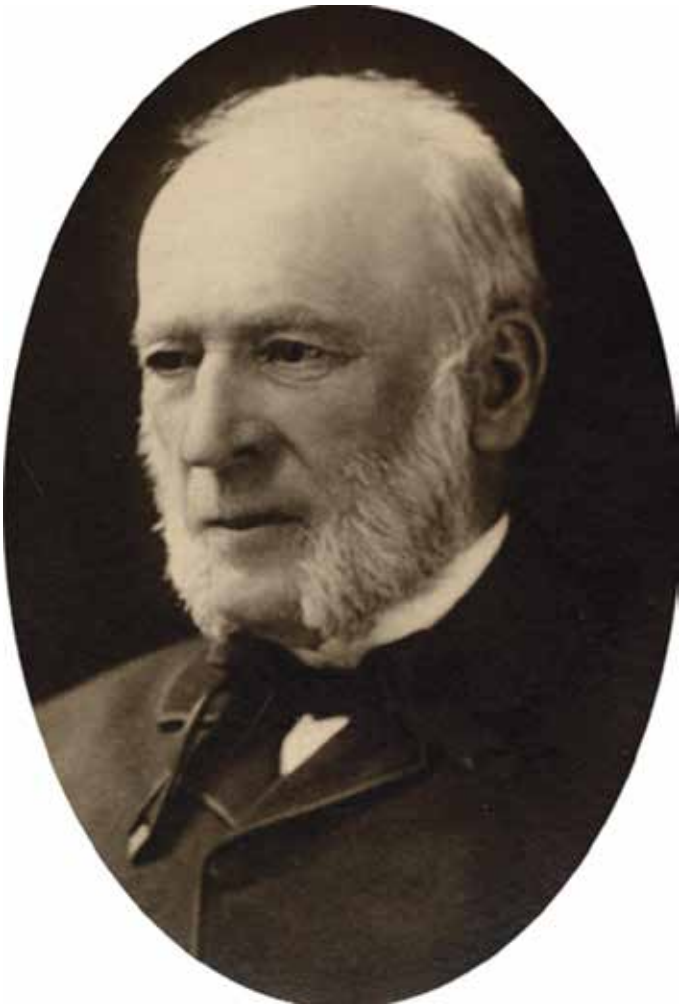
In February 1918, Premier Lomer Gouin appointed Frank Carrel to the Legislative Council.* Although others saw the appointment merely as a well-deserved "golden handshake" from a grateful politician, Carrel took his new role seriously. He went on rounds of the villages in his division (Golfe) and lobbied the various government agencies on behalf of the area's citizens and businessmen.

Carrel knew "the right people" and, with his diplomatic skills, he also became an unofficial ambassador for the Canadian press. In 1927 he served as the Canadian delegate at the world press conference held in Geneva under the auspices of the League of Nations.

Continued on page 52

James MCPHERSON LE MOINE

In the 19th century, newspapers often changed their names or moved to a new address. This was certainly the case for *The Morning Chronicle*. On February 4, 1888, John J. Foote dispensed of the lengthy title of *Morning Chronicle* Commercial and Shipping *Gazette* and brought back the original appellation. Three months later, he added the word Quebec at the beginning. Six days later, the *Weekly Chronicle* received the same modification.



Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

On June 1, 1892, J.J. Foote revived the name *The Quebec Gazette* to replace the *Quebec Weekly Chronicle*. The newspaper even resurrected the numbering of the publication founded by William Brown and Thomas Gilmore. It was marked Volume 113, Number 12,240. For the occasion, Quebec City author and barrister James McPherson Le Moine wrote a note for the paper: "St. Louis street, its storied past. On, on we go past the imposing new Court House, just completed on the site of the former one, dating back to 1814 and destroyed by fire in 1871. In this neighbourhood also in 1764, Brown and Gilmore printed, 24 years before the *London Times*, the first number of *The Quebec Gazette*, two doors higher than the Secretary's office, wherever the latter may have been." This note appeared at the top of the front page.

The well-known and respected McPherson Le Moine wrote a few times in the pages of the forerunners of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. On November 8, 1860, he submitted an article entitled "Quebec and its Environs two Hundred Years ago" to the *Morning Chronicle Commercial and Shipping Gazette*. In 1900, he wrote "Fur, Fire and Feather" in *The Quebec Chronicle*. In the same newspaper, however, his most important contribution was a 14-part series on the history of the local harbour. "The Port of Quebec, its Annals, 1535-1900" appeared between November 3, 1900, and March 9, 1901.

More recently, in 2014, the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* spoke of James McPherson Le Moine in two articles, one announcing the launching of his final work, entitled *Glimpses and Reminiscences*, and the other a review of the book. Containing his memoirs, the book was, in fact, the well-researched and highly documented work of his nephew Roger Le Moine, who assembled the various documents to create the publication.

The revival of the name *The Quebec Gazette* did not last very long. Following the death of J.J. Foote, the new owners again changed the title of the daily, on October 17, 1898, this time to *The Quebec Chronicle*. The next month, the weekly became *The Quebec Chronicle and Gazette*.

Along with these name changes, there was also a change of address. The original location had been 25 Mountain Street at the corner of Sault-au-Matelot, and a building at 9 Buade Street became the paper's new home.

