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## **Aberdeen Journal**

The **Aberdeen Journal** was founded in 1747 as *Aberdeen's Journal*, changing its name in 1748. Throughout the nineteenth century, control lay with successive generations of the original owners, the Chalmers family. Until 1849, the paper was also edited by the Chalmers family: James until 1810, then David. William Forsyth, the first *Journal* editor who was not a Chalmers, held the position until 1878, followed by Archibald Gillies (1879-1884 and 1890-1894) and Charles MacCaskie (1887-1889). David Pressley became editor in 1894 and served beyond 1900.

The *Journal* appeared only once a week until 1876, one reason being that: 'the proverbial frugality, amounting almost to parsimony, of the inhabitants of this part of the kingdom, prevents any paper published more frequently than once a week, from obtaining a circulation of any considerable extent.' In the first half of the nineteenth century, the paper comfortably saw off several challengers, and its 1832 circulation of 2,231 copies a week was well above both the *Scotsman* (1,914) and the *Glasgow Herald* (1,615). Its major long-term rival was the Liberal *Aberdeen Free Press*, launched in 1853. The *Journal's* circulation then stalled: from 3,500 weekly sales in 1855, it only reached about 4,000 in 1870.

The paper was consistently pro-Conservative throughout the nineteenth century, although it did not give prominence to political issues until the 1830s, when its Toryism became more explicit: for example, it defended the Corn Laws. In religious matters, it was a consistent supporter of the Church of Scotland.

Technical and journalistic innovations contributed to the paper's success. In 1830, it became the first Scottish paper to use steam for printing, and in 1896 linotyping replaced hand typesetting. From the 1840s, specialist leader writers were employed, most notably William Forsyth, who during his editorship much improved the literary contents of the paper.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*Aberdeen's Journal* (29 December 1747/5 January 1748-16/23 February 1748)

*The **Aberdeen Journal*** (23 Feb./1 March-26 April/3 May 1748)

*The Aberdeen's Journal* (10 May 1748-26 December 1749)

*The **Aberdeen Journal*** (2 January 1750-29 August 1768)

*The **Aberdeen Journal** and North-British Magazine* (5 September 1768-31 December 1781)

***Aberdeen Journal*** (7 January 1782-22 August 1797)

*The **Aberdeen Journal** and General Advertiser for the North of Scotland* (29 August 1797-23 August 1876)

*Aberdeen Weekly Journal and General Advertiser for the North of Scotland* (30 August 1876-16 December 1903)

*Aberdeen Weekly Journal* (23 December 1903-23 September 1952)

*Weekly Journal* (30 September 1952-1 August 1957)

## **Baner Cymru**

When Thomas Gee launched **Baner Cymru** in 1857, he was able to call upon some twenty years of business experience and writing articles for the press. Gee sought to publish a weekly Welsh language newspaper which would provide wider perspectives directly to a large potential audience of Welsh speakers. The paper had higher aspirations than many monthly journals of the time. Having taken over the Liverpool-based newspaper *Amserau* in 1859, the renamed *Baner ac Amserau Cymru* quickly became widely read. In the newspaper's advertisement printed in Mitchell's *Press Directory* for 1861, it was not too much of an exaggeration when its owner asserted:

To those who may be unacquainted with the value of a Welsh paper as a medium for Advertising, it may be stated that there is a Welsh population in Liverpool alone of about EIGHTY THOUSAND; and it is estimated that there in the Principality from seven to eight hundred thousand whose reading is almost exclusively confined to the productions of the Welsh press...

Gee succeeded in attracting a number of able journalists, such as John Griffith ('Y Gohebydd'), who was appointed London reporter of the *Baner* and spent much of his time reporting parliamentary debates and attending political meetings throughout Wales.

In 1861, the price of the paper was 3d, dropping by 1870 to 2d each Wednesday, and 1d on Saturday. The newspaper was well laid out and printed. It advocated Gee's own views-Liberal and Nonconformist. Issues such as ensuring the vote by ballot; the disestablishment of the Anglican church in Wales; the Abolition of Tithes; Welsh home rule: these were all aired in its pages. The newspaper continued until 1972, when it became a current affairs journal, renamed *Y Faner*, which ceased publication in 1992.

Publication History: Variant Titles

**Baner Cymru** (4 March 1857-28 September 1859)

*Baner ac Amserau Cymru* (5 October 1859-30 December 1971)

*Y Faner* (7 January 1972-17 April 1992)

## ***Belfast News-Letter***

When it was founded in 1737 by Francis Joy, *The Belfast News-letter* was the city's first newspaper. The paper took a consistently Conservative political stance in the nineteenth century, aiming at a Protestant land-owning and commercial readership throughout Ireland.

In 1804 *The Belfast News-letter* was acquired by Alfred Mackay. The paper was owned, published and printed by his descendants throughout the century, passing down the female line to James Alexander Henderson in 1844. The successful business was later inherited by his son, James, who became Lord Mayor of Belfast in 1898.

In the early nineteenth century the *News-letter* was published only on Tuesdays and Fridays, but in 1855 it became a daily paper. It doubled in size to eight pages in 1878 and the price fell to 1d. The newspaper increased in size again in 1900 to twelve pages. However, in comparison to other leading Irish newspapers, the *News-letter* remained relatively limited in both circulation and influence.

In terms of content, more significant change is visible in the *News-letter*. Between 1800 and the 1840s the newspaper published very little Belfast, or even Irish, news. Instead it focused on London and foreign affairs and was used extensively by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to publish proclamations from England. However, the Irish news coverage gradually increased during the century and by the 1860s detailed reports of Belfast news were included. The *News-letter* was also exceptional for the space it devoted to items that were unrelated to public affairs. It dedicated unusual attention to new English and Irish literature, and from 1860 novel items on horticulture, sporting news and a ladies' column were also published regularly.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Belfast News-Letter and General Advertiser* (11 December 1737-21 December 1792)

*The Belfast News-Letter* (25 December 1792-1 September 1962)

*News-Letter* (3 September 1962-)

## ***Birmingham Daily Post***

The ***Birmingham Daily Post*** was founded in 1857, offering a new form of provincial newspaper, renowned for its large readership, liberal values and its role in fostering civic pride in the fourth largest city in England. In Henry Fox Bourne's 1887 book *English Newspapers: Chapters in the History of Journalism* he describes how the *Post* 'has both interpreted and educated the temper of this thriving and enterprising part of England' (p.361).

The daily paper was sold for only 1d, making it one of the first newspapers to offer a cheap source of news to a mass audience. The proprietors, John Frederick Feeney (and later his son) and John Jaffray also published the Saturday paper, *The Birmingham Journal*, and founded *The Saturday Evening Post* explicitly for working-class readers. From 1870 these titles formed a single daily eight-page newspaper. 'Jaffray Feeney and Company' had many press rivals, the most serious of which was the Conservative *Birmingham Daily Gazette*, but the comprehensive coverage offered by these newspapers was unique.

The ***Birmingham Daily Post*** prided itself on its reporting of local subjects. It published detailed news of government, justice, trade and society not just in the manufacturing city of Birmingham, but also in the surrounding industrial district of the Black Country.

The *Post* adopted a serious journalistic style, making use of telegraph technology from the outset to provide extensive coverage of parliamentary, business and overseas affairs. Although the newspaper celebrated its 'independent judgment on all matters' in its first edition of 4 December 1857, its editorials were strongly Liberal in politics, and it campaigned consistently for political and social reform. From the election of Joseph Chamberlain as Mayor of Birmingham in 1873, the *Post* was central to the city's pioneering movements for municipal, educational and sanitary improvements.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Birmingham Daily Post* (4 December 1857-20 May 1918)

*Birmingham Post* (21 May 1918-2 November 1956)

*The Birmingham Post & Birmingham Gazette* (3 November 1956-23 September 1964)

*The Birmingham Post* (24 September 1964-)

## **Blackburn Standard**

The first issue of the **Blackburn Standard** was published on 21 January 1835, with eight pages of four columns per page costing 7d. It was published by James Walkden, Bookseller and Printer, of no. 5 Duke-Street, Blackburn. In keeping with other weekly newspapers, page one consists of small advertisements. On page seven, the duel between the Lord Mayor of Dublin and Mr Ruthven was printed under the heading of "Sporting". Issue 37 of Wednesday 30 September 1835, notifies readers of the death of the Earl of Chatham, the elder brother of William Pitt, the Prime Minister who had died twenty-nine years earlier in 1806. The bottom right hand corner of page five features the duty stamp of 4d. By 18 July 1849, four pages of seven columns each were printed. The news on page two included a variety of headings: "Parliamentary Intelligence, Foreign & Colonial, Court & High Life, Miscellaneous, [Editorial] - The Danish War, Friendly Societies".

Listed as a conservative paper by Mitchell in 1860, the circulation is given by Hubbard in 1882 as 10,000 copies.

By 1875, the price of issue no. 2128 of Saturday 18 December had fallen to 1d, with eight pages. Foreign News remains on page two; the whole of page four is devoted to Sales and Public Notices. George Boyden is cited as the Printer and Publisher of the paper. At the end of 1876, the paper changed its title; two further changes occurred in 1888; and then in 1893, it became *The Weekly Standard and Express*. Coal mining was a feature of many stories over the years. On 14 April 1894, an article summarising coal mining accidents was printed which detailed all those which had occurred from 1819 to 1894. Towards the end of the century, issue no. 3083 of Saturday 23 March 1895 has eight pages and has expanded to eight columns per page. Page two has the now common feature of a serialised portion of a novel, in this case Chapter Eleven of *The Bailiff's Scheme or, the Buried Legacy*. The printer was William Hall Burnett, for the North East Lancashire Press Company Limited. In 1909 the paper was incorporated with the *Blackburn Gazette*.

## **Bradford Observer**

The **Bradford Observer** was first published on 6 February 1834. From its inception, William Byles had printed, managed and edited the newspaper, becoming its proprietor in 1847. Deemed a paper Liberal in orientation by Mitchell in 1860, and having a circulation of 19,000 copies in 1882, the paper established itself successfully. By the 1870s, it had become a daily newspaper. Each issue had four pages, with the Saturday edition being of eight pages. By 1897, for the week commencing 15 March, the Monday and Thursday papers were sub-titled: "Market Edition". The Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday papers were printed with the sub-title: "Morning Express". Issue no. 4415 of Wednesday 21 February 1877 has four pages, with eight columns per page. The small advertisements on page one have many sub-divisions: *Education, Fashions, Apartments, Houses, Money, Mills*. Besides the Editorial on page two, there is also a feature on "the Eastern Question". In a report on page four of the "Destructive Gale", a whole column is devoted to the loss of life and to shipping. The weather map on the same page features the UK, showing inches of mercury, together with the state of the seas around the coasts of Britain. William Byles remained proprietor until his death in 1891, at which time his son William Pollard Byles took over ownership. The latter also became a Member of Parliament for Shipley for 1892-5, was also President of the Newspaper Society and was knighted in 1911.

Issue no. 8813 of 29 December 1888, contains amongst the Local and District News on page seven the information that the Late Manager of the Halifax Flour Society has been prosecuted for the embezzlement amounting to 132pounds 17s 4d, of Society funds. At the end of issue no. 8814 of 31 December 1888, a separate one page Supplement is printed of "The **Bradford Observer** Wool Tables".

The paper changed its title to the *Yorkshire Daily Observer* on 18 November 1901, and then to the *Yorkshire Observer* on 16 January 1909; it continued to be published until November 1956.

## **Brighton Patriot**

*The Brighton Patriot and Lewes Free Press* was the brainchild of George Faithfull, a solicitor and leading reformer in Brighton. When the 1832 Reform Bill enfranchised Brighton, he stood as a reform candidate and won easily. Three years later, however, he lost his seat in the 1835 election. As one of the factors that had contributed to his defeat was his lack of press support, he decided that he needed his own newspaper if he wanted a political future in Brighton. Thus, he established the weekly four-page paper *The Brighton Patriot and Lewes Free Press* with his own funds, the first 6d issue of which appeared on 24 February 1835 - less than two months after he lost his seat. However, Faithfull did not fare any better in the next election in 1837 and after that the paper was of little immediate political use to him. Moreover, the election marked the beginning of a change in the newspaper's readership. Faithfull had originally used the newspaper to foster a common identity between his middle-class liberal and working-class radical supporters. However, the contentious election served to break down this class alliance, with Brighton's working men forming the Radical Registration and Patriotic Association. This group would later become Brighton's Chartist Association, and its working-class members became the paper's only remaining active body of subscribers. *The Brighton Patriot* uneasily and selectively supported them until the summer of 1839, when there was a riot in Birmingham, arrests throughout the country and the Chartist Convention voted to hold a general strike. These troubling developments, combined with a dwindling circulation, a libel suit and mounting debts, meant that the paper ceased publication in August 1839.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Brighton Patriot and Lewes Free Press* (24 February 1835-28 June 1836)

*The Brighton Patriot and South of England Free Press* (5 July 1836-13 August 1839)

## ***Bristol Mercury***

Bristol was in 1801 one of the largest trading cities in England, with a population of 61,000. As a result of the prosperity brought about by its mercantile activities, no less than thirteen newspapers were started in and around the city before 1800. One of these was the ***Bristol Mercury***, begun in March 1790. It was published weekly on a Saturday. By the middle of the nineteenth century the price of each issue was 5d.

A typical issue, number 3,020 of 5 February 1848, comprised eight pages, each page having six columns. Small advertisements are printed on page one. The Chamber of Commerce and Markets (domestic and colonial) feature prominently, as do Police Intelligence and other legal matters. Issue number 3,190 of 10 May 1851 devoted the whole of page three to: 'The Abstracts of the Accounts of the Bristol Charity Trustees...', and a two-page supplement was devoted to the 'Industrial Exhibition of all Nations.' Important for local patrons of the newspaper was the listing of all the exhibits sent from Bristol to Hyde Park in London.

Issue number 4,167 of 19 February 1870 has eight pages, with seven columns per page. The rapid rise in the population of Bristol to nearly 207,000 by 1881 would have contributed to the incorporation of the *Bristol Daily Post* by the ***Bristol Mercury*** in January 1878. This made the combined paper a daily. The price of the paper fell to 2d by 1882, and the paper changed its outlook from conservative to liberal by this time, with the circulation of the paper being 25,000. A weekly supplement was published from 1878 to 1901.

By 1899, the paper was issued daily, at a price of 1d. In the issues for the week commencing 11 Monday December 1899 (16,095-16,100), the war in South Africa received much coverage each day. The title was discontinued in 1909.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Bristol Mercury*** (1 March 1790-29 December 1877)

*The **Bristol Mercury** and Daily Post, Western Counties and South Wales Advertiser* (26 January 1878-20 December 1901)

*Bristol Daily Mercury, Daily Post, Western Counties and South Wales Advertiser* (21 December 1901-30 November 1909)



## **Bury and Norwich Post**

Begun in July 1782, with the title *The Bury Post, and Universal Advertiser*, the title changed again to the *Bury Post, or Suffolk and Norfolk Advertiser* between March and December 1785. A further change to the **Bury and Norwich Post** was initiated in January 1786, and this title was maintained until 1931, when the newspaper was incorporated with the *Bury Free Press*, which is still published today.

Peter Gedge had played a part in the establishment of the newspaper in 1782, and was its editor. His son Johnson Gedge (1799-1863) clearly maintained the family interest in the paper. He gave evidence to a House of Lords Committee on the Law of Defamation and Libel on 11 March 1843, confirming during his interview that he was the proprietor and editor of the **Bury and Norwich Post**, and Secretary to the Society of Provincial Newspaper Proprietors. On Johnson Gedge's death in 1863, Horace Barker became the publisher of the newspaper. He had been working for the newspaper in 1852, and remained as publisher until 1870, when Charles J. Gedge took over. After 1875, a series of managers were appointed.

As with many other newspapers, the **Bury and Norwich Post** charted the events of the towns and the localities surrounding them. Tens of thousands of local reports across the nineteenth century testify to the trials and tribulations of ordinary people. The issue of 23 July 1800 records the death of William Smith of the Melford Company of [Bell] Ringers. Transportation for unlawful offences was common: on 3 June 1801, it was reported that Margaret Catchpole and two other women convicts were sent from Ipswich gaol to Portsmouth, "...where they are to embark for Botany Bay". On 25 January 1801, Mary Hicks was sent to be transported for stealing three pints of wine in two bottles. Sentences seem harsh by modern standards: on 10 January 1855, the paper reported that Money Martin "...was charged with stealing a much fork at Norwich Quarter Sessions. 14 years penal servitude." On 18 July 1855, Thomas Ling was sentenced to fourteen years transportation for stealing a sheep.

In 1855, the Crimean War was in its second year, the siege of Sevastopol was under way, and letters sent home by soldiers were published in the newspaper. Published on 3 January 1855 was one written by C.H. Mills to his father, a boot and shoe maker in Lavenham: "...we are stationed about 600 yards from Sebastopol... we are covered in vermin, officers as well, provisions are bad, and on some days we get only 4ozs of meat and we are cold..." On 24 January, an extract was printed from one of the nurses in the hospital at Scutari: "Miss Nightingale says the flannel Jackets and flannel shirts are quite pounced on as soon as they are made, we can only make a limited amount. Most Englishmen can imagine sour bread which is all there is to be had over here and bad butter, a stolen scrape is a luxury to a dying man."

On 19 November 1878, Mr. Wombell's menagerie visited Sudbury. By 31 December, in the same year, the weather was so severe that "...the intense frost gave opportunities to skaters and sliders to pursue their pleasure." The Sudbury North Meadow was flooded by the mill owners and a game of cricket on the ice was planned, but the thaw set in. By the mid-1850s, the paper had settled into its Tuesday weekly publication. As Mitchell's reported in 1870, the paper was "...devoted rather to local questions and to agricultural and social improvements rather than to party objects... Excludes objectionable advertisements." The price was 3d in 1870, 2d in 1882 (circulation 2,000 copies) and 1d by 1895.

## ***Caledonian Mercury***

One of Edinburgh's oldest newspapers (it was established in 1720), the *Mercury* was owned between c.1760 and 1862 by the locally-based Allan family. It was then briefly owned by its editor, James Robie, who then sold it in 1866 to William Saunders, a London journalist. Saunders closed the *Mercury* in 1867 by selling it off to its bitterest rival, the *Scotsman*.

The *Mercury* had a strong literary and cultural component, but it was generally more noted for its emphasis on political matters. For a long time the paper was closely identified with Whig politics, championing the cause of burgh and parliamentary reform until 1832. It was also strongly identified with the Church of Scotland. But increasingly from the 1840s it moved away from these positions. By the 1860s, it was attached to the Edinburgh Radical group, led by Duncan MacLaren, which represented, *inter alia*, the views of Presbyterian Voluntaryism.

The newspaper was generally in favour of social reform, supporting a national education scheme in the 1850s, advocating Temperance, and opposing the socially divisive Edinburgh Annuity Tax. It was committed to the early Scottish nationalist movement which flourished in the mid-1850s, and, unusually among the Edinburgh press, wholeheartedly backed the North in the American Civil War.