Painting of Major-General Sir David Watson
by William Orpen
National Gallery of Canada

SIR DAVID WATSON

The death of J.J. Foote in 1897 almost signalled the end of *The Quebec Morning Chronicle.* The heir to the estate, John Trevor Foote, became proprietor and editor, but he seemed neither interested in nor capable of operating the paper. A forward-looking staff member, David Watson, persuaded Quebec City lawyer Charles Andrew Pentland to purchase the daily. Watson and Pentland, with others, created the Chronicle Printing Company, which then bought the newspaper from the Foote family.

The new management issued the first edition on October 17, 1898, under the name *The Quebec Chronicle.* The company's president was John Sharples Jr., a businessman and politician who had been mayor of Sillery and was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1893. Sharples died on July 30, 1913, and was succeeded by J.T. Ross, the vice-president.

David Watson joined the staff of *The Quebec Morning Chronicle* in 1891. On April 2, 1901, he was appointed managing director and, despite his absence for the duration of the Great War, he kept the title until August 1, 1921.

The Quebec Chronicle.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT DECLARES WAR AGAINST SERVIA

HOME MADE JAPANESE

A. GRENIER

GERMANY, REJECTING BRITISH PROPOSALS FOR MEDIATION PAVES WAY FOR HOSTILITIES

SOLEMN THOUSANDS PAY LAST TRIBUTE TO DUBLIN'S DEAD

The Quebec Chronicle.

ADVANCE GUARDS OF VAST ARMIES CLASH AS ENEMIES CLOSE IN FOR GREAT BATTLE

Cavalry Engagements Are Reported From Northern Belgium And French Frontier---Allies Score Further Successes---Austria Moves On Russian Poland---British Fleet Corners German Far Eastern Squadron---Ships Of Commerce Move Freely

WAR SUMMARY

CANADA LINES HUSBAND RESOURCES

GERMAN SPY HUB CARRIER PIGEONS

Well before the war Watson enlisted as a private in the 8th Royal Rifles, a Quebec City militia regiment; he obtained a commission in 1900 and by 1910 was a major. On February 12, 1912, now a lieutenant-colonel, he took command of his regiment. In August 1914, at the age of 45, he volunteered to join the first contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force and was given command of its 2nd Infantry Battalion. For his performance in battle, he was promoted to brigadier-general in August 1915 and became leader of the 5th Infantry Brigade. In 1916, as major-general, he commanded the 4th Canadian Division.

David Watson was knighted in 1918 for his contribution to the war effort. Shortly after his return to Canada on July 1, 1919, he purchased the remaining shares of the Chronicle Printing Company and became president. Arthur G. Penny, editor of *The Quebec Chronicle*, became vice-president. Under Sir David's leadership, the newspaper grew in size and circulation, attracted more advertisers, and became highly profitable.

While Major-General Watson was still fighting the war in Europe, the office of *The Quebec Chronicle* on Buade Street was one of the businesses severely damaged in the anti-conscription riot that took place on March 20, 1918.

On the evening of February 9, 1922, Sir David Watson suffered a paralytic stroke while playing cards at the Garrison Club. He died nine days later. His funeral was marked by a 13-gun salute. He was another of the esteemed pillars of Quebec City society who owned a newspaper in the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph* family.

circa 1924
Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec

SIR WILLIAM PRICE

Sir William Price was not very interested in purchasing *The Quebec Chronicle* and its weekly counterpart *The Quebec Chronicle* and *Gazette.* He had, however, given assurances both to Sir David Watson that he would protect Lady Watson's interests, and to the Hon. Arthur Meighen that he would safeguard the partnership between the Conservatives and the paper.

In his will, Sir David Watson had given instructions to sell the *Chronicle* for the benefit of his estate. The shares were recalled, the company was dissolved and the estate administrator James Craig, Watson's son-in-law, took control of the paper.

Time passed. Craig waited to be approached by Sir William, who was stalling in hopes that he would not have to buy the paper. At *The Daily Telegraph*, Frank Carrel also bided his time, hoping to be offered the publication at a low price.

On January 17, 1923, Sir William Price finally bought the newspaper through a new corporation known as the Quebec Chronicle Printing Company. J.H. Stephens, assistant comptroller at Price Bros, was appointed president, though he had no knowledge of the press industry. Arthur G. Penny stayed on as editor and P.J. Egan as manager.

The new business turned out to be rather short-lived. The continued decline in the city's English-speaking population led to lower circulation, and now there was no room for two dailies in the capital. For the already struggling *Quebec Chronicle*, matters were exacerbated by the accidental death of Sir William Price, on October 2, 1924.

Although *The Quebec Chronicle* and *The Daily Telegraph* espoused dissimilar ideologies and favoured opposing political parties, the decision was made to amalgamate the sheets. Negotiations were conducted between Brigadier John H. Price, who was Sir William's eldest son, and Frank Carrel. Another new company was formed: the Chronicle-Telegraph Printing Company, and J. Leonard Apedaille, managing director of Price Brothers, was named president. A disappointed Frank Carrel became vice-president.

On July 2, 1925, the first edition of *The Chronicle-Telegraph* came off the presses in the modern building at the corner of Buade and Du Trésor. On February 5, 1934, the paper's name was changed to *The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.*

TO-DAY'S WEATHER. MOSTLY FAIR AND WARM.