The paper suffered from several rivals, who challenged the various positions it adopted. The *Scotsman* overtook it as the voice of moderate Whiggism in the 1830s, and the *Witness* was the preferred organ of the Free Church in the 1840s, while the *Daily Review* appealed more effectively to the Radical Dissenters from its inception in 1861. It was claimed that the *Mercury*'s readership, based in Edinburgh and the eastern lowlands, consisted of the landowning class, the higher and middle classes, and shopkeepers, but increasingly the upper echelons of society turned to the *Scotsman*.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Caledonian Mercury*** (28 April 1720-27 August 1859)

*The **Caledonian Mercury** and *Daily Express** (29 August 1859-21 February 1860)

*The **Caledonian Mercury*** (22 February 1860-20 April 1867)

## ***The Champion***

*The **Champion***, which began publication on 18 September 1836, was a radical eight-page newspaper run by two sons - James Paul and R.B.B. - of the famous radical newspaper editor, William Cobbett. In its later years, *The **Champion*** became an organ for Chartism, with James Cobbett and its editor, James Whittle, both attending the 1839 Chartist Convention (Cobbett as a delegate for the West Riding and Whittle, who had previously edited the pro-reform *Manchester and Salford Advertiser* during the reform agitation in the early-1830s, as a delegate for Liverpool). However, both eventually left the Convention - Cobbett resigning on 14 February and Whittle on 14 May - troubled over the drift towards violence. As a result, the paper, which had been providing extensive coverage of the Convention, became quite hostile to both the Convention and Feargus O'Connor. With the decline of the movement in late 1839 and 1840, *The **Champion*** started losing subscribers and it was eventually amalgamated with *The Northern Liberator* in April 1840 (which itself ceased publication at the end of 1840).

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Champion*** (18 September-14 November 1836) *The **Champion** and Weekly Herald* (20 November 1836-26 April 1840)

## ***The Charter***

In the autumn of 1838, the moderate London Working Men's Association (LWMA) supported the founding of a newspaper to serve as a Chartist organ in London. At a meeting of the London trade societies, a committee of thirty working men was appointed to manage the paper, with William Lovett (the secretary of the LWMA and one of the originators of the **Charter**) selected as the committee's secretary. In September, the committee issued a prospectus for the proposed paper, the capital for which was to be raised by subscriptions from trade societies and other similar associations. The first issue of the resulting sixteen-page weekly paper, entitled *The Charter*, appeared on 27 January 1839, priced at 6d. It was edited by William Carpenter, a radical reformer and journalist. He was chosen as a Bolton delegate for the 1839 Chartist Convention and *The Charter* became its official organ. Both in the paper and in the Convention, Carpenter opposed those advocating physical force or a general strike as means of obtaining the **Charter**. When the paper's circulation started declining (its highest circulation seems to have been 5,000-6,000 copies per week), he was accused by Francis Place (who drew up the **Charter** with Lovett) and other reformers of having been too timid with regards to political issues. However, *The Charter* had never really been financially successful, especially with Carpenter's apparently heavy salary. Plagued with other problems - unreliable machinery, striking compositors and the necessary difficulties associated with being managed by a large committee - it eventually ceased publication in March 1840, having lasted just over a year.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Charter* (27 January 1839-15 March 1840)

## ***Chartist Circular***

In August 1839 the Universal Suffrage Central Committee for Scotland was established in Glasgow to coordinate Chartist activities in Scotland. It quickly decided to issue a cheap weekly newspaper, the purpose of which was to spread the Chartist message throughout Scotland (particularly to working men in rural areas). The result was the four-page 1/2d paper *The Chartist Circular*, the first issue of which appeared on 28 September 1839. Edited by William Thomson, who was General Secretary of the Central Committee, it was unstamped and thus did not carry any news. Instead, it primarily concentrated on educating its readers regarding the Charter, believing that all that was required to achieve the Charter was the vigorous dissemination of Chartist principles. It also skirted controversial issues and emphasised the importance of tolerating minor differences within the movement in order to maintain unity on the principal issue of universal male suffrage. It was an immediate success, with the first issue achieving a circulation of over 20,000 copies, and maintaining a circulation of 22,500 copies per week through its first year. However, by 1841 it was struggling financially and circulation numbers started to decline. It eventually ceased publication in July 1842, with a circulation of only 7,000. As *The Chartist Circular* had been a means of enabling the predominantly Glaswegian Central Committee to maintain a modicum of unity in the Scottish Chartist movement, the termination of the paper meant the end of any semblance of national organisation in Scotland.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Chartist Circular* (28 September 1839-9 July 1842)

## ***The Chartist***

*The **Chartist*** was a weekly four-page London newspaper owned and published by James Thompson and devoted to the **Chartist** movement. In opposition to the many **Chartist** newspapers that were selling for as much as 6d - notably, its London competitors *The Charter* and *The Operative* - Thompson sold his for 21/2d: a fact that he prominently proclaimed on the front page of the first few issues. The paper had a very short existence, lasting only five months. It started publication two days prior to the **Chartist** Convention's first meeting on 4 February 1839 (indeed, much of the paper was devoted to covering the Convention), and ceased publication just days after the **Chartist** Convention decided to hold a "sacred month" (essentially, a national strike) and a riot broke out in Birmingham after police tried to break up a **Chartist** meeting in the Bull Ring. Thompson seems to have become very uneasy about the movement veering towards violence to achieve the Charter, arguing that they must pursue a course of peaceful agitation. Physical force, he maintained, should only be used in extreme cases; it should not be used rashly, otherwise their noble cause would be foully lost. The actions of the Convention and the riot seemingly led him to shut down the paper, disgusted with the fact that their cause had, by intemperance and folly, been injured, disgraced and brought into contempt.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Chartist*** (2 February-7 July 1839)

## **Cheshire Observer**

First published on Saturday 13 May 1854 by Henry Smith and Henry Mills, with the full title **Cheshire Observer** and *General Advertiser for Cheshire and North Wales*, the editorial to the Reader proclaimed: "The people require information and sympathy, not opprobrium and neglect... It shall be our pleasure... to assist in the development of theirself-respect and independence... for it is now universally admitted that properly conducted cheap newspapers are important elements in advancing civilisation, in building up and perpetuating free institutions, and in securing every man his natural position, with its rights and privileges."

Issued each Saturday in four pages at a price of 2d, together with a Supplement of two pages, this was expanded to eight pages, with Supplement, by the end of 1854. Issue no. 30 of 2 December 1854 features the need for more paper to be produced: "A reward of 1,000 pounds has been offered in England for any person who will discover a substitute for rags, in the manufacture of paper. The paper that the reader now holds in his hands is manufactured from the shavings of the bamboo plant in China."

Edited in the 1850s by William Farish, the paper was stated by Mitchell to be Liberal in outlook in 1860, and Independent by Hubbard in 1882, with a circulation of 5,000.

Both the **Cheshire Observer** and the *Chester Courant* were taken over in 1891 by the Cheshire and North Wales Newspaper Co., a new venture whose Conservative backers included the Duke of Westminster and the city's MP, Robert Yerburgh. The **Cheshire Observer** continued publication until 1989.

## ***Cobbett's Weekly Political Register***

In January 1802 William Cobbett founded his famous *Political Register*, which lasted for over three decades and served to convey his opinions and ideals across Britain. When he started the paper, he was an anti-Jacobin and received help in founding the paper from the New Opposition - a group in parliament that opposed Britain seeking peace with France; the *Political Register* thus for a time served as an outlet for their views. However, Cobbett soon began his conversion to the movement for parliamentary reform, and this was reflected in his increasingly radical paper. He would later also become the champion of the disenfranchised working classes (particularly agricultural workers), even publishing a phenomenally successful cheap (2d), shortened edition of his *Political Register* between 1816 and 1819 (when the Newspaper Stamp Duties Act was passed that classified the publication as a newspaper, and thus subject to the expensive Stamp Duty). Seen by the government at various times as a threat, Cobbett was tried for seditious libel on a number of occasions: in 1804 (found guilty and fined), in 1810 (found guilty, fined and imprisoned for two years) and in 1831 (acquitted); in 1817, after the right of habeas corpus was suspended, Cobbett, expecting to be arrested, fled to the United States of America and remained there for two years. However, despite everything, he continued to publish his newspaper, writing articles from both prison and the USA. Costing one shilling and a half penny, its audience was primarily, but not exclusively, middle and upper class. Cobbett died in June 1835 and his *Political Register* survived for only one more year, having not been a profitable concern for some time.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*Cobbett's Annual Register* (1 January 1802- 3 March 180)

***Cobbett's Weekly Political Register*** (17 March 1804-17 September 1836)



## ***Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough***

Hugh Gilzean Reid founded the ***Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough*** in 1869. A practising journalist, Reid had previously worked for the *Banffshire Journal*, and was editor of the *Peterhead Sentinel and the Edinburgh Weekly News*. Reid assisted in the establishment of the *Buchan Observer* in 1863, and was its first editor. Having sold his interest in this paper, he moved south and, in 1869, launched the ***Daily Gazette for Middlesbrough***.

The pattern of its content of four pages was established early: a generous amount of space was devoted to small advertisements; and much space was made for local news. General News received large print for headlines, but articles were kept relatively short. The Saturday edition was slightly larger in format, contained eight pages and cost 1d. Serialisation of chapters of novels was included from an early stage, for example, issue no. 873 of 3 March 1877 has two from the novel, *Who was the Murderer?*

The paper gained greater success after Thomas Purvis Ritzema became its commercial manager in 1876. Reid retained management of the paper's literary output. In 1881, the paper changed its title to the *North-Eastern Daily Gazette*; this title was retained until 1936. Published each evening for a 1/2 d, it attracted a circulation of 10,000 by 1882. Circulation had grown to some 40,000 by 1885 and 60,000 by 1894, figures larger than the *Manchester Guardian* or the *Yorkshire Post* at this time.

## **Daily News**

The **Daily News** was founded in 1846, aiming to provide a Liberal rival to the morning Conservative newspapers, most notably *The Times*. Like the leading provincial newspapers, the **Daily News** campaigned hard for reform. The opening editorial of the first issue claimed to advance the 'Principles of Progress and Improvement; of Education, civil and Religious Liberty, and Equal Legislation'.

The **Daily News** is famous for its founding editor, Charles Dickens, who remained in post for only twenty days, but continued to write occasional columns for the paper. The newspaper was initially commercially disastrous, with a failed attempt to halve the price to 21/2d, and then falling sales taking it to the brink of collapse. Nevertheless, circulation gradually recovered from 1849, and the gradual abolition of newspaper taxes allowed the price to be reduced to 1d in 1868. The *News* then gradually established itself as one of the most popular daily papers. Despite its early insecurity, the format and editorial style of the newspaper remained unusually stable, apart from increasing in size from eight to twelve pages in 1896. By the end of the century, it claimed to have 'the largest circulation of any Liberal Paper in the world', with circulation peaking at 93,000 copies in 1890 (Brown, *Victorian news and newspapers*, 1985, p.31).

The **Daily News** provided exceptional coverage of overseas news. Reports were sent to the London office by an extensive network of correspondents, many of whom were renowned literary or political figures, including Harriet Martineau, Douglas Jerrold, Sir Edward Strachey, and G.K.C. Chesterton. From the outset the founders also aimed to promote investment in railway companies, and commercial news remained a prominent feature. Regular columns of sporting, literary and weather reports were also included, but the focus of the paper remained the provision of serious news relating to national and international concerns.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Daily News* (21 January 1846-11 May 1912)

**Daily News** and *Leader* (13 May 1912 -31 January 1928)

**Daily News** and *Westminster Gazette* (1 February 1928-31 May 1930)

*News Chronicle* (2 June 1930-19 November 1955)

*News Chronicle* and *Daily Dispatch* (21 November 1955-17 October 1960)

## **Derby Mercury**

Publication commenced on 30 March 1732. For issue number three onwards, a woodcut masthead was printed, showing a view of the City of Derby, with an explanation of the principal buildings shown.

The cover price for this weekly newspaper was six pence in 1800, each issue being four pages of five columns, as was common with newspapers of this time, as was also typical for many newspapers of its time, it circulated widely outside Derby. It: 'Advocates the interests of agriculture, commerce, manufactures, literature and the Church of England'.

By 1800, the departments of the newspaper included: Friday's mail, advertisements, finance, Saturday & Sunday's mails, Tuesday's mail from the *London Gazette*, poetry, births, marriages, and deaths, Wednesday's mail, and, beginning in 1800, shipping news.

By 1899, the departments were: public notices, local news, district news, correspondence, serial fiction, literature, police news, gardening notes, London and other notes, and the morning's gossip.

In 1864 *Mitchell's Directory* was able to write: 'Great attention is paid to all local proceedings, of which some space is weekly devoted to the reviews of new books and music. It is the oldest established paper in the county, and is principally supported by the nobility, clergy, gentry, agriculturists, and tradesmen in the neighbourhood'.

The current description in the open public access catalog is more generic, summarizing the way in which a city newspaper aspired to widen its horizons in the search for readership:

Includes local, British, Parliamentary, European and American news, birth, death and marriage notices, stock prices, bankrupts, lottery news, trial news, patent medicines, employment notices, extracts from private letters (some in translation), original poetry, advertisements (some booksellers'), and reprinted material from other newspapers, including The Whitehall Evening Post, The St. James's Evening Post, The London Gazette, The General Evening Post, and Lloyd's British Chronicle.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*Drewry's Derby Mercury* (23 March 1732-4/11 October 1787)

*The Derby Mercury* (25 December 1788-1938?)

*Derbyshire Advertiser and Derby Mercury* (21 October 1949-12 March 1964)

## ***Dundee Courier***

Begun on 20 September 1816, *The Dundee Courier* was issued weekly. The early printing of the paper was undertaken by Thomas Colville, between 1816 and 1823. By 1846, each Tuesday issue was 4 1/2 d. The Proprietor was David Hill. By 1855, publication was each Wednesday. For issue no. 2024 of 27 June 1855, the whole of the front page was devoted to small advertisements. Local and district news was printed on page three. By Electric Telegraph came reports of the war in the Crimea. Page four has an extensive report on the Siege of Sebastopol, followed by Dundee current prices, the average prices of corn, grain markets and the Liverpool wool market. For the cattle market the report was "...the supply of cattle was 960, being 36 less than the last market". The issue was printed and published by Charles Alexander, for the proprietors Hill and Alexander. By May 1862, publication was daily, at a price of 1d. Page four of issue no. 2749 of 3 June 1862 printed extensive reports about the American Civil war, with articles on "The Repulse of the Iron Clad; Gunboats; President Lincoln's Proclamation; President Davis not to give up Virginia; and McCellan's position".

Initially Conservative in outlook, the paper had become more Independent in the later years of the century. By the late 1870s, publication was daily and the price had dropped to a 1/2 d per issue. Small advertisements prevailed on the front pages of all issues. Circulation in 1882 was estimated to be 14,000. For the week of March 1895, the daily issue was priced at a 1/2 d, each issue being of six pages, with seven columns per page, and eight columns per page for the Saturday edition. Articles on page two of issue no. 13014 of 18 March 1895 were printed on Parish Council Elections, on the reopening of the large Parish Church [at Largo], on the retirement of a veteran Postal Official, Mr. Peter Proudfoot, who had been the Chief Clerk at the Dundee Post Office. Page five featured Football Notes, and a report on the draughts match between the staff of the **Dundee Courier** and the Monifieth Institute, with the pressmen securing victory by twenty games to fourteen. The Proprietors are given as W. & D.C. Thomson.

Publication continued until 1926, when the paper was amalgamated with the daily edition of the *Dundee Advertiser* .

## The Era

This is a cleverly conducted Sunday paper, occupying perhaps a position in a conservative circulation most like that filled by the *Sunday Times* amidst those of opposite politics. It is managed on the principle of an admixture of sporting with general news, not giving engrossing prominence to the former: but amply sufficient for any moderate lovers of sport. Its general matter is got up in a manner calculated to satisfy the requirements of a very respectable class of readers. Its attention to the interests of agriculture tends to recommend it to those engaged therein: while its regard for the Licensed Victuallers secures it the favour of that extensive body; so that, among the middle classes, especially in the country, the range of its circulation is extensive. The success and reputation of this paper may be attributed to its careful blending of the 'utile' and the 'dulce'; and its firm and moderate tone, avoiding all that can justly offend or irritate any party, though consistently advocating its own principles (Mitchell, 1846).

In an advertisement, *The Era* claims it is the "largest Newspaper in the World, containing Sixty-four Columns of closely-printed matter in small type. It is the only Weekly Newspaper combining all the advantages of a first-rate Sporting Journal, With those of a Family Newspaper. Literature and the Metropolitan and Provincial Drama has more space allotted to them in the *Era* than in any other Journal. The Operatic and Musical Intelligence, Home and Continental, is always most copious and interesting.... The Prophecies of 'Touchstone' appear in its columns, and will be continued throughout the racing campaign. As the firm advocate of the best interests of the Turf, and the fearful exposé of all abuses, the *Era* has earned a proud pre-eminence...." (Advertisement in Mitchell, 1856).

The first edition appeared Saturday morning at five o'clock, the second edition at mid-day, and the town edition, containing news up to Saturday night, was ready by five o'clock on Sunday morning.

"Commenced in 1838 as a champion of publicans' interests, but ... soon devoted itself more particularly to theatrical matters" (Bourne, H.R. Fox). "It is the acknowledged organ of the Theatrical and Musical professions. Its attention to the Theatrical and Music Hall profession secures it the favour of those extensive bodies, both in London, abroad, and the provinces" (Mitchell, 1900).

"We do not address ourselves to the Tories, the Whigs, or the Radicals, but to the thinking men of all denominations the party, par excellence, which in a little time will swallow up all the others. But we do not teach without being willing to be taught. We offer this journal as a medium for the interchange of thought, where truth may be elicited from the collision even of errors. We dedicate it to the 'people of England' to that great body, who, notwithstanding the existing entanglements of party, have the sense to feel, and the manliness to avow, that their interest is comprised, not in the interest of any political section, but of the whole state" (The *Era* 1: 1, p.6).

"A general newspaper, with a strong sporting element. It became, next to *Bell's Life*, the leading sporting paper. It is under the conduct of the present editor, Mr Ledger that it has become exclusively a theatrical and musical paper - Lowe. Sub-Title varies. Copy not collated in full" (Arnott and Robinson, p.402).

"Invaluable for reviews, news, and general theatrical information and gossip. Also of value are the assorted advertisements by and for actors and companies" (Conolly, p.475). "[F]ounded in 1838 to defend publicans against beer-sellers-filled a somewhat different role. It stoutly defended the drink interest, but its main purpose was to act as organ for the music-halls and theatres with which the contemporary drink trade was so intimately connected" (Harrison, "A World").

The *Era* was established by a body of shareholders consisting either of licensed victuallers or of persons in some way or the other connected with their trade. The journal was indeed intended to be a weekly organ of the public-house interest, just as the *Morning Advertiser* was then, and is now, its daily organ. In the first two or three years of its existence it was conducted on Liberal principles in relation to all political questions. Mr. Leitch Ritchie, a gentleman well known in literature forty or fifty years ago, and for several years before his death editor of *Chamber's Edinburgh Journal*, was the first editor of the *Era*; but owing to the collisions which took place in the committee of management, and their perpetual interference with his editorial policy, not only was Mr. Ritchie's position rendered untenable, but the paper proved a great commercial failure. Eventually MR. Frederick Ledger became sole proprietor and editor of the *Era*, which he has continued to be till the present day, -a period of more than thirty years. He gradually changed the politics of the paper from Liberalism to moderate Conservatism. Politics, however, have never been an essential element in the character of the *Era*. Its great features since it came into the hands of Mr. Ledger have been its sporting, its freemasonry information, and theatrical intelligence. To the latter subject it has always devoted a very large part of its space. In relation indeed to the amount and accuracy of its theatrical intelligence, it far surpasses every other weekly journal. It still identifies itself with the interests of the licensed victuallers, more especially with those in the provinces. In return for the space which the *Era* appropriates to

intelligence interesting to the provincial licensed victuallers, their association agreed some years ago to take 500 copies of the paper every week...Considering that the price is fivepence, its circulation, which is upwards of 5,000 copies per week, may be considered good; and it had a large number of advertisements that are well paid for. It is a valuable property" (Grant, pp.80-82). "On the publication of the Official Stamp Returns for the preceding year, when the *Dispatch* mocked the average weekly sale of the *Era* during 1837-8, reckoning them at a paltry 1221 compared to its own prodigious 51,413" (Law, p.43).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Essex Standard**

First issued on 7 January 1831, *The Essex Standard* was published each Friday at a price of 7d. Conservative in orientation, its first issue proclaimed it was to be "...a Standard around which the loyal, the religious, and the well-affected of our County may rally." The newspaper was at first printed in Chelmsford, but was acquired by John Taylor in September 1831 and thereafter printed in Colchester.

Issue no. 189 of 15 August 1834 has four pages of seven columns per page. It was published by John Taylor, Jr and Henry Thomas Riddell. Page three mentions the building of the Marquis of Bristol's seat at Ickworth, has a cricket report, and an article in the "Le Melange" heading offers the insight from *The Frankfort Journal* that the fields of Baden are overrun with 20,000 mice. Page four offers a brief description of "Mrs. Trollope's Visit to a Belgian Farmhouse".

The newspaper's strong attachment to the Church of England is evidenced on page three of issue no. 1038 of 8 November 1850—with letters on "Popish Arrogance and impudence" and "Popish Aggression". Page four of the same issue inveighs against the evils of ladies wearing veils, arguing that their wearing "... permanently weakens many naturally good eyes." After 1855, publication became bi-weekly, Wednesday and Friday. Issue no. 1799 of 7 June 1865 has four pages, but with eight columns per page. A short report on page four featured the birth of the Prince on 3 June 1865, second son of the Prince of Wales [later to become King Edward VII]. This boy Prince was himself to become King George V.

The paper was sold to Edward Benham, T. Ralling and Henry Blackett Harrison in 1866. *The Essex and West Suffolk Gazette*, founded in 1852 by rival Tories to counter Taylor's strong anti-Catholic views, was incorporated into *The Essex Standard* in 1873, and the paper was enlarged to eight pages. Circulation greatly increased in 1891 when the price was reduced to 1d. In 1892, the title *Essex County Standard* was adopted. Ralling had relinquished his interest in the paper before Benham's death in 1869, and Harrison continued as joint proprietor with Benham's widow, Mary, until he retired in 1879. Benham's son William Gurney Benham became editor in 1884, retiring in 1943; his brother Charles was joint editor from 1892. The newspaper is still published.

## ***The Examiner***

*The Examiner* changed fundamentally between its foundation in 1808 and its demise in 1881. For the first fifty years it was a leading intellectual journal expounding radical principles, but from 1865 it repeatedly changed hands and political allegiance, resulting in a rapid decline in readership and loss of purpose.

While in the hands of John and Leigh Hunt, *The Examiner*'s sub-title was 'A Sunday paper, on politics, domestic economy, and theatricals', and the newspaper devoted itself to providing independent reports on each of these areas. The newspaper consistently published the work of the leading writers of the day, such as Lord Byron, John Keats and William Hazlitt, although the Hunt brothers failed in their initial aspiration to refuse advertisements in order to increase impartiality. In first edition, the editor claimed *The Examiner* would pursue 'truth for its sole object', and the paper's radical reformist principles resulted in a series of high-profile prosecutions of the editors. This tradition of publishing accurate news and witty criticisms of domestic and foreign politics was continued by Albany Fonblanque who took over the paper in 1828. Until Fonblanque sold *The Examiner* in the mid-1860s, the newspaper took the form of a sixteen-page, comprehensive journal priced at 6d, and it was designed to be valued and repeatedly referred to by an educated intellectual elite, rather than treated as ephemera by a mass readership.

*The Examiner*'s reputation was fundamentally undermined when the new owner, William McCullagh Torrens, halved the price of the publication in 1867, losing the trust of the leading writers of the day, and of most of the educated readership. Although its reputation for radical intellectual commentaries was briefly revived in the 1870s under the editorship of William Minto, *The Examiner* was repeatedly sold until the final edition appeared in February 1881.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Examiner* (3 January 1808-26 February 1881)



## **The Freeman's Journal**

The **Freeman's Journal** was established in Dublin in 1763 by Charles Lucas, and remained in circulation throughout the following century. It was a four-page daily paper until it doubled in size in 1872. In 1854 at least three Irish newspapers enjoyed far larger readerships than the *Journal*, but by 1900 it could be claimed to be 'the leading Irish newspaper' in its weekly advertisements.

The **Freeman's Journal** played a central part in British nineteenth-century politics and the Irish movement for Home Rule. Until the late 1830s the *Journal* was a mouthpiece of rule from London, receiving subsidies for the publication of proclamations and containing very little Irish news. However, under the ownership of John Gray (a Protestant MP in William Gladstone's government), the **Freeman's Journal** became an increasingly influential Liberal paper that was often critical of the British government. The paper advocated reform of Dublin municipal government and of land-holding systems, and called for the disestablishment of the Anglican Church in Ireland and for Catholic educational rights. Following his father's death in 1875, Edmund Dwyer Gray, as a convert to Catholicism and an MP, strengthened the role of the *Journal* in the growing nationalist agitation for Home Rule, as well as in campaigns for public health reforms in Dublin.

This long-term editorial stance made the **Freeman's Journal** feared and renowned in England. In Henry Bourne Fox's study of journalism of 1887 (*English Newspapers: Chapters in the History of Journalism*), he described the *Journal* as 'dangerous and reprehensible' and claimed that it was read 'even by Liberals, with horror and resentment' (p.366). Nevertheless, in Ireland the newspaper thrived, becoming a limited liability company in 1886, publishing extensively on Irish news, sport and trade, and by 1900 including occasional articles in Gaelic.

Publication History: Variant Titles

**Freeman's Journal** (10 September 1763-19 December 1924)

## **Genedl**

Launched on the 8 February 1877 at the price of one penny, each issue of *Y Genedl Cymreig* contained eight pages. The paper was Liberal in its politics. With six columns per page, there was plenty of room for all kinds of news. Issue two of 15 February 1877 printed advertisements in Welsh and English on its front page. On page six, there were reports from many towns in Wales: Abermaw, Bala, Bangor, Bethesda, Dolgellau, Portmadog. Births, Marriages and Deaths appeared on page four. The publisher is named as Robert Williams. Issue number nineteen, of 14 June 1877, prints double columns of advertisements in English, with 'George's Pile and Gravel Pills' taking a prominent place. Besides news and advertisements, Welsh poetry occupied two columns in issue number thirty-seven of 18 October 1877. Letters were normally included.

The advertisement for the paper printed in *Mitchell's Press Directory* for 1878 stated: 'Guaranteed circulation of 21,000 weekly. The largest Welsh newspaper published, circulating most extensively amongst the commercial, agricultural, and general Welsh reading population in every part of the Kingdom.'

Notices of Eisteddfodau, an annual competitive festival of Welsh poets and musicians, were frequent. By 1889, the newspaper had increased in size to seven columns per page. Issue number 619, of 9 January 1889, showed how far horizons were opening; it featured an advertisement for 'American Line. United States Mail Steamers - Liverpool to Philadelphia. Every Wednesday'. The same issue also carried an editorial entitled 'Dewisiad (choice) Lloyd George'-an indicator of the impact he was starting to have in the public life and politics of the Carnarvon area. Fiction was also serialised, both Welsh originals and translations from English. The newspaper continued to be published with this title until 1914, when it was renamed *Y Genedl*, which was incorporated with *Yr Herald Cymraeg* in 1937.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*Y Genedl Cymreig* (8 February 1877-15 September 1914)

*Y Genedl* (22 September 1914-29 March 1937)

## ***Glasgow Herald***

The ***Glasgow Herald*** began in 1783 as the *Glasgow Advertiser*, but switched its name in 1802. Its ownership changed frequently during the nineteenth century, but it was always owned by a collection of local businessmen and lawyers, along with some of the leading managers of the paper.

Samuel Hunter, editor from 1803 to 1836, was a surgeon with military experience. His successor, George Outram, editor from 1836 to 1856, was an advocate (a lawyer) who dabbled in light verse. James Pagan (1856-70) was the first professional journalist to be appointed as editor. He was briefly followed by the academic, Professor William Jack (1870-75), then by James Stoddart (1875-88) and Charles Russell (1888-1907). The latter two were, like Pagan, trained journalists.

The politics of the paper moved back and forth. Under Hunter, the *Herald* was staunchly Tory, for instance opposing the demand for the First Reform Act. Thereafter, the paper drifted to a mildly Whiggish stance, and also supported the first Scottish nationalist movement in the early and mid-1850s. It continued to be moderately Liberal until Gladstone's Irish Home Bill of 1886, which it strenuously opposed, henceforth becoming an eloquent advocate of Liberal Unionism.

Hunter established the *Herald* as the leading Glasgow paper in an intensely competitive marketplace in the early part of the century, and by the 1850s all its older rivals had folded. Circulation rose from about 1,600 in 1832 to 3,400 in 1843 and 4,500 in 1855. In 1859, it shifted to daily publication, and within a decade was selling 25,000 copies.

Technical innovations and journalistic improvements consolidated the paper's dominance. In 1868 it became one of only two British papers with telegraphic wires going directly into its offices, and it also introduced new Hoe presses that year, followed in 1875 by the installation of rotary presses. Under Pagan, news coverage was widened and editorial material increased; both Stoddart and Russell greatly improved its literary and artistic sections.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Glasgow Advertiser* (3 January-29 December 1800)

***Glasgow Herald*** (4 February 1820-1 February 1992)

*The Herald* (3 February 1992-)

## **Goleuad**

Commencing on 1 October 1869, this newspaper had a smaller format than some of its contemporaries. Appearing weekly on each Saturday (price 2d), it printed three columns per page, but had sixteen pages for each issue. Advertisements appeared on pages one and two; and normally on pages fourteen to sixteen. Regular space was apportioned to: weekly news; letters; reports of monthly meetings; poetry; markets; births; marriages; deaths; literary column; editorial.

In 1870, the publisher is cited as John Davies, 19, Bridge Street, Carnarvon. The intended audience for the newspaper was clear from the start. In *Mitchell's Press Directory* for that year, the paper stated in its advertisement: "Especial attention is devoted in its columns to the proceedings of the Calvinistic Methodists, who number upwards of 100,000 members." The commentary in *Mitchell's* reads: "... printed in the Welsh language. Advocates advanced Liberal principles, gives lengthy reports of every Welsh national movement, and is regarded as being the organ of the Calvinistic Methodists."

In 1872 Evan Jones (1836-1915) became editor of the newspaper. He continued as editor for four years, writing a weekly article for the paper as well. Jones also wrote leaders for another Welsh newspaper, *Genedl Cymreig*, for a number of years. He also established his own newspaper *Yr Amseroedd*, published at Carnarvon, 1882-5. The newspaper was purchased by the Calvinistic Methodist General Council in 1914, and continues to be published.

Publication History: Variant Titles

Y **Goleuad** (1 October 1869-)

## **The Graphic**

The first issue of *The **Graphic***, an illustrated weekly newspaper costing 6d, appeared on 4 December 1869 - the birthday of its founder, William Luson Thomas. Thomas and his brother, George, had been employed as draughtsmen and engravers by *The Illustrated London News* during the 1850s and 1860s. However, when George died in 1868 and William proposed to issue a memorial volume featuring some of George's work for the benefit of his bereaved family, *The Illustrated London News* refused to lend wood-blocks of George's drawings for the project. The ill-feeling this created strengthened William's resolve to start up his own rival illustrated paper - the capital for which he quickly raised from family and professional acquaintances. The paper speedily achieved success - especially with the fortuitous outbreak of the news-grabbing Franco-Prussian War in 1870 - and became the chief rival of *The Illustrated London News*. By the 1880s it was selling up to 250,000 copies per week. William and his editors - first Sutherland Edwards (1869-70), followed by Arthur Locker (1870-91) and T.H. Joyce (1891-1906) - employed many talented artists, including Frank Holl, Luke Fildes, Hubert von Herkomer, A.B. Houghton, Frederick Waller and William Small. Initially, the paper featured illustrations of a very high artistic standard - higher, in fact, than most of its competitors; however, with the development of new printing techniques and photography, the quality of its illustrations declined over time. Along with illustrations and news, it also notably published and illustrated fiction - including Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* in 1891, the illustrations for which were drawn by Herkomer and some of his students. *The **Graphic*** eventually ceased publication in 1932.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Graphic*** (4 December 1869-23 April 1932)

*The National **Graphic*** (28 April-14 July 1932)

## **Hampshire Telegraph**

Established on 14 October 1799 as *Portsmouth Telegraph; or, Mottley's Naval and Military Journal*, the newspaper changed its title twice more, before the name *Hampshire Telegraph, and Sussex Chronicle* was adopted in July 1803. In 1801, the population of Portsmouth was 33,000. This grew to nearly 195,000 by 1901. The newspaper provided a chronicle of events for the busy naval port of Portsmouth throughout the century.

It was from Portsmouth that Admiral Nelson set sail to command the fleet that would defeat the combined French/Spanish fleet at Trafalgar. After the battle, issue no. 321 of the *Hampshire Telegraph*, 2 December 1805, printed a table showing the position of the battle order of the two fleets of ships, entitled: 'Position of the Combined forces of France and Spain, at the commencement of the Action 24 October 1805.' The issue also listed those killed and wounded in the battle.

In 1823, each issue of the paper was four pages, and the price was 7d. At this time, typical issues of the paper covered, in minute detail, such topics as the arrivals and departures of ships and Coroner's Records, together with reports from Winchester, Plymouth, Portsmouth and London. The six columns into which each page was divided gave plenty of room for such stories, as well as more sensational reports, such as fires in other cities. Local markets were noted in almost diary-like tones.

By 1846, the paper was published on Saturday, at a price of 5d. It was described in *Mitchell's Press Directory* as '... liberal towards dissenters, as well as towards the Papal Church, as far as Ireland is concerned'. In 1878, it was issued bi-weekly, Wednesday 1d, Saturday 2d. the impact of tourism was starting to be felt, as the paper published in its Saturday issue a list of visitors to the fashionable resort of Southsea. The circulation in 1882 was 12,000 copies. The paper continued to publish until November 1976.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*Portsmouth Telegraph; or, Mottley's Naval and Military Journal* (14 October 1799-8 February 1802)

*Mottley's Telegraph and Portsmouth Gazette* (15-22 February 1802)

*Hampshire Telegraph & Portsmouth Gazette* (1 March 1802-4 July 1803)

*Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex Chronicle* (11 July 1803-7 October 1899)

*Hampshire Telegraph and Naval Chronicle* (15 October 1899-9 January 1914)

*Hampshire Telegraph & Post and Naval Chronicle* (16 January 1914-10 August 1962)

*Hampshire Telegraph and Naval Chronicle* (17 August 1962-January 1966)

*Hampshire Telegraph and Gosport & Fareham Journal* (February 1966-12 August 1971)

*Hampshire Telegraph and Naval Chronicle* (19 August 1971-7 March 1974)

*Hampshire Telegraph* (14 March 1974-25 November 1976)

## **Huddersfield Chronicle**

Commencing publication on 6 April 1850, as a Liberal Saturday newspaper priced 4 1/2 d, the **Huddersfield Chronicle's** prospectus emphasised that it would be "...of a decidedly liberal character..." It promised to be a family paper: "...a welcome companion in the domestic circle...", with a review department and a summary of debates in parliament.

As for its stance on Free Trade, readers would "...find in us consistent advocates..." Its eight pages of five columns per page offered readers poetry, reviews, local and district news, and new books published. The "Latest Intelligence by Electric Telegraph" on page eight offered the latest news in brief. From 1855 to 1871, the editor was Joshua Hobson, a printer and political reformer, who had previously edited the *Northern Star*.

Mitchell's Press Directory commented of the **Huddersfield Chronicle** in 1860: "It is favourable to the establishment of secular schools for the education of the people."

Its proprietor, George Harper, was a promoter of the Press Association. For issue no. 520 of 3 March 1860, the price had been reduced to 3d unstamped. Small advertisements take up the whole of the front page. On page two, the foreign news and gossip reported that 2,426 Spaniards had been killed or wounded "...since the beginning of the war in Morocco..."

Page three has Chapters Three and Four of "Roger Dale: a story of Birmingham" - an early demonstration that newspapers as well as periodicals provided serialised fiction for their readers.

By 1869, the paper occupied premises in Lord Street, Huddersfield. In 1871, it began daily publication, in competition with its rival the *Huddersfield Examiner*. By 1874, the price was 1d, with four pages per issue, and six columns per page. The Saturday issue comprised eight pages, priced at 2d, with a two page supplement. Issue no. 2078 of 6 April 1874, has an editorial on Spiritualism, with a short article on Pawnbrokery in India on page three. In issue no. 2083 of 14 April 1874, the report of the Leeds Spring Assizes stated that Samuel Wainwright, a butcher, was found guilty of stealing twelve lambs and convicted to nine months' imprisonment, with hard labour. By 1882, circulation was estimated to be 8,000 copies daily. The paper continued publication into the 20th century, ceasing in June 1916.

## **The Hull Packet**

Commencing in 1787, the newspaper underwent four changes of title by 1842, when the title *The Hull Packet and East Riding Times* was adopted. In 1845, each issue of eight pages (price 41/2d) was published on a Friday; each page had six columns. Advertisements frequently carried an engraving denoting its subject: railway (a steam train and wagons); shipping (a sailing vessel); even for beer (a bottle with "India Pale Ale" printed on its label).

Many topics were covered: Shipping Intelligence, Science, Foreign Intelligence, Agricultural Information, Literary Notices, University and Clerical Intelligence, Hull Police Report. The sprat fishery in the Humber had commenced, with several of the fishing boats coming back with five to eight chaldrons—a good season was in prospect. In the Borough Sessions, there was half a column of a report on "A Parrot admitted as a Witness in a Court of Justice", doubtless included to amuse the paper's readers.

The issue of 10 December 1845 carried a full two-and-a-half-column report explaining the "Resignation of the Conservative Ministry". On January 2 1863 (price 2d), there was a long report with full titling: 'America. Great Defeat of the Federals and Immense Loss of Life. General Burnside recrossing the Rappahannock. The excitement in America.' Equally interesting is the smaller article adjacent to this, entitled: 'The American War and the Women of the South'. The Lancashire Cotton Famine had brought about the Stalybridge Riots of March 1863, and a long editorial was published in the 27 March 1863 issue of the *Hull Packet*. War reports continued: the issue of 11 April 1879 carried the headline under Latest News: 'Latest From Zulu. Another Disaster for British Troops, Meeting in favour of Sir Bartle Frere.' In the same issue was half a column of report on the Hull Athletic Amateur Sports Club, giving the many names of the contestants in the heats of the races.

It was this combination of varied reports, a great many advertisements, and good clear printing which continued to sell the newspaper throughout the century, for the population of Hull grew tenfold from 22,000 in 1801. The paper was incorporated with *The Hull Daily Mail* in 1886.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Hull Packet* (1787-30 June 1807)

*The Hull Packet and Original Weekly Commercial, Literary and General Advertiser* (7 July 1807-6 November 1827)

*The Hull Packet and Humber Mercury, or Yorkshire and Lincolnshire General Advertiser* (13 November 1827-5 April 1833)

*The Hull Packet* (12 April 1833-18 November 1842)

*The Hull Packet and East Riding Times* (25 November 1842-26 February 1886)



## ***The Illustrated Police News***

*The **Illustrated Police News**, Law Courts and Weekly Record* was founded in 1864. It was the first, and most long-lasting, Saturday penny newspaper that combined two hugely popular Victorian genres: the police newspaper and the illustrated journal.