The Quebec Chronicle.

TEMPERATURES.

ONE CENT.

ESTABLISHED 1764.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1914.

POPE DIES OF BROKEN HEART

GRIEF OVER EUROPEAN WAR HASTENED DEATH OF PIUS X

Deploring Its "Inhuman Butchery" He Brooded Over The Clash Of Nations By Day And Dreamt Of It By Night---Striving For Peace His Regret Was Deep Because His Efforts Were Futile---Sketch Of His Life

Summer Wines

A. GRENIER.

The Quebec Chronicle

THE LATE POPE PIUS.

CONTRACT GRANTED FOR THE TERR'CE RECONSTRUCTION

HEARTRENING SCENES.

SURVIVING MEMBERS OF THE LATE POPE'S FAMILY

(image from the Dunn family archives)
Major Gwyllym Dunn was a part-owner and editor of the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph from 1937 to 1967.

GWYLLYM DUNN

The merger of *The Quebec Chronicle* and *The Daily Telegraph* in 1925 was not accomplished without difficulties.

The paper ceased publishing a morning edition and came out at midday and at 4:00 p.m., thus requiring only one staff. Personnel cuts ensued, resulting in financial savings, but also leading to downgraded positions or job loss for employees of both previous newspapers. Problems adjusting to new work procedures were also inevitable. The biggest challenge, however, was ideological. It had been understood that the paper would be Conservative on the federal scene and Liberal at the provincial level, a difficult balancing act. In practice this proved unsatisfactory to all.

In 1932, the Chronicle-Telegraph Printing Company made a loan from its reserve fund to the Quebec Investment Co. Frank Carrel claimed that the gesture broke the terms of the merger agreement. The Price family then had to sell him control of the voting shares. Carrel assumed the presidency and E.G. Smith became vice-president and general manager. Five years later, Carrel felt ready for retirement.

On June 12, 1937, the partnership of Gwyllym Dunn, J.S. O'Meara and H.S. Quart acquired 50 percent of the company. The Price family held the rest. Dunn became president and O'Meara was his second. Quart later sold his share to his two colleagues. On July 8, 1949, the Thompson Conglomerate purchased all the shares belonging to O'Meara and the Price family.

At the end of 1950, Arthur G. Penny, who had been editor since 1917, retired. Dunn then took over the position until his death at age 82, on December 28, 1967.

Gwyllym Dunn was another prominent citizen of Quebec City. He had fought in World War I and was generally referred to by his rank of Major. Dunn operated a small weekly called *The Quebec News* which, during the previous provincial election, he had made into a daily. Once in control of the Chronicle-Telegraph Printing Company, Dunn re-organized it and merged his little paper with the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. On August 11, 1942, he changed the company name to Quebec Newspapers Limited.

After World War II, the management found it necessary to expand and modernize the production facilities. The Buade Street building was nearly 50 years old and, for the purposes of running a mid-twentieth-century newspaper, was now obsolete. Also, for the company's fleet of vehicles, there were too few convenient parking spaces.

The new home of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* was built in the Saint-Malo district, at 255 Saint-Sacrement Avenue. Construction began in May 1948, and on September 14, 1949, Premier Maurice Duplessis came for the official opening of the premises of the newspaper that stood firmly behind him. The Buade Street edifice was converted to a modern store and rented to new tenants in the summer of 1950.

ROY H. THOMPSON

When newspaper magnate Roy Herbert Thompson bought part of the holdings of the parent company of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* in 1949, he did not become involved in its day-to-day operation.

At the time, his media empire included more than 200 newspapers and Thompson was mainly, if not exclusively, concerned with the bottom line, leaving the directors to manage the business. He was not present at the official ceremony in 1949 marking the inauguration of the paper's new office in Saint-Malo.

On January 23, 1961, Charles G. Dunn sold his shares of Quebec Newspapers Ltd. to the Thompson Group, which then became the sole owner. Dunn remained president of Quebec Newspapers and editor of the paper. J.H. Monaghan replaced Dunn after his death in December 1967.

On November 3, 1971, the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* once again became a weekly like its predecessor, *The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Québec*. Herbert Murphy bought it on October 3, 1973. Six years later, on December 16, 1979, Murphy in turn sold it to a group that included television broadcaster Robert Dawson and lawyers David Cannon, Jean Lemelin and Ross Rourke. The office was then moved to 980 Holland Avenue where the law firm also had its premises.

On January 1, 1993, Karen Macdonald and François Vézina started publishing the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* from an office located in their home at 3484 Chemin Sainte-Foy.

Pursuing new career opportunities in Montreal, Macdonald and Vézina moved the office to 1248 Chemin Sainte-Foy on July 1, 2007, and a month later they sold the paper to Pierre Little and Peter White. The newspaper's office was moved again on March 1, 2009, to its present location at 1040 Avenue Belvédère.

In November 2010, Raymond Stanton purchased majority shares of the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. His wife, Stacie Stanton is the editor and, together, they are the publishers.