Its founder, George Purkess, was a London publisher who already specialised in the publication of cheap "true stories" of crime, accidents and domestic disaster. The subject matter of his newspaper was very similar. It collated sensational or unusual stories, often drawn from the London Police Courts, but also reports of mishap from elsewhere in Britain and the world. While repeatedly emphasising the "true" nature of the stories, it was their entertainment and curiosity value that was crucial to the success of the *News*.

The *News*'s front page consisted largely of artists' impressions of these events combined with attention-grabbing headlines, which were reported in full inside the newspaper. *The Illustrated London News* pioneered the mass publication of engravings from 1842, and spawned many cheaper, popular publications. *The **Illustrated Police News*** took advantage of the abolition of the newspaper taxes during 1855-61 to offer an original, entertaining four-page newspaper catering to the popular demand for vivid portrayals of melodrama.

As the *News* expanded in the 1890s, reaching twelve magazine-sized pages by 1897, the topics covered also diversified. Previously news unrelated to disaster had filled no more than a single column, but new popular items were now published. These included more explicit sexual material, such as 'original saucy songs', jingoistic reports from the Boer War, book reviews, extensive advertising and sporting news, with as much as a whole page devoted to boxing in almost every issue.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The **Illustrated Police News**, Law Courts and Weekly Record* (20 February 1864-3 March 1938)

*Sporting Record* (9 March 1938-22 September 1979)

*The New Greyhound and Sporting Record* (6 October-3 November 1979)

*The Greyhound & Sporting Record* (10 November 1979-2 August 1980)

## ***Ipswich Journal***

One of the leading business and market towns of East Anglia, Ipswich in the eighteenth century was a thriving port and the administrative and market centre for the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk. The town's prosperity was closely linked to that of the region as a whole, which moved towards a predominantly agricultural economy as its traditional textile industries declined. Almost every aspect of East Anglian life is documented within the pages of the ***Ipswich Journal*** - from poor houses to politics, subscription concerts and farm sales.

Commencing publication on 20 August 1720, the early aims of the newspaper are declared:

The Sale of this PAPER increasing, insomuch that it may be presumed now from the Encouragement received, to be out of all Danger as to its Establishment; . . .for the future to render This more Beneficial (and consequently Acceptable) to our Trading Customers, by adding a True and Authentick Account from Week to Week of the Imports, Exports, and Price Current of Goods on Shore. And further to comply with the Request of several Gentleman of this Town, we shall take care to subjoin an exact Account of the Burials and Christenings, which shall occur here, as collected from the respective Clerks of every Parish.

The newspaper attracted all kinds of advertisements and printed details of large numbers of local events, as was evidenced in its twice weekly publication. A couple of examples show the great variety of life recorded:

30 December 1780: 'A small privateer is being fitted out in Ipswich by some gentlemen to annoy the Dutch trade'.

15 December 1781: 'On Saturday last the West Gate at Ipswich was pulled down, it was sold for 32 pounds and built in 1430'.

As the Chartist movement developed in the early decades of the nineteenth century, the paper, in common with others in the country at large, adopted an anti-Chartist view.

By the 1840s the paper's standpoint was reported:

Advocated generally the policy lately professed by Sir Robert Peel's administration, supported the amended sliding scale, the tariff, and the Canadian Corn Bill, was in favour of the Dissenters' Chapel Bill, the Maynooth Endowment, and the policy of the ministry towards Ireland; but took part with Lord Ashley in urging the necessity of placing a limit on the hours of manufacturing labour. Is opposed to the repeal of protective duties, advocates high Church principles, but is a determined opponent to the tractarian theology. Has powerfully supported the railway projects which originated at Ipswich and comments freely upon local management affecting the interests of the district

The well-known novelist George Meredith was paid to supply text for two leading articles and two columns for the paper during the 1850s

In common with other regional newspapers, the ***Ipswich Journal*** achieved good sales, selling 7,000 copies per week in 1882. However, twenty years later in 1902 the paper was discontinued, owing to a shortage of funds available though public notices and advertisements.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The ***Ipswich Journal*** or the Weekly Mercury* (20 August 1720-10/17 April 1731)

*Ipswich Gazette* (15/22 April 1732-19/26 November 1737)

***Ipswich Journal*** (1739-1815)

*Weekly ***Ipswich Journal**** (5 November 1886-16 September 1887)

*Weekly Journal* (23 September 1887-10 August 1888)

***Ipswich Journal*** (17 August 1888-26 July 1902)

## ***Isle of Man Times***

The first ***Isle of Man Times*** was launched by William Shirrefs in 1847. He had established other newspapers at his company, the Manx Steam Press, during the 1840s, exploiting the extension of postal privilege to send newspapers free to mainland Britain. The imposition of a standard letter postage to the mainland in April 1849 resulted in the winding up of Shirrefs' business in July 1849.

James Brown re-launched the title on 4 May 1861. He had moved to the Isle of Man in 1846, and set up his own printing office. By 1854, he was the printer/publisher of the *Isle of Man Advertising Circular*. Brown used the ***Isle of Man Times*** to campaign for the reform of the House of Keys (similar to the House of Commons), which was self-elected and unrepresentative. In 1864, the Keys summoned Brown for libel and contempt, and he was sentenced to six months in prison. Brown continued to run the ***Isle of Man Times***, writing editorials in support of freedom of the press. The newspaper expanded its content over the years, from four pages (twenty-four columns) in 1861 to eight pages (forty-eight columns) in 1867, with sixty-four columns being achieved in 1875. In 1888, a second weekly issue was begun, on Tuesdays.

In 1870, *Mitchell's Press Directory* wrote of the paper: "Advocates the rights of all parties without favour or affection. The local news of the island is given at length, with full reports of public meetings, general intelligence, etc." The price of the ***Isle of Man Times*** was 2d. Also published in competition were the *Manx Sun*, a Conservative newspaper (Saturdays, price 3d), and *Mona's Herald*, a Liberal paper (Wednesdays, price 2d).

James Brown died in 1881 and his son, John Archibald Brown, took over the running of the family business. The ***Isle of Man Times*** continued to be critical of authority, but became one of the dominant newspapers on the island. It remained in the hands of the family until 1958, and continued publication until 1987.

## ***The Isle of Wight Observer***

The **Isle of Wight Observer** was first founded by Ebenezer Hartnall in December 1845. He had come to the Isle of Wight by the early 1840s and set up as a printer. The newspaper ceased publication on 27 June 1846, after thirty issues had been published. The causes of its demise were likely to have been a combination of low sales, stamp duty and the tax on advertisements. It was an apprentice of Hartnall's, George Butler, who then re-established the title in September 1852. Issue no. 2 contains the prospectus for the newspaper. In it, four main points were promised to its readers:

- I. "To supply the Isle of Wight with a full and impartial account of all kinds of intelligence.
- II. To embrace all kinds of information relating to London and Local Markets.
- III. To offer a channel of the expression of public opinion upon all matters bearing upon the general interests of the Isle of Wight.
- IV. To offer a useful Advertising Medium [to the] 50,000 inhabitants and 10,000 visitors of the Isle of Wight..."

After the death of the Duke of Wellington on 14 September 1852, Martin Tupper wrote his Dirge for Wellington; this was published on 9 October 1852 in the **Isle of Wight Observer**, the first of twenty-three verses being:

"A voice of lamentation

From the Islands of the Sea!

Alas, thou sorrowing Nation

Bereav'd—Alas for Thee!

The wail of a mother

Weeping for her son, —

When shall she bear another

Like that Illustrious One!"

George Butler continued to publish the paper until 1865. After this, until 1893, Hannah Butler is listed in Mitchell's Press Directory as the Proprietress. From 1894 to 1900, J.C. Hartnall is given as the Proprietor. [It is likely that this was John Chamberlain Hartnall, the son of Ebenezer Hartnall.]

Island events feature prominently in the newspaper. Photography was reported regularly, from the early 1850s, as commercial photographers established themselves on the island. Amongst the many court cases written about, that of William Yelf is notable. He was a printer, bookbinder and Secretary to the Isle of Wight Savings Bank. The **Isle of Wight Observer** carried an item on 23 April 1853 detailing the charges made against him at the Borough Sessions - that of fraud and embezzlement from the Bank, to the sum of £4,182. In its report of the Hants Summer Assizes printed 16 July 1853, Yelf was found guilty and sentenced to transportation for life.

The paper continued publication until 1922, when it was incorporated into the Isle of Wight Times.

## ***Jackson's Oxford Journal***

***Jackson's Oxford Journal*** was founded by William Jackson, the Oxford University printer, in the early 18th century as a Saturday weekly. In 1795 the physician John Grosvenor became chief proprietor and editor. The first issue was published on 5 May 1753. Beneath the title of no. 1, page 1 was printed the apologia for the paper:

This paper will be more complete than any that has hitherto appeared in this Part of the Kingdom. For besides the Articles of News, foreign and domestic, in which we shall endeavour to surpass every other Paper, our situation will enable us to oblige our Readers with a particular Account of every Transaction relating to the present Opposition in Oxfordshire;....

Some fifty years afterwards, in the early nineteenth century, the newspaper, in common with others of this time, was more openly engaged in local politics, criticizing local government, and promoting local concerns. There was also commentary on national issues from a local perspective.

The paper was originally issued at a price of 2d. in 1753, rising to 5d. in 1856, and dropping to 3d. in 1882 (when its circulation was 8,000) and 1d. in 1898. The orientation of the newspaper was Conservative. It blended reporting of Oxford town and University events with summaries of events from further afield.

By 1880, the departments of the paper were: agricultural prospects, the week, university intelligence, city and council intelligence, Oxford town council, Oxford city police court, literary notices, petty sessions, general news, births/marriages/deaths, poetry, hunting appointments, markets, and country markets.

Some eighteen years later, in 1898, the coverage had widened to include: current agricultural topics, farming notes, gardening gossip, football gossip, news notes, a local review, Oxford county court, the woman's world, a regular, illustrated letter from London, district news public notices, cycling notes, cricket gossip, to correspondence, the ladies' letter, serial fiction, notes by an Oxford lady, and market news.

The amalgamation of the *Oxford Journal* with the *Oxfordshire County News* in 1898 afforded an opportunity for reflection:

In May, 1853, at the centenary of the *Oxford Journal*, the Editor expressed his desire to 'present a faithful mirror of the time, respecting the opinions of all, but at the same time cordially upholding all that we conceive to be dear to us as Englishmen, as lovers of order, and as faithful subjects.' The same desire animates us to-day, and we hope that our firm adhesion to our own political creed and Church principles, is consistent with, not merely tolerance, but respect for our opponents. We have never hesitated to express our own unbiased opinion on every public question upon its merits, and we shall continue to follow the same course.

The newspaper's name was changed to *Oxford Journal Illustrated* at the end of 1908 and it ceased publication in 1928.

Publication History: Variant Titles

***Jackson's Oxford Journal*** (5 May 1753-28 May 1898)

*Oxford Journal and County News* (4 June-3 September 1898)

***Jackson's Oxford Journal*** and the *Wantage Herald* (8 March 1902-26 December 1908)

*Oxford Journal Illustrated* (2 January 1909-28 November 1928)

## **The Lancaster Gazette**

Founded and owned by William Minshull, a printer, on 20 June 1801, the *Lancaster Gazette* established itself as a chronicle of the events of the town and local area. Issues published in 1803 record: Remarkable Events of the Year, Shipping Reports, and Patriotic Poems and Songs. Issues published in 1808 record the many court cases, for example, Sarah and William Johnson were found guilty of forging bank notes, and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years. By the 1830s, publication was weekly on Saturdays.

William Minshull died in May 1833, and his daughter Graciana Jane sold the newspaper to Charles Edward Quarme in August 1834. Quarme was a prominent local Conservative, who ran the newspaper until 1848, when he sold it, probably to George Christopher Clark. Quarme continued as editor of the newspaper until 1874, when he retired at the age of eighty. Readers were expected to enjoy the "Odds and Ends" column - a couple of entries for issue no. 2323 of 28 November 1846 show the range of these notes:

"The Directors of all the theatres at Berlin have resolved to substitute the explosive cotton for gunpowder, in their representations, because the cotton makes little or no smoke, which is annoying to the public but has injurious effect on the voices of the singers and actors."

and

"It is calculated that upwards of 260,000 pounds are paid weekly to railway labourers in England."

Quarme ensured that the consecration of Christ Church on 23 September 1857 was reported in detail by the *Gazette*, and he also produced an illustrated album to mark the occasion. Quarme also produced, in 1877, *A Narrative of the visit of Queen Victoria to Lancaster in 1851 ...*

George Christopher Clark is recorded in Mitchell's *Press Directory* as being the proprietor between 1851 and 1873. The price of the Saturday edition reduced over the years: 4 1/2 d in 1846, 3 1/2 d in 1860, 2 1/2 d in 1870, 1d by 1880. By 1872 the newspaper was being issued on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Mitchell commented in 1870: "...strongly attached to the principles of the Church of England"; and in 1880: "...is a popular family newspaper." In 1874, a W. Bell is cited as proprietor, and from 1875 until 1894, W. King & Co. are cited as proprietors. Hubbard cites circulation in 1882 as 2,500 copies. The last issue of the *Lancaster Gazette* was published on 30 June 1894.

## ***The Leeds Mercury***

*The Leeds Mercury* was established by John Hirst in 1718 as a weekly newspaper in the rapidly growing West Yorkshire woollen textile town. The *Mercury* was one of the foremost provincial newspapers, publishing articles by many distinguished writers and gaining a reputation as a leading reporter of Liberal politics.

In 1801 the *Mercury* was purchased by Edward Baines, a young Liberal and Nonconformist printer, who used the newspaper to campaign tirelessly for moderate social and political reform. His son, Edward, worked as a journalist for the newspaper, and became proprietor following his father's death in 1845. He in turn left the controlling share in the newspaper to his children in 1890.

The *Mercury* began as a four-page Saturday newspaper, but it gradually increased in size, frequency and popularity, being published daily from 1861. By 1900 week-day editions contained ten pages, but on Saturdays it included twelve pages and an additional supplement, all priced at only 1d. The circulation also expanded to more than 5,000 copies per week by the 1820s, and the *Mercury* claimed in the edition of 4 January 1840 to have eight times the 'average circulation of Provincial Papers'.

The diversity of articles in the *Mercury* was crucial to its popularity. As a local newspaper, it included unusually extensive coverage of parliamentary and national affairs. This particularly flourished under the editorship of Thomas Wemyss Reid, who established a London Office in 1870 and who gained the confidence of Prime Minister William Gladstone. However, local news remained central to the paper, with detailed articles on government and civic events in Leeds and surrounding Yorkshire towns. Simultaneously, the Saturday paper became a self-styled 'first class general and family newspaper', with many articles catering to specialist interests and offering general family entertainment.

Publication History: Variant Titles

*The Leeds Mercury* (May 1718-28 January 1792)

*The Leeds Mercury* , or *General Advertiser* (7 March 1801)

*The Leeds Mercury and General Advertiser* (1 January 1803-28 December 1805)

*The Leeds Mercury* (3 January 1807-31 August 1939)

## **Leicester Chronicle**

Originally published on 20 April 1792, the **Leicester Chronicle** ceased publication in 1793. Re-established on 10 November 1810, the newspaper was bought in 1813 by Thomas Thompson. The paper was Liberal in outlook, whereas the rival *Leicester Journal* was Conservative. A Saturday newspaper in 1840, priced 4 1/2 d, the front pages did not exclusively contain advertisements as many other titles tended to, but included reports from the *London Gazette*, County Court News, Foreign Intelligence.

Thomas Thompson remained proprietor until 1841, when his son James became joint proprietor. James Thompson was a liberal reformer, a town councillor, and clearly possessed literary abilities, for he was the leader writer for the **Leicester Chronicle** for more than thirty years. He was also a leading authority on the history of Leicester, and one of the founders of the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society in 1855. Mitchell characterised the newspaper in 1860 as Liberal, and: "Advocates the interests of the locality in which it circulates, and constitutional and progressive reforms. It is more particularly taken as a domestic newspaper..."

In 1864, James Thompson merged the **Leicester Chronicle** and the *Leicestershire Mercury*. He established the *Leicester Daily Mercury* as a daily evening newspaper on 31 January 1874. Upon James Thompson's death in 1877, Francis Hewitt purchased these newspapers from the executors, thus beginning three generations of Hewitt family ownership. The newspapers moved to new premises in Albion Street, Leicester by 1890, and publishing at these premises continued until 1967. The **Leicester Chronicle** continued weekly publication until 31 August 1979, when it was discontinued. The *Leicester Mercury* continues publication today.



## ***The Liverpool Mercury***

The ***Liverpool Mercury*** was first published in 1811 as a weekly newspaper for the thriving port and commercial city. On 1 January 1850 the proprietors described their long-term aim as 'continual and peaceful progress', and it was these serious, reformist and Liberal principles that guided the *Mercury* throughout the century.

Following the death of the founder Egerton Smith in 1841, the newspaper passed into the hands of his widow and son. A limited company named after Smith was then established with business partners. The newspaper gradually expanded in size, frequency and circulation. In 1858 it began to be published daily, with a larger edition published on Fridays, and by 1880 the paper could claim in its regular advert that the weekly 2d edition of the paper contained 'seventy-two long columns making it one of the largest newspapers in the world.'

The newspaper was circulated not just in Liverpool and surrounding rural areas of Lancashire and Cheshire, but also in Wales, the Isle of Man and London. Nevertheless, keen political and commercial rivalry continued with other, often short-lived, newspapers in the city. The *Mercury*'s advertising role was central to its commercial success, with as many as five out of ten or twelve pages being devoted to advertisements and notices by 1900.

Although reports from elsewhere in Britain and overseas were published on a comprehensive range of political, business and sporting subjects, the *Mercury* was exceptional for its coverage of local social issues. Regular columns, such as those by Hugh Shimmin in 1855-56, exposed the poverty and degradation of urban life. Successive editors used such articles to lead political campaigns for housing, public health and moral reform in Liverpool.