Roy Herbert Thomson, Lord Thomson of Fleet
Alexandra Studio / Library and Archives Canada / PA-052566

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
FINAL EDITION
(With The Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764)
H - Bomb Blast Is Crushing Fury
Explosion Wrecks Steam Hydro Plant
U.S. Rejects Russian Plan For Security
U.S. Discloses Power Of Bomb

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
FINAL EDITION
With The Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764
ISRAEL AIR WAR FLARES
Agreement Reached By Chrysler; UAW
Anglican Bishop Lauds Canadian Fighting Men
Gaza Situation Growing Tense

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
FINAL EDITION
With The Quebec Gazette Published Since 1764
DIEFENBAKER LANDSLIDE
Pearson Pledges His Co-operation
Biggest Election Win Since Confederation
Coldwell "Will Never Run Again For Parliament"

CONGRATULATIONS
from far and wide

"Thank you for your email concerning the marking of the 250th year of the founding of the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph. This is indeed a landmark of some significance and we congratulate you on the longevity of its publication."
– Alan Lawson, The Queen's Prizes Office, London, England

"It's interesting to see a continuously published paper since 1764 – WOW. Impressive. If [the QCT] were a local paper, I'd subscribe to it SOLELY because a subscription would be preserving a bit of heritage. Old trees deserve to be protected …. and so do other parts of our heritage. Once gone – it's gone forever. The publishers should be proud of being part of it."
– John Bouma, Virginia

"What a wonderful paper the Chronicle [sic] has become! Congratulations to the whole team!
– Colette Gosselin

"I don't know how you guys (girls) do it but you really do put out an interesting and diversified paper."
– Lise Lafond

"I have recently been enjoying the increasing diversity of content in the QCT. Having lots of writers is definitely a good thing - each one comes with his or her own interests and different contacts. It is great to see so many distinct aspects of our community reflected in your pages."
– Jan Anderson, Community Organizer at Jeffery Hale Community Services

"I grew up in Quebec City, and the Chronicle [sic] has been in my family's home for generations. It is a publication I really respect. Thank you for the role you continue to play in our community."
– Stephen Burke, Chairman of the Central Quebec School Board

"I am so glad the QCT covers school events. It really helps our kids feel that they belong to a larger English-speaking community that values them."
–Carmen Bowles, Sixth grade teacher, Holland Elementary School

Happy Anniversary!
Happy 250th Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph!
We love you!
– Kathy Magher, Frampton Irish

"I have for some time been going to write and commend you for an exceptionally excellent job you all do to produce the Chronicle [sic]. Your current format is interesting, informative and a great window into this fascinating city of Quebec and all the wonderful people that inhabit it particularly the Anglos.

I have always been very proud to have grown up in this wonderful city and to have lived many of my summers in the area as well. Each week I look forward to receiving my Chronicle [sic] and finding out what's been going on. It truly helps me to feel still very much connected. I thank you very much! Keep up the good work!"
Pat Lyon Reynolds

"We receive the QCT newspaper at our office and it is one of the only ways for people without computers to find out what`s happening in Quebec City and the surroundings. I also refer to your website on a regular basis."
–Maureen Small, Project Coordinator, Megantic English-speaking Community Development Corporation

"In my view, the QCT has greatly improved because of your wider range of interests, and coverage of so many exciting cultural events in the larger community of this stimulating and beautiful city. Many thanks!"
– Esther Greaves

January 19th, 2014

Happy 250th anniversary, QCT!
And congratulations to all members of your team for keeping it alive and making this paper so interesting. Without it, I would miss out on important news such as the appointment of David Blair to the Order of Canada, or the coming of Stuart McLean to Quebec. Actually I heard the date announced on CBC radio, but Shirley's article gave very interesting information about him and the Vinyl Cafe which is one of my favourite shows on CBC. Needless to say, I've already got my ticket to see it.

As a matter of fact, I should mention I always learn something from any article in the paper, so keep up the good work.

Que cette journée soit la première
d'une année remplie de bonheur!
Joyeux anniversaire!

S. here's my subscription for the next 2 years.
Sincerely,
Lucie Bouchard

250 years in the QCT office

Timeline researched and compiled by Charles André Nadeau

JUNE 21, 1764	First edition of *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec* office on Rue Saint-Louis near top of Rue du Trésor (Château Frontenac)
MAY 25, 1765	moved to Rue du Parloir
MAY 5, 1774	moved "behind the cathedral" (Notre-Dame)
MAY 4, 1780	moved to "halfway up Mountain Hill" (Côte de la Montagne)
MAY 18, 1847	First edition of *The Morning Chronicle* (25 Côte de la Montagne)
NOVEMBER 2, 1874	*The Quebec Gazette* merged with *The Morning Chronicle*
OCTOBER 17, 1898	*The Morning Chronicle* renamed *The Quebec Chronicle*
MAY 28, 1900	*The Quebec Chronicle* moved to 9 Rue de Buade
NOVEMBER 9, 1875	First edition of *The Daily Telegraph* at 27 Rue de Buade (old building)
1908	*Daily Telegraph* moved into its new building at 27 Rue de Buade
JUNE 29, 1925	*The Quebec Chronicle* and *Daily Telegraph* merge, now *The Chronicle-Telegraph*
FEBRUARY 5, 1934	*The Chronicle-Telegraph* renamed the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*
SEPTEMBER 14, 1949	*QCT* moved to new building at 255 Avenue Saint-Sacrement
JANUARY 2, 1980	moved to 980 Avenue Holland
APRIL 20, 1988	moved to 22 Rue Sainte-Anne
JANUARY 1, 1993	moved to 3484 Chemin Sainte-Foy
JULY 1, 2007	moved to 1248 Chemin Sainte-Foy
MARCH 1, 2009	moved to 1040 Avenue Belvédère

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
QUEBEC CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH!

The Ontario Community Newspapers Association and its Board of Directors are proud to congratulate the

Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph

for 250 years of service to its readers.

Here's to another 250 years, Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph!

THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY

ocna
Ontario Community Newspapers Association

A tale of two GAZETTES

by Charles André Nadeau

In 1823, the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* was published under its initial name of *The Quebec Gazette*. On October 30 of that year, another newspaper bearing the same name appeared suddenly in the city. The proprietors of the original publication naturally felt like victims of identity theft, protested vehemently in public and undertook legal action to oblige the interloper to change the title of his weekly. What should have been a straightforward case for the courts, however, turned out to be rather complex and delicate, as the person behind the creation of the new sheet was the Governor-in-Chief of the British colonies in North America, Lord Dalhousie.

The first edition of *The Quebec Gazette*, on June 21, 1764, displayed at the top of its front page the royal coat of arms, indicating the paper's official role as communication organ of the colonial government. The newspaper, nevertheless, belonged to William Brown and Thomas Gilmore who, on August 5, 1763, had signed an agreement to operate a printing shop in Quebec City. Before venturing into this undertaking, Brown had written to Governor James Murray to seek permission to operate a newspaper and to request government support. Murray's reply is not known, however, money was paid to the owners of the *Gazette* starting immediately in 1764 for the publication of ordinances and other proclamations of the colonial administration. After Gilmore died, Brown eventually became sole owner of the business and later was named king's printer. This title was not passed on to Brown's successor, but *The Quebec Gazette* remained the written voice of the government throughout the 59 years it existed prior to the appearance of its eponymous competitor.

In 1823, *The Quebec Gazette* was owned by Samuel Neilson and William Cowan. John Neilson, Samuel's father and the previous proprietor, had been elected to the Lower Canada Parliament in 1818 and now, because he was both a parliamentarian and the publisher of the Executive's official medium, he found himself in a situation of conflict of interest. To avoid losing the government contract, he sold the weekly on April 29, 1822. This satisfied the Governor who, on July 3rd of that year, named Samuel Neilson King's Printer. Accordingly, the next day's *The Quebec Gazette* included, below its logo on the front page, the words "Printed by Authority."

"The first edition of The Quebec Gazette, on June 21, 1764, displayed at the top of its front page the royal coat of arms, indicating the paper's official role as communication organ of the colonial government."

In 1822, the merchants' party of Lower Canada, supported by Governor Dalhousie, proposed a political union of the two Canadas. In London, the Secretary of the Colonial Office, Lord Bathurst, introduced a bill in the House of Commons proposing the legislative union of the two provinces. Petitioners for the project viewed such arrangement as an essential condition for the economic development of the St. Lawrence Valley. They saw it also as a means to ensure Anglophone control of the Assembly and, eventually, French-Canadian assimilation. On January 11, 1823, at the opening of the legislative session of Lower Canada, Lord Dalhousie said in his throne speech that the English cabinet had proposed the change to the constitution in the past year, but that the bill had been withdrawn to permit consultation with the people of both colonies.

Library and Archives Canada, Acc. No. 1970-191-1
Artist: Gordon, John Watson, 1788-1864. Sir,
Engraver: Lupton, Thomas Goff, 1791-1873.
Depicted: Dalhousie, George Ramsay, 1770-1838. Earl of, Dalhousie

The Quebec parliamentarians debated the matter and, ten days later, the Legislative Assembly adopted a resolution authorizing a delegation to London in order to officially present the almost unanimous opposition of Lower Canada's representatives to the union bill. Exceptionally, even the Legislative Council supported this resolution. Having in their possession a petition of some 60,000 signatures, the Speaker of the House, Louis-Joseph Papineau, and John Neilson went to London to present the case. Their mission had relatively little impact, but the energetic opposition of certain members of the British House of Commons led to a decision not to reintroduce the bill.

It was at the conclusion of this political episode that Samuel Neilson received, on October 10, 1823, a letter from the provincial secretary informing him that his title of King's Printer had been withdrawn. Neilson and Cowan accepted the decision without protest and removed the words "Printed by Authority"

THE QUEBEC GAZETTE. LA GAZETTE DE QUEBEC. The PRINTERS to the PUBLICK.

(Image from Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph archives)
The Quebec Gazette - La Gazette de Quebec first edition, June 21, 1764

THE QUEBEC GAZETTE. GAZETTE DE QUÉBEC. Published by Authority. Publiée par Autorité.

(Image from the Bibliothèque of the National Assembly)
The Quebec Gazette - Gazette de Québec was "Published by Authority" from 1823 to 1848.