Publication History: Variant Titles

***Liverpool Mercury*** (5 July 1811-12 November 1904)

## **Lloyd's Illustrated Newspaper**

The price was nominally twopence, but so far as the proprietor was concerned it was only a penny, because there then existed a penny stamp on every newspaper. At first its title was *Lloyd's Illustrated London News*, and the first seven numbers, in accordance with this title, contained illustrations. The size of the paper was then about the same as the *Echo*, and the number of pages was eight, each page containing three columns....In the seventh number an announcement was made that on the following week the paper would be greatly enlarged, which it was. Including the additional quantity of small type which was used, and taking into consideration the great increase in the size of the sheet, the amount of additional matter given to its readers must have been little short of double what it was before. One halfpenny extra was charged for the journal in consequence of this additional amount of matter, and greatly improved quality of the paper. Practically, therefore, though the proprietor received three-halfpence for his journal-the other penny going to the Government as stamp duty-the paper was cheaper than when the price was only a penny. The general impression...[is] that Mr. Douglas Jerrold commenced his editorship... with the first number. He only commenced it with the eighth number, that being its first number in its enlarged form. An announcement to the effect the Mr. Jerrold was to be the future editor was made in the seventh number in these words: -'The editorial department will be confided to a gentleman whose pen, we doubt not, will be speedily recognized and cordially welcomed by his old friends, the masses.' Under Douglas Jerrold's editorial auspices, *Lloyd's London Weekly Newspaper* rose with great rapidity into circulation. Apart from the pint and pungency of his own writings, the condensation and variety of the intelligence of the day were excellent; while the reviews of books were at once able and elaborate...considering that the paper was chiefly to be devoted to the discussion of the leading question of the day, and to news at home and from abroad. One of its principal features was that of 'Answers to Correspondents,' on the same plan as had been acted on in the *Weekly Dispatch* for many years. These 'Notices,' ...were not such as were then common in newspapers, -- that is, stating whether particular communications sent for publication would be inserted or not. They chiefly consisted of answers to questions which were sent by correspondents, relating to every conceivable variety of subjects. Another attractive feature of *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* in its earlier days, was the space devoted to interesting and instructive extracts from literary and moral works. These paragraphs appeared under the heading, 'Pearls for Stringing' and certainly as regards the majority of their number they were worthy of the name of 'Pearls.' At first there was no small amount of prejudice in some classes of the community against the new paper, because Mr. Lloyd, the proprietor, had previously published some non-political journals which ministered to the prevalent prurient taste among the lower classes for a literature, if literature it might be called, which was essentially of the Jack Sheppard Newgate kind; but it was soon seen that *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* was not of a character to the vitiated tastes of the readers of the journals I allude to, -journals which, it is right to state, were soon after this discontinued by Mr. Lloyd. The space devoted to the 'Pearls for Stringing,'...together with the reverential reviews of religious books, did much to remove the prejudice... After the lapse of several years the original heading of the column devoted to paragraphs of this nature was changed into that of 'Our Scrap Book Column.' ...with this altered opinion and this largely increased circulation of the paper, there came a great increase in the number of its advertisements. Under the auspices of [Blanchard Jerrold]... *Lloyd's London Weekly Newspaper* has continued its career of prosperity till the present time. It was several years ago enlarged to the extent of twelve pages, nearly the size of the *Globe*, and much more closely printed. On the abolition of the newspaper stamp duty, its price was reduced to a penny. It was, it is right to add, the first newspaper, weekly or daily, which was really sold at a penny. A novelty newspaper history made its appearance in *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* a few years ago. It had reference to what may be deemed the best means of getting access to the minds of the masses with a view to their conversion. It occurred to the Rev. J.W. Carter, Vicar of Christ church, Stratford, that if brief but searching and solemn appeals to the consciences of the unconverted, could be got into newspapers read by the masses, the spiritual good which would thereby be done might be incalculably great. As therefore *Lloyd's Newspaper* confessedly had then as the largest circulation of any newspaper in the world -- its circulation being above 500,000 -- he offered to the proprietor of that journal to pay for his addresses as advertisements. The only stipulation which Mr. Carter made was that his appeals to the unsaved should always appear in the same part of the paper. This was readily agreed to on the part of Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Carter's addresses have accordingly appeared from time to time for some years past in the journal in question... The politics of *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* are thoroughly Liberal, but not so extreme in that direction as those of some others of its weekly contemporaries.... Mr. Lloyd was the first proprietor of a weekly paper to introduce into his establishment the rotary printing-machines of Hoe. By means of each of these -- they are three in number -- he is enabled to throw off his immense impression at the rate of 15,000 copies per hour, or at the rate of 45,000 copies by the three machines together per hour. The largest of them prints, when pressed for time, no less than 20,000 perfect copies -- that is, on both sides - in an hour. The largest impression of the paper ever printed and issued from Lloyd's premises, was 573,000 copies (Grant, pp.88-96).

Motto: "Measures not Men" (1843).

"...We shall not consider our letter-press as a mere sloppy, trashy vehicle for the introduction of our illustrations, but by, we hope, a judicious distribution of literary labour, we shall make [this paper]...equally esteemed for the artistical skill...as for the literary talent that will adorn its pages... With regard to politics...we have but one creed... the happiness and welfare of our country...We present 'The Two-penny Illustrated Newspaper', a legalised vehicle of information" (Address no 1, p.1).

"This paper appeals to the million on the two great principles of quantity and cheapness. Its price is lower than that of most weekly papers... it seeks to squeeze in as liberal an allowance as possible for the threepence charged. It is peculiarly the poor man's paper, and endeavours of course to embrace as many articles of intelligence, and as much under each head... giving prominence to police reports, and similar matters of popular interest. At the same time its contents are far more creditable, and comprise far more of a light and literary character, than might be conceived... immense mass of matter for the money; with a little of everything, and a good deal of many things; so that even if its readers saw no other paper, they would not be behind the rest of the world" (Mitchell, 1846).

" *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* contains more news than all the weekly papers combined. It includes all the news of the week, comprising parliamentary debates, law intelligence, police reports, sporting intelligence of all kinds, trials at the Old Bailey and assizes, foreign news, movements of the army and navy, literature, theatricals, and the fine arts, together with the provincial and London markets. Sixty columns of important matter include all the news of the week" (Mitchell, 1851).

Together with *The News of the World* and *Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper*, *Lloyd's Illustrated London Newspaper* "became the most widely read paper of Victorian England, superseding *Bell's Life*, the *Weekly Dispatch* and the *Weekly Chronicle*" (Engel p.28). "Among these cheap papers *Lloyd's Weekly News* takes precedence, both as the first to be sold for a penny and as, partly on that account, the one with by far the largest circulation.... *Lloyd's* only attempted to give a few columns of smart original writing as spice to a carefully prepared epitome of the week's news, with fuller reports of the latest information for Sunday reading; and when Blanchard Jerrold followed his father as editor, with Thomas Catling soon afterwards as sub-editor, yet more attention was paid to news than to political guidance.... *Lloyd's* is pre-eminently a popular paper of news, and as such has achieved a success unparalleled in its way" (Fox Bourne, pp.347-48).

"Readers lower to lower middle class, educational standard low, politically mainly liberal. The paper itself claimed (Jan. 26, 1862) that 'This journal has been the first in contemporary history that has entered the weaver's home and the hind's cottage' (Ellegard, p.6). The working classes read mostly on Sundays (Lee, p.38).

When this periodical began it was unstamped. "After seven numbers the stamp office threatened prosecution over a report of an escaped lion, and Lloyd stamped his paper... The regular newsagents boycotted it on account of its low price, but Lloyd built up his own sales organization. He placed his advertisements on walls, trees, and fences throughout the country, and even stamped them on pennies paid to his workmen, until stopped by Act of Parliament..." (James, p.36).

Many illustrations appeared in the 1842 issues but were not as prevalent thereafter, sometimes not appearing at all. Launched on November 27, and by December 11 it had reached a circulation of 100,000 (Cranfield, p.171). Edward Lloyd was "heavily committed to crime news. Shock and horror were his stock and trade" (Knelman p.36). His sensationalist paper forced other established papers (such as *The Sun*, *The Times*, and *The Globe*) to cover more crime to compete (Knelman 36). This paper "became the most successful of Victorian week-end journals, reaching a sale of over a million copies" (Herd, p.185).

"Helped by Jack the Ripper murders, the installation of the first Hoe rotary printing press in England and the invention of the system of offering papers to newsagents on sale or return, *Lloyd's Weekly*, in fact, exploited this formula so successfully that it later became the first newspaper in the world to reach a sale of a million" (Williams, p.103).

Only five metropolitan dailies sold more than 200,000 copies a day in the mid-1880s: the *Daily Chronicle*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Standard*, and the ha'penny *Echo* and *Evening News*. But none of these dailies could match *Lloyd's Weekly*, whose circulation climbed from 97,000 in 1855 to 600,000 in 1888." (Curtis, 2001:59).

"This experience of enforced pauses inspired by serialization had gone on, of course, as long as the novel. That Dickens first readers did concentrate on the meaning of individual installments is suggested by the decision of *Lloyd's Weekly London Newspaper* on May 1, 1859 to recommend 'Tale', reprinting the entire third chapter for its readers. Victorian audiences thus had several places where Dickens text could be studied in the pause before the story was continued" (Hughes).

"There was a voice in the British press, however, that embraced the cause of democracy, that was anti-slavery, and represented the English worker. *Lloyd's Weekly London Newspaper* belonged to that small section of the press where circulation was limited, but the call was loud and clear" (Grant, p.139).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## London Dispatch

Hetherington started this paper after being cleared of evading the Stamp Tax on his newspaper *The Poor Man's Guardian*.

This publication appeared as an unstamped broadsheet (Barker p.211).

"This magazine printed anything that would make it sell" (Koss, p. 414).

Motto: "The time at length is come for giving a practical solution to this beautiful problem - Let each of us depend only on institutions and laws, and let no human being hold another in subjection" (quotation by Buonarroti). The motto of *The Destructive* was "While we desire to be destructive of evil, we are still more zealous to be conservative of good" (Cole, p.244). Like O'Brien's other papers, it was "enthusiastic about the development of Trades Unionism and Owenite Cooperation, and gave very full reports of current Trade Union and Cooperative affairs. O'Brien's leading articles gave ardent support to these movements as means of securing to the workers the full produce of their labour and of ending capitalist exploitation" (Cole, p.246).

"Discusses Owen's views, trade-unionism, co-operation, political questions of interest to the working classes. Opposes violence, but occasionally has a violent tone" (Williams, vol 2, p.516).

An early unstamped periodical (Lake). Political Periodical written by and for the workers. Henry Hetherington "was leader of the working-class agitation for the abolition of the newspaper duties. He was the publisher of a series of radical unstamped newspapers of which the most important were the *Poor Man's Guardian*, started in 1831 as a weekly penny paper for the people and the *Twopenny Dispatch*, started in 1835 on demise of the *Guardian*" (Hovell).

This periodical is "[p]rimarily concerned with the Church. Its opening issue attacked what it called 'The Disgusting Hypocrisy of the *Saturday Magazine*, the organ of the 'religious' 'tract mongers'. In this, it reprinted a lengthy item from that magazine" (Cranfield).

"Our Principles and Objects. These are well known, and are easily told. 'Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you,' is the basis of our 'principles'. To reduce that sublime maxim to practice is the sum total of our 'objects'.... The end we seek is THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE. That happiness we believe to be impossible without REAL SOCIAL EQUALITY. Such equality we hold to be unattainable without first having REAL POLITICAL EQUALITY. To secure real political equality, we see no other means than UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE. To obtain universal suffrage then, should be our first grand object; and, to that end, three things are requisite, KNOWLEDGE, UNION, COURAGE. To promote knowledge, union, and courage, amongst the oppressed classes, will be, therefore, the main object of our mission. Whether, and to what extent we may succeed, rests mainly with the people themselves. If we do succeed, we shall have, at least, consolation at feeling that we deserved a better fate" (To the Readers of the *London Dispatch*, and *People's Political and Social Reformer* 1: 1, p.1).

The title varies in 1839 to *The London Dispatch*; with which is incorporated *The Operative*.

*The London Dispatch* is "established by the working classes for the protection of the rights of labour" (no 160, title page).

"In 1838...[Henry Hetherington's] political journal, *The London Dispatch*, which had known a circulation of 25,000 a week, failed for lack of support. In its place he published the theatrical *Actors by Gaslight*; or, 'Boz' in the Boxes (1838)...(James, p.26).

"Discusses universal suffrage, social equality, child labor, etc." (Williams, vol 2, p.517). Became a stamped paper in Sep 1836 (Thompson).

One source says the following concerning this periodical: "The successor to the *Destructive and Poor man's Conservative* (no. 113) and succeeded in Sept. 1836 by the Stamped *London dispatch*. One of the best known working-class newspapers of the decade. It agitates for universal suffrage, factory legislation, repeal of the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, and repeal of the stamp duty on newspapers. ...Hetherington found himself forced to give in, and abandon *The Poor Man's Guardian* for *Hetherington's Twopenny Gazette* ..." (James, p.21).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Manchester Times**

Circulates through Manchester, Salford, Rochdale, Bolton, Bury, Stockport, Congleton, Macclesfield, Ashton-under-Lyne, Oldham, Wigan, Warrington, Preston, Chorley, Blackburn, Burnley, Halifax, &c. Advocates reform, retrenchment, peace, free-trade; considers the corn laws injurious to commerce, without being of any benefit: contends for the equalization of sugar and coffee duty. Is not the organ of any sect, but is the advocate of religious liberty, and is opposed to all endowments for religious purposes. Has advocated the abolition of slavery, Roman Catholic emancipation, poor laws for Ireland, more liberal poor laws for Scotland, the establishment, on voluntary principles, of explanatory schools and schools for infants, reform of old educational institutions, sanitary improvements, &c. The Anti-Corn Law League has always had in this journal a firm and consistent supporter, and its value to that body cannot be overrated. The political editor, Mr. A. Prentice, is one of the select band from whom the great movement emanated (Mitchell, 1846).

Issued a supplement entitled *Manchester Literary Times* (q.v.), nos 1-36 (12 Feb 1848-28 Oct 1848).

The paper "criticised selfish aristocratic governments for the nation's distress: ' . . . when laws are in operation to double the price of their food, to lower their wages by excluding the produce of their labour from foreign markets, and to carry off their hard-earned savings in taxes upon almost every necessary of life, it is not less inhumane to deny them, when it is required, a portion of that abundance which has been produced by their labour' " (Barker p. 199).

"Joined the cause" of parliamentary reform and consistently opposed the Corn Law (Barker, p.207, 219). Prentice was against Chartism. His programme, outlined in 1839, was "free trade (and especially the repeal of the corn laws); triennial parliaments, with one-third of the Members to be elected annually; secret ballot; a redistribution of seats; and a suffrage based on an education test" (Cranfield, p.197).

"In 1835, the young Richard Cobden wrote a series of letters to the *Manchester Times* urging that the town petition for local self government. The extent to which the press was increasingly used by significant political and economic groups was a testament to their realization that it presented an effective way of conveying a message...Prentice's *Manchester Times* never prospered because he was too pedagogic in trying to lead" (Black, p.173).

"The politics of the *Manchester Times* were too advanced to attract the regular readership of many of the Manchester manufacturers. They preferred the more cautious approach of the *Manchester Guardian*. Also, Prentice's manner was too pedagogic to appeal to many readers. On the twenty-fifth anniversary of his entry into local journalism he expressed the hope that those readers who had followed him 'with something of the personal attachment of a congregation to their affectionate pastor.' When addressing the working-classes Prentice's tone often became decidedly patronising. 'We have shown with respect to many subjects', he wrote in the *Manchester Gazette* in 1825, 'that we have the welfare of the working classes at heart.... In advocating the proposed enforcement of the Sabbath-laws, we trust they will see that we are actuated by the same friendly zeal for their good. We wish to see them weaned from courses which, in many instances, lead to the jail and to the gallows'" (Donald Read, *Press and People*).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## **The Morning Chronicle**

Established 1770.

COPAC notes that *The Morning Chronicle* was suspended with the Dec. 21, 1862 issue and resumed with the Jan. 9, 1864 issue. Then it was suspended again with the Jan. 10, 1864 issue and again resumed with the Mar. 2, 1865 issue.

"Advocates moderate constitutional liberalism apart from, and in opposition to, the more ultra and violent views of extreme, or 'radical' policy. No doubt it is a difficult task to adhere to the moderate course, and requires a great degree of determination which this journal has often displayed; as in the instance of the Anti-Corn Law League, which it had strenuously supported until it pressed its object in a manner, and by means, not deemed proper by the face of an immense body, the majority, perhaps, of its party further to connect itself with these measures. It is, however, devoted most energetically to the interests of manufactures, and unceasingly advocates the principles of free-trade. Its articles are written with greater liveliness and raciness perhaps on questions of foreign policy than on any other, and evince a great range of information. To the affairs of the sister isle, also, great attention is paid; and the most intimate acquaintance manifested with its internal condition.... Though not, we believe, altogether hostile to the existence of a Church Establishment, it is ardently opposed to anything approximating to ecclesiastical domination, and is the organ of a large body of moderate enlightened Dissenters" (Mitchell, 1846).

"Since the last publication of the Directory, a complete change has come over the principles of this Journal. Then it was in the hands of Sir John Easthope, the exponent of Whig principles, the defender of Whig policy. Now, in the hands of a proprietary, it is liberal-conservative and the ablest advocate of the policy and measures of the late Sir Robert Peel, in the wide circle of the press.... This Journal is favourable to popular education; and has strongly advocated the necessity of state interference, for the purpose of improving the quality of that instruction which is given in the schools devoted to the children of the working classes, rather than its 'quantity.' Its principle is, that there is 'decisive evidence that the kind of schooling, the extension of which is so much relied upon, is not a preventive of crime;' and it argues for inspection, and the appointment of more competent teachers" (Mitchell, 1851).

*Evening Chronicle* started in 1837. Some of contributors over the years included: James Mackintosh, Richard Sheridan, Thomas Campbell, Thomas Moore, John Campbell, Samuel Coleridge, Charles Lamb, William Hazlitt, Albany Fontblaque (1821-1824), James Mill, John Stuart Mill, John Payne Collier, George Hogarth, Charles Dickens, William Makepeace Thackeray. In 1848 Henry Mayhew contributed articles on the aspects of low life in London, which lead to his book *London Labour and London Poor*.

"Palmerston used the *Morning Chronicle* against the hated *Times*" (Young, p.13).

"Linton was the first woman to join the staff of an English newspaper; she was hired by the *Morning Chronicle* in 1848" (VPR).

There is some discrepancy regarding the ending date and run numbers of this periodical.

James Perry's constant advocacy of Whig principles kept *The Morning Chronicle* in the public eye as the leading opposition paper in the 1790s and early nineteenth century" (Barker p.120). By 1820, the *Morning Chronicle* was making an annual profit of 12,000 pounds (Barker p.95). The paper supported Catholic emancipation in 1829 (Barker p.204). The paper attacked Anti-Corn Law Leaguers for being "narrow minded bigots" in the 1840s (Barker p.219).

Dickens worked for this publication as a court and parliamentary reporter (Garlick and Harris p.203).

The "*Morning Chronicle* almost certainly gained most of its readership from Whig or opposition supporters" (Harris, p.47).

Hunt wrote a tribute to Egerton Webb in 1840 (Gates, p.291). Finnerty and Hazlitt were parliamentary reporters (Gates, p.435). William Hazlitt, Jr. became a parliamentary reporter after his father's death (Gates, p.441).

Hazlitt wrote theatrical criticisms for the paper (Herd, p.90).

"In the years from 1844 to 1846 he [Thackeray] was the principle book reviewer for the *Morning Chronicle*, earning about 20 pounds a month from that quarter" (Dudek). "In the summer of 1834 the long established but now faltering London paper, the *Morning Chronicle*, was bought by a trio of bankers and stockbrokers led by a self made man called John Easthope. The object was to make the chronicle a more effective supporter of the Whig Government in all the post-Reform Bill measure it was carrying out against virulent Tory opposition, opposition most trenchantly and influentially expressed in The Times. In particular, Easthope wanted the Chronicle to be a strong champion of the New Poor Law, the centerpiece of the Whig's legislative program" (Slater).

"Usually contains full accounts of riots and chartist trials" (Schoyen p.291).

"Mr. Clement after achieving great commercial success with the *Observer*, determined soon after the death of Mr. Perry to purchase the *Morning Chronicle*. This was in 1821. This did not prove a good speculation. He continued to lose annually a large amount of money on the *Chronicle* until he sold it to Sir John Easthope and two other gentlemen, in 1834" (Grant, p.31).

"Early gave full reports of Parliament" (Williams, vol 1, p.75).

One of only nine daily newspapers, five of which were advertising journals and all of which were published in London, being published in Great Britain at the end of 1783 (Aspinall p.6).