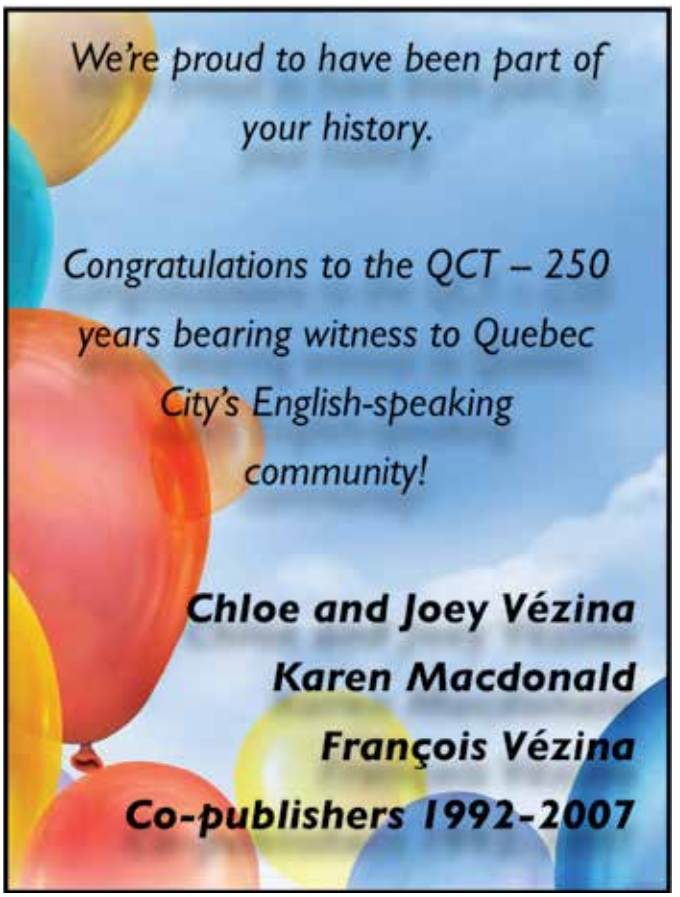
from the next edition of their paper. But on October 30, much to their surprise, another *Quebec Gazette-Gazette de Québec* "Published by Authority" was put in circulation in the colonial capital. To add insult to injury, this new publication was produced by the printing shop of Thomas Cary & Company, owner of *The Quebec Mercury*, the main competitor of Neilson and Cowan. This theft of property could not be ignored.

The debate that followed in both periodicals turned on whether the original owner of *The Quebec Gazette*, William Brown, was receiving a salary or payment and whether he, as publisher, was an employee of the colonial administration. John Neilson joined his son in the fight to regain sole ownership of the name. The House of Assembly submitted the matter to a special committee, which admitted it was "really at a loss to comprehend in what manner the Governor, Lord Dalhousie, could suppose himself authorized to dispose of the *Quebec Gazette* as if it had been the property of the Executive." Nevertheless, the Neilson clan lost its battle in court and had to live with this unwanted sibling. Their paper kept its name, however, and was known by its readers as "The old Gazette" or "Neilson's Gazette."

Lord Dalhousie seems to have wanted to keep the name of William Brown's paper because, in England, the official reporter of the Acts of Government was the *London Gazette*. The Governor chose John Charlton Fisher to be the publisher of the newly "authorized" *Quebec Gazette*. Fisher had been an editorialist in New York before coming to Canada and was a member of the New York Literary and Historical Society. He promoted the creation of a similar society in the colonial capital and in January 1824, Governor Dalhousie founded the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec. Fisher was its first treasurer.

Fisher's *Quebec Gazette* continued publication until October, 26, 1848, when the Canada Gazette took over as the government's official medium. The true successor of Lord Dalhousie's weekly, however, is the *Gazette officielle du Québec*, founded on January 16, 1869.

In a way it can be said that the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* and the *Gazette officielle du Québec* are family related. It can also be said that the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* played a supporting role in the creation of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.



Continued from page 8

The English papers we read in Quebec City play a similar role for the English-speaking community and, naturally, I have to give a special word of mention to the *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. As the city's only locally produced English-language paper, proud to be "North America's Oldest Newspaper" (since 1764), it continues to fill an invaluable role for the area's Anglophone and bilingual communities. This community, while reduced in size and economic power from its heyday decades ago, is still an important presence in the Quebec City area's cultural and intellectual life.

The *QCT's* coverage of community, social, educational and cultural activities, I found, were an important contributor to the English-speaking community's ability to function as a cohesive and enduring entity. Like community newspapers everywhere, the *QCT* provides an important service – identifying the concerns and interests of its readership and providing a platform for that community's members to express their identity and "live" their traditions. Like every good community newspaper, the *QCT* is an indispensable part of the intellectual and spiritual web that binds the community together. Long may it thrive!

I live today, in retirement, in a small community on the coast of Northern California. I love it here, but life-long habit forces me to remain at least partly engaged in the outside world. So I hop out of bed at dawn every morning and rush into town to buy one of the few available copies of the *New York Times*, a paper that I think represents the best of American journalism in its coverage of world and national events (and to someone who grew up forty-five miles from New York City, it is practically a hometown newspaper). But then I turn to my local community newspaper (a weekly) or one of the few regional papers, so I can know better what my new neighbours are up to, what their preoccupations are, and to find out who has died, who's marrying who, what the issues in the local schools are, what's going on in the crime report and when the salmon are running. It's my community now, and these are the things I really need to know. My local paper is where I'll find my answers.

– Peter O'Donohue

U.S. Consul General, Quebec City (retired)

Man Eaten Alive By Polar Bears At Quebec Zoological Gardens; Ignored Safety Zone To Feed Bears

Rimouski Doctor Torn To Pieces By Two Polar Bears Before Horrified Eyes Of His Son And Daughter — Son Vainly Throws Sand And Gravel Into Bears' Eyes.

Accidental Death Verdict Returned

High Water Levels Receding Steadily All Over District

Miss R. Chesnel, Native Of Gaspe, Passes Away Here

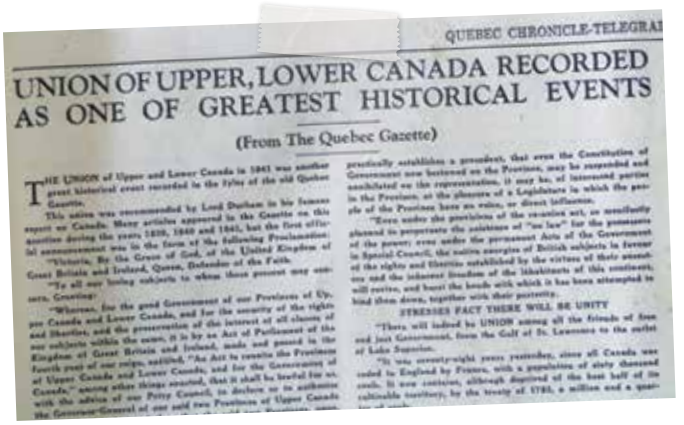
Funeral To Be Held Tomorrow At St. Dominique Church.

Continued from page 41

A few months before his death, Carrel played a key role in ensuring Quebec women received the right to vote. On April 25, his speech in favour of women's right to vote, made to a packed gallery in the Legislative Council*, contributed to the unexpected adoption of the women's suffrage bill (13 votes to 5).

Shortly thereafter, Carrel began to cut back on his activities. By July 1940, he was bed-ridden at Saint-Sacrement hospital and on the 30th, he died at age 69. His remains lay in state at little Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church in the Old City. On the morning of August 1, the funeral procession proceeded towards Mount Hermon Cemetery in Sillery, where Carrel was interred in the family plot.

**From 1867 until 1968, the Legislative Council of Quebec (Conseil législatif du Québec) was the unelected upper house of the bicameral legislature in the province of Quebec. The Legislative Assembly was the elected lower house.*



QUEBEC CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH

UNION OF UPPER, LOWER CANADA RECORDED AS ONE OF GREATEST HISTORICAL EVENTS

(From The Quebec Gazette)

THE UNION of Upper and Lower Canada in 1841 was another great historical event recorded in the files of the old Quebec Gazette.

This union was recommended by Lord Durham in his famous report on Canada. Many articles appeared in the Gazette on this question during the years 1839, 1840 and 1841, but the first official announcement was in the form of the following Proclamation:

"Victoria, By the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

"To all our loving subjects to whom these present may come, Greeting:

"Whereas, for the good Government of our Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada, and for the security of the rights and liberties, and the preservation of the interest of all classes of our subjects within the same, it is by an Act of Parliament of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, made and passed in the Fourth year of our reign, entitled, "An Act to reunite the Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada, and for the Government of Canada," among other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for us, with the advice of our Privy Council, to declare so to authorize the Governor-General of our said two Provinces of Upper Canada

practically establishes a precedent, that even the Constitution of Government now bestowed on the Province, may be suspended and annihilated as the representation, it may be, of interested parties in the Province, at the pleasure of a Legislature in which the people of the Province have no voice, or direct influence.

"Even under the provisions of the recentre act, as manifestly planned to perpetuate the existence of "no law" for the possession of the power; even under the permanent Acts of the Government in Special Council, the native energies of British subjects in favour of the rights and liberties established by the virtues of their ancestors and the inherent freedom of the inhabitants of this continent, will revive, and burst the bonds with which it has been attempted to bind them down, together with their parents.

STRENGTH FACT THERE WILL BE UNITY

"There will indeed be UNION among all the friends of free and just Government, from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the outlet of Lake Superior.

"It was seventy-eight years yesterday, since all Canada was ceded to England by France, with a population of sixty thousand souls. It now contains, although deprived of the best half of its cultivable territory, by the treaty of 1783, a million and a quar-

Trinity Anglican Church

The members of our parish wish to extend a heartfelt congratulations to the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph for the occasion of their 250th Anniversary.

Thank you for your dedication to our community.

(418) 653-9432

2687 Quatre Bourgeois, Ste-Foy

A Friendly and Welcoming Church

Congratulations to
the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph on their 250th Anniversary

W. Rourke Ltd.

Founded in 1928 and incorporated in 1946, is proud of its continued service to the community for the past 85 years. (418) 687-2440

• Building • Buying • Selling • Renovating • Renting •

Suite de la page 9

Les journaux francophones du Québec ont une indépendance d'esprit et une vision du monde différente de celle de leurs homologues anglophones et représentent bien les intérêts et les préoccupations de la communauté francophone.

La presse anglophone de la ville de Québec joue un rôle similaire pour la communauté anglophone, et je me dois naturellement de mentionner tout particulièrement le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*. Paru pour la première fois en 1764, le *QCT* est non seulement le seul journal anglophone produit à Québec, mais aussi le plus ancien journal d'Amérique du Nord. Il joue encore aujourd'hui un rôle précieux pour les communautés bilingue et anglophone de Québec. Cette dernière, dont la taille a beaucoup diminué et dont le pouvoir économique n'est plus ce qu'il était lors de son âge d'or il y quelques décennies, a toujours son importance dans la vie culturelle et intellectuelle de la région de Québec.