*The Morning Chronicle* prophesied that half the existing newspapers would be extinguished by the new taxation (2nd June 1815)" (Aspinall p.21). "The *Morning Chronicle* was then [in 1852] being supported by the money of Sidney Herbert and other Peelites" (Aspinall p.199). "Of the principal papers opposing the Addington ministry of 1801-4, the *Morning Chronicle* was the organ of the Foxite Whigs" (Aspinall p.281). "During the Peninsular War the *Morning Chronicle* ...obtained news from a secret source which was obviously connected with military headquarters there" (Aspinall p.282). "Everyone agreed that the *Morning Chronicle* was an unsatisfactory Opposition newspaper" (Aspinall p.294). Despite declining circulation, "when in 1834 Clement disposed of the copyright, he obtained for it more than a hundred times as much as Perry and Gray had given for it" (Aspinall p.306). "The people were keenly interested in [The Princess of Wales'] affairs; newspapers like the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Pilot*, and the *Star* could hope considerably to increase their circulation by devoting themselves to her" (Aspinall p.306). "Started in 1769 in the Whig interest, but in 1788, when William Woodfall was about to retire from its direction, it was a Government paper" (Aspinall p.69).

In the late 1700's and/or early 1800's, this newspaper was "of a very different character from those with which we are familiar; they had nothing in the shape of general intelligence -- law and police news, and public proceedings of all kinds were entirely ignored" (Smart, pp.40-41).

Gray was the co-editor with James Perry until his death (unknown date). John Black edited the periodical until it ended. The size of the periodical was two to three columns daily.

Thackeray contributed 35 articles to the paper between 1844 and 1848. John Campbell contributed to *The Morning Chronicle* as a theatrical critic for the plays: *The Exile of Erin* and *Ye Mariners of England*. "The training school for the clever writers who began to make the *Saturday Review*" (Escott). Black was "[t]he first newspaper critic of English institutions in detail" (Escott).

Leigh Hunt was the dramatic critic; Lord Brougham, Sir James Mackintosh and David Ricardo were leader-writers (Jones). Brooks wrote the "Parliamentary summary" for the *Morning Chronicle* (Cooper, p.146).

Anthony Angus Reach worked as a parliamentary and trial correspondent for the *Morning Chronicle*. He also wrote a powerful series of reports on industrial conditions in the north of England. Linton worked on the *Morning Chronicle* for three years after 1845 in London, than for three years in Paris from 1853 as a foreign correspondent after quarrelling with her employer, John Douglas Cook. James Hannay's first post as a writer was at the *Morning Chronicle*. William Bernard MacCabe wrote for the *Morning Chronicle*. Thomas Campbell and Thomas Moore wrote prose and verse for the paper. Moore's *Epistle form Tom Cribb* appeared in September of 1815 (Bourne, p.364). William Hazlitt wrote political articles and continued as a theatrical critic and writer on art. Collection of articles written for *The Morning Chronicle* were put into *A View of the English Stage* (Bourne, p.364). Thomas Black started as a reporter for the paper in 1810 and was promoted to become the editor in 1817 (Bourne, p.363).

Powerful Whig journal under Perry (1789-). "At the beginning of the nineteenth century...it was London's leading daily" (Jones, p.5n). "First newspaper to make a reputation for its parliamentary reports" (Jones, p.55). The "principal mouthpiece" of the Whig party (Jones, p.61).



John Cleave advertised (in *Working Man's Friend and Political Magazine* , 12 January 1833) the **Morning Chronicle** for sale, post free, at half price, on the second day of publication. Printed on rag paper (Webb, p.33).

"In the early 1850s the **Morning Chronicle** ran a vigorous campaign against the monopolistic brewers, and the full-scale inquiry into the licensing system conducted by the Villiers committee in 1853-4 was strongly influenced by free traders." "The Whig **Morning Chronicle** welcomed Lovett's 'new move' and Vincent's temperance address" (Harrison).

The first message to be transmitted by telegraph for a newspaper was in May 1845 for *The Morning Chronicle* along the London and South Western Railway Company's line from Portsmouth to London (Lee, p.60).

Black writes *The Morning Chronicle* was most prominent among the Foxite press and continuing critic of the war in 1793. Black also notes incidence of reporting of boxing matches.

"Dickens obtained a position at the liberal, Whig-owned **Morning Chronicle** , second only to *The Times* in circulation. The editor, John Black, sent him out to cover events throughout Britain; the curbed reporter relished the coach races home to beat competition to press" (Patten, p.18).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## ***Morning Post***

One of the leading Conservative newspapers throughout the nineteenth century, the ***Morning Post*** was founded in 1772 by Henry Bate, and subsequently acquired by Stuart Daniel (1766-1846) in 1795 for 600 pounds. Daniel secured the writing of Coleridge, Lamb, Wordsworth and Southey, raised the paper's circulation to 4,500, and sold it for 25,000 pounds in 1803 to Nicholas Byrne. A champion of law and order, and a supporter of the Tories, Byrne was attacked in his office and died in 1833.

Subsequently, Peter Borthwick, who was an MP and opponent of the abolition of the slave trade, became editor of the paper in 1850. This was short-lived, as he died in 1852. However his son, Algernon Borthwick (1830-1908), became editor at the age of 22. He strongly supported the policies of Lord Palmerston, and increased the emphasis of the paper on news—particularly political, military, theatrical and sporting. Borthwick was able to purchase the paper from W.J. Rideout in 1877, and soon after he turned away from display advertising, also reducing the price of the paper in 1881 from 3d to 1d. Circulation in 1882 was 10,000. After Lord Beaconsfield's death in 1881, and the subsequent establishment of the Primrose League (an organisation for spreading Conservative principles in Great Britain), Borthwick was an active participant and supporter of the League, becoming Vice-Grand Master and Trustee. Created Baron Glensk in 1887, he was the first newspaper proprietor to be given a peerage. In 1895, Algernon Borthwick handed over control of the ***Morning Post*** to his son Oliver (1873-1905), but upon the latter's death in 1905, re-assumed control of the newspaper.

The ***Morning Post*** continued publication until 1937, when it was incorporated with the *Daily Telegraph*.

## **Newcastle Courant**

Established August 11, 1711, and continued to be published every week without intermission from that date. During the 135 years it has had only five proprietorships. Circulates extensively through Newcastle, North and South Shields, Sunderland, Durham, and the Northern counties. Advocates no party politics all information is recorded historical; it takes particular interest in the agricultural, shipping, and mining welfare of the district, and devotes some space to literature (Mitchell, 1846).

Issues from 18 Jul 1724 to 24 Apr 172? are in the Burney collection at Bloomsbury. "At Lamberton, near Berwick, Kingsley, ensign in the 8th Reg., aged 16 to Miss Maria Taylor, aged 17" (**Newcastle Courant** of Aug. 9, 1806).

"On the 3rd inst., at Berwick Church, William Jeffrey Towler Kingsley, Esq., of London, to Miss Maria Taylor, daughter of Mr. John Taylor, formerly printer and bookseller, Berwick, being the third time the young couple have been married their united ages scarcely exceed 34. These were the parents of the Rev. William Towler Kingsley, Rector of South Kilvington, who was born at Berwick on June 28, 1815, immediately after the Battle of Waterloo, at which his father fought". (J.C. Hodgson. *N&Q* p.136).

"Charles Henry Cook was a noted dissenter and reformer, was the Union voice from Durham in the south to Scotland" (Lopatin).

One of three papers supported by Newcastle and the surrounding regions in the 1740s (Harris, p.13).

White changed the format of the publication from half sheets to a pamphlet format in approximately 1712 to avoid paying taxes.

The **Newcastle Courant** was sold for £8,000 in 1832 (Lee, p.52).

"The second newspaper published in Newcastle and the second in the Northern Region (also the first successful newspaper as its only predecessor, the *Newcastle Gazette*, lasted only 2 years)" (Newsplan).

Black writes that the Courant was a source for results of horse races, advertisements for property for sale, as well as Plantation news in the 18th century. A great issue in the spring of 1792 was anti-slavery. Lastly, the Courant was loyalist in the American War of Independence.

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **North West Chronicle**

It is uncertain if this was also published in England.

Black records that this title was started in 1808 (p.111).

Periodical title page says "Established 1807" ( **North Wales Chronicle** . no 1, 04 Oct 1827, p.1).  
"The only newspaper printed in North Wales" ( **North Wales Chronicle** . vol 2 no 64, 18 Dec 1828, p.4). "The press is a powerful instrument for good or for evil. We wish to see the good for the suppression of the evil. We admire and uphold the Freedom of the Press; we despise, abhor, and would control its Liberty, when that Liberty degenerates (sic)" ( **North Wales Chronicle** . vol 92 no 4784, p.1).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## **Northern Echo**

Under W.T. Stead's editorship, this had been perhaps the most successful of provincial papers (Lee, p. 155).

In 1895, Starmer was made the managing editor (Lee, p. 175).

"The first suggestion for a new approach came from outside the Temperance movement, an article in the **Northern Echo** on 8 August 1878" (Dingle).

"Is published every morning in time for the early trains. Its circulation increased seven-fold in seven years; was, in October, 1876, publicly referred to by the Right Hon. W.E. Gladstone, M.P., as a most ably conducted journal." ( *Hubbard's Newspaper and Bank Directory of the World* , 1882, Advertisement, p.1614)

"There is no paper now in existence which can be to me what the *Echo* is. I have given it its character, its existence, its circulation. It is myself." Stead's quote on his editorship of the **Northern Echo** (Onslow, p.103).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## ***The Northern Liberator***

The ***Northern Liberator*** was the organ of the Newcastle Chartists.

This paper was published in the North-East of England...The bitterness caused by the measure [the new Poor Law] lived on and continued to affect working class politics in particular...to which...the ***Northern Liberator*** and the *Northern Star* increasingly turned their attention (Barker p.215, 211).

"Exaggerating somewhat, the ***Northern Liberator*** on 4 April 1840 attributed [recent attacks on the beershop to `the hatred of the Squirearchy to the labouring people, and the deep-rooted aversion they entertain against any enjoyment or social privilege they may by stealth obtain'" (Harrison).

Ward describes Augustus Beaumont as having been "half-insane" (Ward, 175).

"In 1837 he founded [Editor's Note: Augustus Harding Beaumont] at Newcastle-on-Tyne a paper called the ***Northern Liberator*** , which was one of the best of the popular newspapers. It took a vehement part in the campaign led by Oastler and Stephens, and in other respects it was noted for its intelligent interest in foreign affairs" (Hovell).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## **Northern Star**

O'Connor's **Northern Star** was at its apogee in 1839 selling 48,000 copies per weeks, its demands for the democratisation of politics were read by a much wider audience (Harrison, "A World...").

"'Reader', said Feargus O'Connor, in the first number of *The Northern Star* ...'behold that little red spot in the corner of my newspaper. That is the stamp; the Whig 'beauty' spot; your 'plague' spot. Look at it: I am entitled to it upon the performance of certain conditions. I was ready to comply, and yet, will you believe that the little spot you see has cost me nearly eighty pounds in money, together with much anxiety, and nearly one thousand miles of night and day travelling? Of this they shall hear more, but for the present suffice it to say there it is; my licence to teach'" (Bourne).

Established November 22, 1837.

"This is a weekly newspaper, projected in the Chartist interest, and strongly imbued with the principles of Ultra-Radicalism. It had at one time a great extent of popularity in the district which may be designated its birth-place the north of England; whence it has recently removed to the metropolis, with no proportionate increase of circulation; for its prosperity was mainly dependent on the growth of Chartism, the decline of which it has somewhat shared. Its circulation, however, is not inconsiderable; but of course, chiefly, if not entirely, among the working classes, operatives, and small tradesmen" (Mitchell, 1846).

"It was originally published at Leeds, where it obtained, in a short time, a larger circulation than any other country newspaper ever realised. The party to which it is attached [ie. Chartist], however, losing its popularity, the sale fell off, and the publication of the paper was transferred to London. Its articles are written in a bold uncompromising spirit...." (Mitchell, 1847).

"The Chartist paper, *The Northern Star*, continued to be an organ for Feargus O'Connor's ranting, and the agitation of 1848 produced a crop of radical papers to replace those that had died around 1840..." (James, p. 42).

"...[R]arely seen as a vehicle for sensationalized accounts of murder and mayhem. Yet nearly one quarter of each weekly issue was devoted to reports of crimes, accidents, and police proceedings, using the sensational to underscore a political program....the state, constructing itself upon an inherently unstable of class division and inequity, caused the acts of suicide, murder, and abuse that filled the columns of the **Northern Star** ....an expression of working class protest against the Poor Law and demands for factory reform.... Its circulation rivalled that of *The Times* in 1839...Circulation subsequently dropped off...before peaking a second time in 1848...then dropped precipitously, to less than 5000 per week by 1850. When Harney purchased the paper in 1852, circulation was down to 1200 and he was forced to end publication that same year" ( *VPR* ).; This paper began as a Factory and Anti-Poor Law journal. When O'Conner purchased the paper, he turned it into "a national vehicle for his brand of Chartism" but published other Chartist viewpoints, including those of his critics within the movement. The **Northern Star** was the definitive and comprehensive voice of the Chartist movement; it succeeded in uniting Chartism by publishing local and regional initiatives and according them national significance (Barker p.215, 216). "Feargus O'Conner, editor of the **Northern Star**, insisted that the paper was a 'mirror' of the people's mind"...written with public readings very much in mind...readings of radical papers were not met with reverential silence but formed the basis of listeners subsequent discussions...(Barker p.25, 55).

The paper also "claimed to serve a largely working-class readership, which had previously found 'no single provincial organ through which their wants and wishes could be adequately expressed, and by which their rights could be duly asserted and their interests maintained' " (Barker p.49).

Founded as a legal, stamped publication with the intention of surviving the rigours of commercial competition (Jones, p.147).

At first, the **Northern Star** was a working-class paper. It is fairly obvious that Feargus intended to use the **Northern Star** to advance his personal career. His role in the paper was publicized, and his public speeches reprinted therein in full. Accepted as the national organ of the Chartist movement (Cranfield, p.194).

In 1839 the paper achieved its full glory. It had six columns on each of its eight pages. It was out-of-date in appearance, and its advertisement were reminiscent of 18th century newspapers (Cranfield, p.195). Published the prospectus for the *Nottingham Chronicle* in 1839 (Cranfield, p.195). The

**Northern Star** claimed on 2 February 1839 that it had sold 17 640 papers the previous week, and that it had 27 000 orders for the next. It was able to substantiate its claims with a record of stamp purchases. A similar record in 1839 gave the **Northern Star** a weekly average of 42 077 (Cranfield, p.197). "Its maximum sale at this time [1839] was probably over 50 000 a week" (Cranfield, p.198). 1842 was the key year for the **Northern Star**. When the middle classes finally began to realise the needs of the working classes, the great days of the **Northern Star** were over (Cranfield, p.198).; "The *Reporter*, like the Chartists' **Northern Star** at a later date, provided an important organizational framework and a focal point for a diffuse political movement" (Walvin, p.157).

"Bronterre O'Brien, the 'school master of Chartism', whose journalism in the Unstamped *Poor Man's Guardian* and then in the **Northern Star** taught a generation of working men to 'read' capitalism as the systematic theft of their labour" (Hollis, p.296).

"The early editions concentrated on the anti-poor law campaign and the Glasgow cotton spinners..." (Brown).

Part of the **Northern Star's** apparent editorial agenda was to establish links between crimes and social conditions (Rodrick).

"In politics it was the extreme of Radicalism, or Chartism as it was then called, from advocating the People's Charter. It advocated six distinct changes which were deemed constitutional departures from the law and customs of the realm" (Wood 308).

"O'Connor, whose **Northern Star** was rapidly gaining readers, used physical force as a threat ("peaceably if we may, forcibly if we must") but never came to the point of countenancing it in fact" (Cole 238). O'Connor was also quoted as writing and saying of his rival *Weekly Dispatch*, "You unmitigated ass! You sainted fool! You canonized ape! You nincompoop!" (Cole 263).

Poems and extracts of poems by Byron, Shelley and Keats appear in the publication (Shaaban, p.38-9).

"During the years 1845-46 the **Northern Star** regularly and consistently printed on its literary page extracts from Byron's poetry" (Shaaban, p.41). A number of issues have a feature in a continuing series entitled "The Beauties of Byron". The focus on Byron includes features on "To a Lady" and *Childe Harold* among others (Shaaban, p.39). Poems by Byron are published in full, including "Ode to Napoleon Bonaparte" "From the French" and "Prometheus" (Shaaban, p.42). No 336 contains a poem by John Fergusson called "To the Memory of Shelley" (Shaaban, p.38). An article in 10 Jan, 1846 compares and contrasts the work of Byron and Shelley (Shaaban, p.40). The subject of Byron's poem "The Prisoner of Chillon" is argued to be "deeply interesting to all haters of tyranny" (2 May, 1846, p.3). Frost compares Scott, Byron and Shelley in the 2 Jan, 1847 publication. Twedell "acclaims Shelley as the prophet and patriot of liberty" (Shaaban, p.42).; Read weekly by a Primitive Methodist preacher at a miner's meeting (Webb, p.34).

Jones and Harney became leading members of "the international socialist group of Fraternal Democrats and friends of Marx and Engels" (Epstein, 76).

O'Conner's rise to popular leadership was rapid in the extreme. Within fifteen months from the foundation of the **Northern Star**, he was the universally acknowledged leader in those parts...The paper could make or unmake reputations, and local leaders went in terror of its censure. Place declared that the **Northern Star** had degraded the whole Radical Press. It was truly the worst and most successful of the radical papers, a melancholy tribute to the low level of intelligence of its readers...In the palmy days between 1839 and 1842 the Star had been not only the oracle of northern industrial discontent, but a veritable gold mine to its proprietor, and the source of the lavish subventions with which he sustained the tottering finances of the cause. But the greatest prosperity of the Star had been in its early days of identification with Chartism. Founded in 1837 before the Charter had been devised, it was not before 1839 that it had grown into the position of the leading Chartist organ. It was in the great year 1839 that the Star had attained the highest point of its prosperity. But after the great year 1839 the sales of the Star had steadily declined. Even in 1840 it had only half the circulation of the previous year: each succeeding year was marked by a further drop, and by the summer of 1843 the state of affairs was becoming critical...Accordingly in 1844 the office of the paper was transferred from Leeds to London...But if the step had been undertaken in hope of reviving its sales, the result finally was the completion of its ruin...It was now called the **Northern Star** and the National Trades Journal, and a desperate effort was made to win new readers by appeals to the Trades Union element which in early days had seemed of little account. Before long it almost ceased to be a Chartist paper at all...Early in 1852 he sold the **Northern Star** to new proprietors, who forthwith dissociated it from the Chartist cause" (Hovell); Read states that the **Northern Star** was the "first great British popular newspaper" (p.56).



This publication gets its name from an Irish publication of the same title that was closely associated with Feargus O'Connor's uncle, Arthur O'Connor (Read, p.56).

No 688 is incorrectly numbered 687 (Canney). Superseded by *The Star of Freedom* (q.v.); Harney purchased the **Northern Star** in 1852. "Very popular Chartist paper" (Williams, vol 2, p.519).

After its inception, *The Northern Star* ". . . speedily outpassed all other Radical journals not only in violence of language but also in the extent of its circulation" (Cole, p.47).