La couverture que fait le *QCT* des activités communautaires, sociales, éducatives et culturelles contribue grandement à assurer la cohésion et la durabilité de la communauté anglophone. Comme les journaux locaux de partout dans le monde, le *QCT* offre aux lecteurs un service important : il exprime leurs préoccupations et leurs intérêts et leur offre une plateforme qui leur permet d'exprimer leur identité et de faire vivre leurs traditions. Et comme tout bon journal local, le *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* est un élément indispensable de cette grande trame intellectuelle et spirituelle qui lie les membres de la communauté. Souhaitons qu'il fasse partie de notre quotidien encore longtemps!

Je suis aujourd'hui à la retraite et je vis dans une petite communauté du nord de la côte californienne. J'adore cet endroit, mais par habitude, je continue à m'intéresser à ce qui se passe à l'extérieur. Je me lève donc à l'aube tous les matins pour acheter l'un des quelques exemplaires disponibles du *New York Times*, un journal qui selon moi incarne le meilleur du journalisme américain pour sa couverture des événements nationaux et internationaux (et pour quelqu'un qui, comme moi, a grandi à 70 kilomètres de New York, le *New York Times* est pratiquement un journal local). Je me tourne ensuite vers l'hebdomadaire local ou vers l'un des journaux régionaux pour voir ce qui se passe chez mes voisins. Cela me permet de connaître les affaires qui préoccupent la communauté, de savoir qui est décédé, qui va épouser qui, et d'avoir un aperçu du milieu scolaire, des crimes qui ont été commis et du moment où commencera la pêche au saumon. Je vis ici maintenant. Ce sont ces choses-là que j'ai besoin de savoir, et la presse locale est là pour me donner des réponses.

– Peter O'Donohue
Consul général des États-Unis, ville de Québec (retraité)

Congratulations on 250 years
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George Lamarre
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The *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* team and the anniversary organizing committee extend our most sincere thanks to the whole community for your on-going support and interest in the living heritage we collectively maintain here at the newspaper. In addition, special thanks are due to the following individuals and organizations who contributed to celebratory events and projects:

SPECIAL EDITION LAUNCH AND HISTORICAL PLAQUE CELEBRATION

LAUNCH

Stephen Burke, Central Quebec School Board
Elizabeth Perrault, Morrin Centre
Jay Sewell, blues musician
Shirley Nadeau and Stacie Stanton, *QCT*

HISTORICAL PLAQUE ON 27 RUE BUADE

Normand Gouin, owner of former *QCT* building
Ville de Québec: Mayor Régis Labeaume,
Françoise Paradis and Annie Blouin, Service de la culture
Shirley Nadeau, Charles André Nadeau, and Marie White, *QCT*

COMMUNITY PICNIC

The Blair family musicians
Jan Anderson, Jeffrey Hale Community Partners
Stephen Burke, Central Quebec School Board
Jeanne Nivischuik, Be Active Quebec (VEQ)
Cathy Nolan, Quebec City Reading Council
Alan Stairs, 78th Fraser Highlanders bagpiper
Holland Elementary School
Bethann G. Merkle, Shirley Nadeau, and Stacie Stanton, *QCT*

COMMEMORATIVE VIDEO

Justyna Lemieux-Lefebvre *(videographer)*
Joe Lonergan *(former QCT delivery boy)*
Sharon Macleod and her children Alexandre and Leah Huard *(subscribers)*
Charles André Nadeau *(historian)*
Elizabeth Perrault, Morrin Centre
Michèle Thibeau *(former QCT editor)*
Bethann G. Merkle, *QCT (producer)*

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Congratulations to the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph on the occasion of your 250th Anniverary. We thank you for your dedication and tenacity in bringing the important news to our English-speaking Community each week.

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Best wishes to
the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph
on their 250th Anniversary!

250 years; now THAT'S something to celebrate

Thanks so much for bringing us community news for all those years and for another 250 to come!

Jeffery Hale
Saint Brigid's
Une communauté de soins
A Community of Care

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Dental and Implantology Clinic
DR. GEORGES POULAKOS
General Dentist

I wish to congratulate the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph on their 250th Anniversary. North America's Oldest Newspaper. Thank you for your conitnuous efforts to bring us the happenings and events of our Anglophone Commuity. ***Bravo!***

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Central Québec School Board Congratulates the Quebec Chronicle Telegraph on its Milestone Anniversary

For **250 years** the Quebec Chronicle Telegraph (QCT) has been **the** go-to information source for our English-speaking community at large!
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The QCT is a cornerstone of our community and a vital source of information. They understand our vibrant community because they are an integral part of it. The CQSB (Council of Commissioners, Administrators, Principals, Teachers, Professionals and Support Staff) is proud to extend its heartfelt congratulations to the QCT on reaching this phenomenal milestone and wishes them continued success!

Congratulations!

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Congratulations on your 250th Anniversary QCT!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our weekly community newspaper the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph for covering our news and events for this amazing length of time.

An inspiring committment. Bravo!