*The Northern Star* ". . . began not as a Chartist organ, but much more as the expression of working-class protests against the Poor Law and demands for factory reform. It advocated Universal Suffrage and the rest of the Chartist demands, primarily as means to these ends. Only when the London Working Men's Association had published the Charter, and began to secure for it the support of Radical working men's associations in many other places, did *The Northern Star* take up the Charter. . ." (Cole, p.312).

John Cleave was the London "agent" for this periodical. Other agents for the *Star*: James Ibbotson of Bradford, Titus Brooke of Dewsbury, Christopher Tinker of Huddersfield. Richard Lee was the London correspondent from 1839-1840. Abel Heywood had the Manchester agency for the new series. Of total 3,000 issues, 1,220 copies were ordered in Ashton-under-Lyne (Flick, p.38).

" *Sunshine and Shadow* appeared in weekly instalments in the **Northern Star** between 31 March 1849 and 5 January 1850. Its author was the Chartist administrator and schoolteacher Thomas Martin Wheeler (1811-62)... He became the London correspondent of the **Northern Star** in 1840" (Haywood, p.65).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Nottinghamshire Guardian**

The first issue of *The Nottinghamshire Guardian*, and *Midland and Counties Advertiser* appeared on 1 May 1846, and this title was retained until publication ceased in December 1969. In its early years, the paper printed under its banner title a long quotation of Lord George Bentinck, a leading opponent in the 1840s of the free trade policy of Sir Robert Peel. In allying itself with the defence of agricultural, commercial and colonial interests, *The Nottinghamshire Guardian* proclaimed its Conservative orientation. Issue no. 310 was published on Thursday 11 March 1852 by Thomas Forman. The price was 4 1/2 d, with eight pages of six columns per page. Printed in the top left hand corner of the front page was: "The circulation...was during the year 1851, 112,000 [copies]." Page seven of this issue shows a one penny tax stamp.

The Forman family continued its ownership of the newspaper after Thomas Forman died in 1888. Two of his sons, John Thomas Forman and Jesse Robert Forman, became active in the management of the newspaper from the 1870s. Jesse Robert was prominent in the Press Association, being elected chairman in 1889. He became vice-president of the Newspaper Society in 1891. With his early death at the age of forty-two in 1892, his brother John Thomas continued the management and ownership of the paper, and on his death in 1916 his son, Thomas Bailey Forman, took over the running of the newspaper.

The price of issue no. 1513 of 30 April 1875, was 2d, unstamped, and this included a four page Supplement. By this time, cricket reporting was included within the "Sporting Intelligence" section. In 1882, circulation of the paper was given in Hubbard as 8,000 copies. At the end of the century, the eight page issue no. 2789 of Saturday 5 November 1898, was priced 1d. Page two includes Ladies Fashions - including some illustrations. Page six has excerpts from two novels— *Patience of Christopher* by Cressandia; and *A Quiet Lodger* by Dorothea Gerard. French news is covered by two stories on page eight: "France and Fashoda" and "The Dreyfus Affair".

## **Odd Fellow**

[W]e are determined to be an **Odd Fellow**: and, though it may appear strange to cut a friend, yet we are determined to give our readers a cut every week; but, at the same time, desire them to understand that we wish them to laugh at our designs. We shall not attempt to set the Thames on fire, as we intend to have no match. Our publisher says he intends to sell our pub. for a brown, but if all our readers take it to be read, and think it will drive away the blues, we shall think ourself a happy wight, and that there is nothing green about us. We shall endeavour to make ourself as entertaining as possible, and when we find there is nothing to write about, why we shall right about face (Scene the Editor's Garret, 1:2, p.1).

"The readers of the **Odd Fellow** are respectfully informed, that, on Saturday next, 17th December, the above publication will be changed in name and general appearance, and be issued under an entirely new management...Each number will have a fine emblematical heading, and be illustrated by wood-cuts, characteristic of the ups and downs of the Political World and the manners, customs, and foibles of society. The general contents will be greatly improved; variety, adapted to all tastes and dispositions, will be afforded, as far as practicable. Tales and Romances of passion, adventure, wonder, and peril, both by sea and land, will be made to occupy a prominent place. Sketches of men and manners; Essays on the lighter and more engaging departments of literature and science: notices of the movements in the political world; and wit and humour, both of home and foreign growth, will all, from time to time, display their various lights and shades. Reviews of new books, and dramatic and musical notices, will be duly attended to...The title in future shall be the *Fireside Journal, and Penny Miscellany of Wit, Humour, Literature, Amusement, and Romance*" (The Cheapest and Best Periodical in the World no 205, p.2).

Henry Hetherington published *The Odd Fellow* after *The London Dispatch* failed for lack of support. "Although this claimed to be concerned with the Society of Odd Fellows, it was entirely a literary magazine" (James, pp.26-7).

"When Henry Hetherington published thirty-two complete *Sketches by 'Boz'*, in *The Odd Fellow*, he was stopped from further piracy by the threat of legal action, and had to publish an apology" (James, p.46).

This was one of the magazines of its time that capitalized on plagiarism. Henry Hetherington also published *Penny Papers for the People*. James Cooke's *The Bachelor Club* was serialised in *The Odd Fellow* (James, p.58).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Operative**

At length, after many months' labour, a section of the Working Classes have succeeded in producing a Journal for the Defence of the Rights of Labour.... The individuals who have thus stood forward to obtain for the labourer that invincible aid which the press affords, are humble Operatives; who, being taught by experience that nearly the whole of the newspaper press is opposed to the labouring man, and to those measures which he deems necessary to his self-defence, have resolved to establish a Journal which shall, at all times, be open to communications from the Working Classes, and be a fearless champion of the Rights of Labour.... It will be the object of *The Operative* to defend the price of labour, wheresoever or by whomsoever assailed whether by the legislature, associated employers, or an individual.... It will be the aim of *The Operative* to demonstrate, by historic example, that the labouring classes are always the worst sufferers when resort is had to physical force that men of the worst passions float on the tide of human slaughter into the places of power, and press on the shoulders of the people with tenfold violence. It will seek to prove to them that their condition can only be safely improved by great and progressive political changes, resulting from enlarged education and increased moral force.... Finally, *The Operative* is intended, strictly and pre-eminently, to be *The Labourer's Friend*; and, as an organ of the defence of labour, will, at all times, stand between the employer and the employed (Address 1:1, p.1).

"Established by the working classes for the defence of the rights of labour. Also for a 'fair day's wages for a fair day's work.' Advocates abolition of the Corn Laws, Church rates, unequal administration of the laws. Some general news" (Williams, vol 2, p.519).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Pall Mall Gazette**

In a letter to the Times John Ruskin described this as "One of the most temperate and accurate of our daily journals" (Feb 19, 1867. ed.). "Was a bold attempt to realise Thackeray's fancy of a paper 'written by gentlemen for gentlemen', and to give each afternoon, along with a careful epitome of the morning's news, two or three such articles on political and social questions as had hitherto been rarely offered except in *The Saturday Review* or *The Spectator*" (Bourne, H. R. Fox, p.274).

The paper reported "news, analysed it, created causes, and exposed injustices" (Knelman, p.37). It was "written by a corps of intellectuals for an elite audience" (Knelman p.139). It also attempted to expose baby farming in the 1860s and advocated reforms to the justice system (Knelman p.161).

"The tone in which the articles are written is that of Independent Unionism, and its contributors embrace the foremost writers of the day. New features are continually being added. Financial criticism and sporting news hold a prominent position. Special services of home and foreign telegrams, &c., are in constant organisation, and have no equal in any other evening paper" (Mitchell, 1900).

Editor Stead ran a series of articles in 1885 which attempted to expose child prostitution in England (Engel 44). Stead also pioneered the introduction of interviews into the newspaper world (Garlick and Harris p.166). The **Pall Mall Gazette** had "an influence out of all proportion to its modest circulation." He was much concerned about a then not-fully-known problem of juvenile prostitution. He published a series of articles about the problem, with the main heading being *The Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon*, and with such subheadings as *The Violation of Virgins*, *The Confessions of a Brothel-Keeper* and *Unwilling Recruits* (Cranfield, p.212). The series "procured an effect unparalleled in the history of journalism." "Thousands of readers of the **Pall Mall Gazette** could not believe their eyes when they found words used and things described which had never before been used and described in a British newspaper . . . A hostile crowd threatened to storm the paper's offices, and police had to throw a cordon around the house. An indignant M.P. asked in Parliament whether Stead could not be prosecuted for obscene libel." Apparently, England did not like being exposed in this way, and "patriots and brothel-keepers gave an united shout of angry protest . . . and denied [it] . . . until Stead proved it . . . And then there was a savage cry of resentment against the man who had exposed the loathsome traffic" (Cranfield, p.213). He was accused of doing the series simply to sell more newspapers, as more than 400,000 copies of reprints had been sold. But he denied the accusation and said that the profits would go into a fund to continue the "good work." Nevertheless, he spent two months in jail, but was rewarded by a new law which raised the age of consent from 13 to 16 years (Cranfield, p.214). "W. E. Stead who drafted a considerable part of the proposals (that appeared in General Booth's *In Darkest England and the Way Out*), was an ardent advocate of imperialism and social reform. Stead was "the highly successful editor of the **Pall Mall Gazette**" (Jones, p. 311). When Stead became editor in 1883, there followed two years of remarkable achievement. Some of his technical innovations included the use of illustrations, the introduction of crossheads, and the development of the interview. He also had a knack for getting scoops (Herd, p.228).

The **Pall Mall Gazette**'s title typography was unadorned (Jones, p.38).

Nelson discusses several articles that address issues of family and male-female roles.

"Ebenezer Enoch, author of *Songs of Universal Brotherhood* (1849), later gained connexions with *The Pall Mall Gazette*, and Thomas Miller, ex-basket-maker, was lionized by Lady Blessington and her circle" (James, p.43). Published work by Richard Ashe King in the early 1880's.

George Smith started this paper in 1865 to have a forum for his Liberal political views. Trollope wrote several public affairs articles. He contributed *The Belton Estate Miss Mackenzie* and *Hunting Sketches* in 1865 (Cooper, p.923).

Lowry wrote for the **Pall Mall Gazette**. Hired Sir H. W. Lucy in 1870. Dutton Cook's writing is a source of current slang and up to the minute metropolitan mores. John Ruskin: "...the **Pall Mall Gazette** has become a mere party paper - like the rest; but it writes well and does more good than mischief on the whole" (after 1865).

The **Pall Mall Gazette** was often called the P.M.G. (Herd, p.225).

Frederick Greenwood happened to buy a complete set of the *Anti-Jacobin; or, Weekly Examiner* (not his own *Anti-Jacobin*), and he, in his own words, "was taken by its originality, incisiveness, wit, literary character and appearance. . . . How fresh and pleasing seemed not only the high spirits and

down-rightness but the type and headlines, the wide double columns and the easily-held size of page of the *Anti-Jacobin* ! . . . Make as good a combination of the two [referring to the *Anti-Jacobin* and the *Saturday Review* ] as the current supply of mind allows, throw in a scrap or two of novel feature, mix with an eye to the needs and demands of the hour, publish every day, and you will have a new thing that ought to be a power and a glory.' " This was Greenwood's vision for the **Pall Mall Gazette** (Herd, p.63). His approach was light, polished, and intellectually alert at a time when "the morning papers had become heavy and tradition-bound." His only attempt at sensationalism involved asking his brother, James Greenwood, to spend a night in the Lambeth workhouse and record his experiences. This resulted in three articles, the publication of which increased the sale by 1500 for each issue they appeared in, and a permanent increase in sale of 1,200. *The Times* republished the articles in full (Herd, p.226). "The most important service rendered by Greenwood during his editorship was the information he secretly gave to the Government in 1875 that the Khedive of Egypt was on the point of transferring his Suez Canal shares to French hands." Using this information, Disraeli, the Prime Minister at that time, purchased the shares and proved to be a big gain both monetarily and politically. Greenwood, however, did not take any journalistic advantage of this affair, and was not even recognized by Disraeli as the informant (Herd, p.227). He left the **Pall Mall Gazette** when Henry Yates Thompson decided to support the Liberal Party, and most of the staff, including Cook and Spender, departed when Thompson sold it to the Conservatives (Herd, p.231). He left the paper in 1880 to found the *St. James's Gazette* (Keith p.24).

"The critics of 1870 applauded his [W.S. Gilbert] courage in producing a musical play [Princess Ida] which required unusual attention from the audience" The Gazette is a good source of reviews and information about the work of W. S. Gilbert. (Editor's Note); "A large number of stories of the supernatural may be found in the magazines...there was no richer storehouse than the *Pall Mall Magazine* ". "W. T. Stead, who was responsible for one of the greatest journalist scoops of all time. In 1880 he joined the **Pall Mall Gazette** ...He became much concerned over juvenile prostitution...He purchased a girl for 5 pounds. And on 6 July 1885, as the second item in the **Pall Mall Gazette** , appeared the first article on 'The Maiden Tribute of Modern Babylon. The Report of Our Secret Commission' - five and half pages of it (the Gazette was a sixteen page paper)...It was no idle boast when the paper claimed that the series had 'procured an effect unparalleled in the history of journalism'...The series ended officially on 10 July with a 'Conclusion' very critical of the police - and an announcement that the four previous issues were out of print. But the controversy was very far from being finished. As Larsen puts it: Thousand of readers of the **Pall Mall Gazette** could not believe their eyes when they found words used and things described which had never before been used and described in a British newspaper...The paper did well, stating on 20 July that 400,000 copies of the reprints had been struck off... The campaign culminated in a mass demonstration in Hyde Park. Stead himself was prosecuted and spent two months in gaol...It remains one of the oddest things in newspaper history that Stead's 'Maiden Tribute' campaign only put up the newspapers sale from 8,360 to 12,250" (Cranfield).

One source informed that the editor, John Morley, may have edited the periodical until 1885.....James Hannay, very generally, though inaccurately, identified with the editor of the **Pall Mall Gazette** ( *Blackwood's* p.537).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## ***Penny Illustrated Paper***

The British Library holds the only complete run of the ***Penny Illustrated Paper***. It seems likely that this is also a unique copy. By the early 1860s, when the first issue of the ***Penny Illustrated Paper*** was published on the 12 October 1861, the concept of a weekly illustrated newspaper was not new. Nearly twenty one years before, on the 14 May 1842, the first issue of the *Illustrated London News* (ILN) was published by its owner, Herbert Ingram. Moreover, the ILN had started at a time when the stamp duty of four pence a sheet was still in force, and the duty on paper was still also enacted. The repeal of the Stamp Act occurred in July 1855, and the abolition of paper duty followed in 1861.

These events increased the possibilities of publishing cheap daily and weekly newspapers, aimed at larger audiences. All involved in newspaper production witnessed the popularity of the ILN, whose circulation by 1863 reached 300,000 copies a week, with a cover price of six pence. Mass circulation was not only achievable – it was respectable, as over six million people has visited the Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations held in Hyde Park, London, in 1851. Regular reports of the building's construction, and descriptions of the exhibition itself had appeared in the ILN, with plentiful illustrations to enliven the text. The success of the Great Exhibition spawned a huge literature of books, pamphlets and newspapers. Although many of these were short lived, the reality of publications priced at one penny was well established. For example, W.M.Clark published *The Crystal Palace and its contents; being an illustrated cyclopaedia of the Great Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations, 1851. Embellished with upwards of five hundred engravings...* Twenty seven parts were issued between the 4th October 1851 and the 27th March 1852. Each part cost one penny.

The banner of the *Penny Illustrated Paper* proudly proclaimed itself in capital letters, with the sub-title: *With all the news of the week*. In early issues, the pictorial background to the banner featured sailing ships in harbour, a crane lifting goods, and a steam engine on a railway viaduct, together with mountains rising in the background. The editorial in the first issue stated: "In producing an Illustrated Paper for the million, let us plainly say, we want it to be esteemed the friend of the million." The aspiration was to use the cheap press to assist in solving "...the terrible amount of suffering, disorder, and vice that *must* be dealt with in a more vigorous fashion than hitherto..."

The first publisher was Ebenezer Farrington, whose name is written on the top right hand corner of early issues. The contents were divided by sub-titles, printed in gothic lettering; for example, issue 68 of 24 January 1863 has: Topics of the Week; Home News; Accidents, Inquests, etc; Guy Waterman's Maze [fiction]; Picked Up at Sea; Sporting News; Recreations; Foreign News; Law & Police; Gossip; Advertisements.

The ***Penny Illustrated Paper*** copied the ILN too, in ensuring a wide subject variety for its articles, together with many woodcut illustrations. The size and content of the illustrations varied greatly, normally reflecting current news events or people in the news. By the mid-1880s, the illustrations featured yet more strongly, with each issue having a whole page cover illustration, with another whole page picture on inside pages, together with a fold-out illustration intended as a supplement to a particular issue. For example, by issue number 1288 of 9 January 1886, space was made each week for commentary upon the illustrations, entitled *Our Illustrations*; also by this date, more column space was devoted to Advertisements, with this issue printing small advertisements of nearly three pages.

The Penny Illustrated Paper originally aimed for a national readership, and this was reflected repeatedly with the writing of articles which covered all parts of the country. Publication continued steadily throughout the years, with the title of the paper changing to *P.I.P. Penny Illustrated Paper* from issue number 2432, of the 4 January 1908. The title disappeared with its change to *London Life* from the 29 May 1913.

Simply looking at the results today, we have to be conscious of the achievements of the editors each week in ensuring not only the reporting of a great variety of events, but also ensuring that the woodcut engravings, and latterly, the photographs, were organized to go to press. For over fifty years, every week, this work continued, alongside competitors whose weekly cover price was much greater, and, from the later years of the nineteenth century, the rise of mass circulation national daily newspapers provided much greater competition than before.

One of the predominant features of the ***Penny Illustrated Paper*** was the honesty of the reporting, together with the clarity of its expression. The sometimes crude, yet vividly depicted, illustrations offer readers the immediacy of events or of portraits only recently occurring in that week. The availability of this large archive will enable a variety of new users to appreciate the drive and energy necessary to create such work for those less well off at the time, and to juxtapose these texts with others already widely available.

## Poor Man's Guardian

Bronterre O'Brien, the 'school master of Chartism', whose journalism in the Unstamped *Poor Man's Guardian* and then in the *Northern Star* taught a generation of working men to 'read' capitalism as the systematic theft of their labour (Hollis, p.296). "O'Brien, editor of the leading working class Unstamped paper, the *Poor Man's Guardian*, more than any other man, structured working-class perceptions of their new society. His editorials denouncing property, profit and privilege, were discussed in clubs, pubs, and classes" (Hollis, p.299).

Emblazoned on every issue was the motto "knowledge is power" (Lee, p.22).

"With the passing of the Bill [Reform Bill of 1832] the combination of political disappointment with anti capitalist notions caused vague ideas of class war to take clearer shape and become as unquestioned truths in the minds of working men. These views are already prevalent in the debates of the National Union as reported in the *Poor Man's Guardian*" (Hovell).

"To you-friends and brethren whose cause we are advocating whose rights we demand whose liberties we defend whose interests we espouse to you we now appeal, not to let us fight our perilous battle singlehanded; we look to you for support; we ask you not to incur danger or expense we desire not the risk of interest or person we ask you merely to purchase, with your weekly pennies, and 'read', and 'mark', and 'learn', and 'inwardly digest', our 'newspaper', to be called henceforward *The Poor Man's Guardian*; which will contain 'news, intelligence, and occurrences', and 'upon matters in Church and State, tending', decidedly, 'to excite hatred and contempt of the Government and Constitution of the tyranny of this country, as BY LAW established', and also 'to vilify the ABUSES of Religion'..." (Friends, Brethren, and Fellow-Countrymen no 1, p.1).

"'Defiance is our only remedy', he [Hetherington] said in the opening page of his first number. 'we will try, step by step, the power of right against might, and we will begin by protecting and upholding this grand bulwark of all our rights, this key to all our liberties, the freedom of the press the press, too, of the ignorant and the poor'" (Bourne, H. R. Fox, p.56). "In 1830 [Hetherington] published a series of unstamped pamphlets, *Penny Papers for the People*, which in June he changed to *The Poor Man's Guardian*, A Weekly Newspaper for the People, Established Contrary to Law to try the Power of Might against Right. Over five hundred sellers of the paper were imprisoned for three and a half years, and Hetherington, as publisher, for six months...The working classes, and some middle-class sympathizers, combined to ensure *The Poor Man's Guardian* came out weekly. A whole new sales organization was built up, using cellars, tradesmen's shops, and private houses. By these means an estimated 20,000 copies were circulated throughout England each week, and most copies found many readers..." (James, p.13).

"Ideas and information, not only about politics, but about history and literature, for example, were to come for the first time within the reach of large numbers of working men through the periodical press, especially from the 1830s. In 1831, in defiance of stamp duty, Henry Hetherington brought out his weekly *Poor Man's Guardian*, appealing to his readers to 'circulate our paper - circulate the truths which we write, and you should be free'. Hetherington and those who sold his paper were prosecuted and gaoled" (Lawson).

Political Periodical written by and for the workers. A circulation estimate was given in the *Standard* (Webb, p.61). Caused more horror than Cobbett in the 1830s. Pointed out the inconsistencies in Cobbett's writings, but also said, in 10 August 1833 and 26 October 1833 issue, that he had 'established for himself a sort of prescriptive right to be inconsistent on all manner of subjects, without, at the same time, destroying his influence as an able and most useful political writer' (Webb, p.51). In a 23 July 1831 issue and a 25 January 1834 issue, William Lovett and John Cleave advertise the large number of periodicals they took in at their respective coffee houses (Webb, p.170). When commenting on the working classes in the 7 of April, 1832 issue, *Poor Man's Guardian* states that 'Their rulers, unfortunately for themselves, had taught them to read, and they now knew there was no actual superiority between man and man. . . .' (Webb, p. 61). Advertised the works of Thomas Paine. Reprinted estimates of circulation of radical unstamped press in 21 September 1833 issue that had appeared first in the *Standard* (Webb, p.61). A 24 September 1831 issue "blasted" Henry Brougham, who is affiliated with the *Edinburgh Review*, for hypocrisy (Webb, p.87).

"'Why', he demanded, 'should they attempt to suppress the Poor Man's pamphlet, while they permitted others, published on a larger scale, to remain unmolested?' *The Literary Gazette*, *The Athenaeum*, and many other publications were not interfered with...Undeterred, Hetherington pressed on with his *Poor Man's Guardian*, an eight page weekly, price one penny, and bearing the mottos, 'Liberty of the Press' and 'Knowledge is Power'. Its first editorial was an open declaration of war: 'We are prepared for the fight: it is a mere legal one on the part of our persecutors, but a moral



one on ours: we know that we must suffer, but we are content to do so for the benefit of our fellow creatures; we have before our eyes the fatal examples of all who have ever advocated truth; but we shrink not from the worst' The paper would include not only 'news, intelligence and occurrences' but also 'remarks and observations thereon...tending to excite hatred and contempt of the Government and Constitution of the tyranny of this country, as BY LAW established'... *The Guardian* had already dealt with the Church in its first issue: 'She stinks - she stinks from self corruption - she BLASPHEMES herself'. But one of the main targets was the middle class as a whole...The *Guardian* was naturally extremely hostile to the forthcoming Reform Bill, which it regarded as a betrayal of the people. It denounced both parties" (Cranfield).

"Published in protest of the stamp tax and vendors were often imprisoned" (Schoyen, p. 8). "Leading organ of the unstamped struggle" (Schoyen, p.290). "Of the journals which appeared to cater for the appetite for new ideas, some did not even pretend to support the Whigs. Of these, The most influential was the **Poor Man's Guardian**, brought out by one of Owen's disciples, Henry Hetherington. Other editors had campaigned on behalf of the poor, but none had previously identified himself with their cause--Cobbett regarded himself as a yeoman farmer, even to dressing the part. Hetherington insisted that his life was at the service of the poor--and his liberty. As they obviously could not afford to buy any paper which had to pay the fourpence stamp duty, he must defy the law, and sell his *Guardian* unstamped; or, rather, with a mock stamp on it, bearing the inscription, 'knowledge is power'. The first number appeared in the summer of 1831; and the authorities, who might have been reluctant to prosecute for the opinions expressed in it, were glad of the excuse to proceed against Hetherington on a charge of failing to pay the stamp duty. They could not find him: he had arranged to move from town to town, bringing out the paper whenever he could persuade somebody to risk printing it, and moving on before the law caught up with him." "And in the **Poor Man's Guardian**, Bronterre O'Brien could look forward to the time when the workers would be able to use their power to change society-- 'a change amounting to the complete subversion of the existing order of the world. The working classes aspire to be at the top, instead of at the bottom of society--or, rather, that there should be no top or bottom at all'" (Inglis). In 1832 the publication dropped the subtitle "published contrary to law. . ." and notes that the publication is declared to be "strictly legal" before "Lord Lyndhurst and a special jury."

One source says that this title may have commenced on December 25th, 1830.

Subtitle varies: "a weekly newspaper for the people, published in defiance of 'law' to try the power of 'right' against 'might'" (1832-1834).

"Associated with the National Union of the Working Classes (King).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## ***Preston Chronicle***

Newsplan NW cites 7 Sep 1822 (supplement only); 5 Sep 1812-1893. Established February 10, 1844. "Circulates through Preston, Chorley, Blackburn, Wigan, Accrington, Burnley, Colne, Clitheroe, Padiham, Garstang, Fleetwood, Poulton, Reikham, &c. Advocates no religious party whatever; opposes connexion of church with State, and all State endowments of religion. It is also a free trade and complete suffrage journal, and circulates among a dense manufacturing population, as well as over a wide expanse of agricultural districts. All restrictions in trade are looked upon as disastrous alike to commerce, agriculture, and manufactures, and upon free trade as equally advantageous" (Mitchell, 1846). A first edition is published at 6am Saturday morning, with the latest news by the London Mail. A second edition is published at 1pm with a correct report of the state of Preston market, at half past twelve (no 957, 01 Jan 1831, p.4.; no 1427, 21 Dec 1839).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## Reynolds's Newspaper

*Reynolds's Political Instructor*, brought out in 1849, was changed by its canny editor to *Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper* the following year, under which form it is still being published (James, p.43). Founded by George Reynolds and a former clerk, John Dicks. This was Reynolds's most enduring monument.

"*Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper*, published at a penny, having been commenced on May the 5th, 1850, will be within a few days of attaining its majority when...this volume will be in the hands of the public. The remarkable success of Reynolds's Miscellany, a purely literary penny weekly journal, led by Mr. Reynolds to start his newspaper; and owing to the vigorous character of its writing, in conjunction with the extreme Liberalism of the opinions to the advocacy of which it committed itself at the commencement, it started at once into a large circulation...I believe that the circulation of **Reynolds's Newspaper** is upwards of 350,000 copies weekly. Its circulation in the manufacturing districts, where democratic sentiments are almost universal among the working classes, is great...There is no paper in her Majesty's dominions in which democratic principles are advocated with the same boldness and vigour as in **Reynolds's Newspaper**. It glories in the breadth of its Republicanism, and never shrinks from the advocacy of any views which it entertains. And yet though **Reynolds's Newspaper** is thus the organ of the extreme Republicans throughout the country...Its selections of news are made...and so carefully abridged as to give the largest amount of matter in the fewest words; while the paragraphs which are of the class generally called 'Varieties,' are almost invariably of light and instructive kind. There are certain other attractive features which keep up from week to week. One of these is 'Our Weekly Calendar of Gardening.'...This department of **Reynolds's Newspaper** is confided to Mr. G.M.F. Glenny, junior,---a name of traditional reputation in whatever relates to the management of the garden...But the feature of greatest general interest is the one under the head of 'Notices to Correspondents.' This feature of the paper usually occupies a whole column of one of its eight pages, each within an inch or two of the size of the Times' pages. As these 'Notices' are printed in very small type, they embrace a large amount of useful information on every variety of subject, furnished in answer to questions put to the Editor by correspondents" (Grant, pp.96-99).

"Advocates the widest possible measures of reform. This is now the leading working man's newspaper. There is a great deal of strong nervous writing in this journal, thickly spiced with abuse of the privileged orders, which causes it to be eagerly read by a certain class. The news and literary departments of the paper are respectably conducted; and, but for its violent politics, it might be characterised as a good family paper." (Mitchell, 1854)

"Started in 1850 as a fourpenny record of social and political scandals, set forth in such detail and with such comments as might prejudice aristocratic institutions with many readers and amuse all...a very large circulation in London, and yet more in the north of England, where Chartist opinions held their ground, and where it acquired an authority which it has since maintained. Styling itself 'democratic', and aiming always at more Radical changes than have been included in any recognised Radical programme, it is the successor of *Cobbett's Register* and *The Poor Man's Guardian* rather than of either Leigh Hunt's or Albany Fonblanque's *Examiner*, and, since the rise of English Socialism, it has been more in sympathy with the Social Democratic federation than with any less revolutionary movement. Not giving so comprehensive a summary of general news as is furnished by *Lloyd's*, but affording ampler space to the occurrences supporting its arguments, and propounding those arguments in forcibly written articles, in which rhetoric is oftener employed than logic and economical laws are made subservient to sentiment, *Reynolds's* is a formidable spokesman for the most irreconcilable portions of the community" (Fox Bourne, p.348).

"The most outspokenly radical paper of the day, it appealed to the lower to lower-middle classes, politically democratic and radical, of low educational standard" (Ellegard, p.7). "[The] increased importance of advertising...was most marked after the removal of the newspaper stamp in 1855...The disparity in types of advertising was notable. For example, *Reynolds's*, as the more radical, less reputable paper (and consequently less attractive to advertisers), continued to accept a large number of patent medicine advertisements while these declined in importance in the more up-market and less politically extreme *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*" (Berridge, pp.204-205).

This paper, "established by G.W.M. Reynolds, found its origins both in the Chartist political press and in the commercial traditions of popular literature. The paper arose out of Reynolds's smaller circulation *Reynolds's Political Instructor* (1849). It was also the culmination of Reynolds's career in cheap publishing and popular fiction... The readership was still a strongly working-class one and remained so to a remarkable degree...The paper had a strongly artisan readership, and the general 'skilled' category always formed a high proportion of those writing in or responding to appeals...In the 1860's, the emphasis within correspondence columns altered, with a shift of interest away from the 'old'

skilled trades toward apprentices and miners... *Reynolds's* was known for its virulent opposition to flogging in both army and navy" (Berridge, pp.207-208).

This paper "provided for the working man's Sunday, which was the day he had time to read" (Mitchell, S., p.145). Anne Humphreys comments that "even the political and news articles in *Reynold's* followed the literary conventions for melodrama" (Rose 302). "...early obtained a position as the organ of republican and extreme labour opinions" (Hovell). O'Brien "...may possibly have had some share in the editorial responsibility [for *Reynold's Newspaper* ]." (Cole, p. 264)

*Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper* was called *Reynolds News and Sunday Citizen* in 1952 (Herd, p.186).; Together with *The News of the World* and *Lloyd's Illustrated London News*, *Reynolds's Weekly Newspaper* "became the most widely read paper of Victorian England, superseding *Bell's Life*, the *Weekly Dispatch* and the *Weekly Chronicle*" (Engel p.28).

This paper was also considered to be "the most violent" of the cheap weeklies by contemporary historians (Engel p.30).

Harrison writes that the paper began in 1850 as *Reynolds Weekly Instructor; a Journal of Democratic Progress and General Intelligence* (225).

It is uncertain if this newspaper started on 04 May, 05 May or on 18 May, 1850.

"Rather pretentious. Biographies of prominent Chartists. Describes conditions in various industries. Discusses education, taxes on knowledge, factory acts, etc." (Williams, vol 2, p.521) "Indispensable for ultra-radical activities of 1850's" (Schoyen, p.290).

" *The Political Instructor* was intended as the pilot-balloon sent forth to test the political atmosphere, preparatory to a more important venture. The experiment has met with unexampled success."

The final issue number twenty-seven is the only one without an etching. All title pages contain engravings of men of the times.

"Started as a Chartist organ; by 1880 pro-radical Liberal, devoting much attention to foreign news with special attention to mistreatment of colonies. In 1889 favoured the formation of a new political party. By 1907 sympathetic to socialists as reformers but not in favour of State control; full of news of stage personalities and murder trials; carried Labour news and had progressive democratic political line (Brophy). Later became the newspaper of the Co-operative movement" (Harrison, p.466).

"... *Reynold's Newspaper*, appealed to a slightly more plebeian readership interested in radical social reforms as well as sensational fiction and news. *Reynold's* exuded some of "the spirit of aggressive insubordination" that had sustained the radical journalism of William Cobbett, Thomas J. Wooler, and Richard Carlile in the 1820s, and it often featured stories of crime and punishment while championing trade unionism and workers' rights" (Curtis, p.59).

" *Reynold's Newspaper* took a broadminded centre-left republican position, overtly defending the working class and serving as a fierce critic of its enemies. As a science critic, *Reynold's Newspaper* adopted a revisionist position on liberal democratic interpretations of natural law with, for example, a more pro-worker articulation of natural selection. Even so, the paper essentially upheld the authority of science in cultural issues" (McLaughlin-Jenkins, pp.446). "The readership of ***Reynolds's Newspaper*** was mainly of the skilled artisan class from which the republican movement was to recruit its membership" (Williams, p.33)

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Royal Cornwall Gazette**

First issued in Truro by Thomas Flindell (1767-1824) on 2 July 1803, the **Royal Cornwall Gazette** soon established itself as a weekly. Flindell remained editor until 1811. The orientation of the paper was Conservative at the outset and remained so. The price of issue no. 1458 of Saturday 4 June 1831, was 7d. The issue contains four pages, of six columns per page. At this time, the Proprietor was T.R. Gillett, Jun(ior). Besides the usual space devoted to Editorial, Letters and Foreign intelligence, page four has reports on Scotland, the Surrey sessions, [a] Terrific Thunderstorm and the price of a portrait of Thomas Lawrence. From 1841, the paper was edited by Edward Osler (1798-1863), a surgeon, who developed strong interests in literature, the sciences and hymns.

Issue no. 2479 of 27 December 1850, proudly announces: "The Oldest Paper in Cornwall". The number of pages has increased to eight, with the price being 4d. The printer and publisher is given as George Wilkinson Kneebone; each issue for the year 1850 is signed with his name. Page three of this issue has Legal, Railway and Mining reports. An enjoyable entry under the miscellaneous heading reads: "The *New York Herald* pompously informs its readers "...that there is hardly a country-house in Great Britain *the business of which is not regulated* by a Yankee clock!" and that American pills, clothes pins and other nic-nacs are pronounced a perfect blessing by English housekeepers." The circulation of the paper was estimated in 1882 by Hubbard to be some 12,000 copies, the cover price being 1d.

Towards the end of the century, publication continued to be weekly. For issue no. 4536 of 3 July 1890, the eight pages contain as much variety as ever, with Fashions for July vying for space alongside the London Markets, or local news, such as that concerning Cornishman Walter Hick, who was fined heavily for sending diseased meat to London.

The paper continued publication until May 1951, when it was incorporated with the *West Briton* .

## ***Southampton Herald***

The newspaper commenced publication on 28 July 1823, under the title ***Southampton Herald***, changing its title to *Southampton Town and County Herald* in 1825. In 1827, the title changed again to the *Hampshire Advertiser*, *Royal Yacht Club Gazette*, etc. The words *Hampshire Advertiser* remained to the fore of the banner for more than one hundred years after this. In issue no. 1385 of 2 March 1850, priced at 6d, the printer and proprietor is given as Robert Balfour King.

By 1870, the paper was published each Wednesday and Saturday, the price being 2d. Issue no. 2474 of 26 February 1870 has eight pages, with six columns per page. There are reports of the Mordaunt Divorce Case, in which the Prince of Wales was involved. Local and district news regularly covered Salisbury as well, and this issue has a report of the Salisbury Literary and Scientific Institution, together with an account of the Consecration of a new church at Trowbridge by the Bishop of Salisbury. Space is also given to Literary Gleanings, Literature of the Week (often in the form of extracts from books), and Wit and Humour. Deaths were regularly reported. The suicide of Montague John Druitt, aged 31, gave rise to a whole paragraph in the issue of 12 January 1889. Later generations have speculated that he may have been Jack the Ripper.

The proprietor in 1870 remained Robert Balfour King. As Mitchell commented in 1870, the paper: "Advocates the interests of agriculture, commerce, the navy, yachting, literature, and the Church of England. A well conducted and talented journal, embracing every topic in connection with commercial matters, yet agreeably mingled with the instructive and amusing, so as to constitute a first-rate newspaper."

With issue no. 3332 of 22 May 1878, the price has been reduced to 1d, with a circulation by 1882 estimated at 2,000 copies. The printer is given as Henry King, for the Proprietors, the Hampshire Advertiser Newspaper Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. Henry King is given as the printer and publisher in issue no. 4770 of 27 February 1892. By this time, the paper was being published twice a week and had grown to eight pages per issue, with seven columns per page. The newspaper continued to be published in the twentieth century until November 1940.

## **Southern Star**

The **Southern Star** announced ". . .the rules of the National Charter Association in August 1, 1840. .  
." (Harrison, p.117). "Stamped, weekly...Reports of Chartist and radical activities. Local news"  
(Williams, vol 2, p.521).

An extensive newspaper of Chartist news from London and the provinces, and general news.  
Promoted to parallel *Northern Star* . (Harrison)

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900.*

## ***The Standard***

*The Standard* commenced as an evening publication on 21 May 1827 at a price of 7d, with Stanley Lees Giffard as editor and Charles Baldwin as proprietor. The first issue set its Conservative tone, with the paper to be devoted to English and protestant principles "...and inflexible integrity and resolution in maintaining them". In the early years, normally four pages per issue were printed. James Johnstone acquired the paper in March 1857, and from 29 June 1857 published it as a morning paper, reducing its price from 4d to 2d. *The Standard* doubled in size to eight pages, and the price was reduced to 1d in February 1858. Its success brought it into direct competition with *The Times*. The evening edition was revived from 11 June 1860 as *The Evening Standard*.

Under Johnstone's direction, the paper remained Conservative in outlook. This was owing to Johnstone having accepted funds from the Tory party to assist his debts. One contributor to the paper in the 1860s was Lord Robert Cecil, who became Prime Minister as Lord Salisbury in the 1880s. The paper gained eminence for its detailed foreign news, with its reporting of events of the American Civil War, 1861-5, of the Prussian-Austrian War of 1866 and of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870—all contributing to a rise in circulation, which amounted to some 50,000 copies daily in the 1860s. In 1873, William Mudford became business editor, and subsequently manager for life upon Johnstone's death in October 1878. Mudford remained in charge until he retired in December 1899. The paper remained very successful in this period, reaching a circulation of more than 240,000 copies daily, together with *The Evening Standard*.

*The Standard* was sold to C. Arthur Pearson in November 1904, who then sold it to Davidson Dalziel in 1910. Having sold *The Evening Standard* to Edward Hulton, Jr., Davidson Dalziel closed down *The Standard* in March 1916. *The Evening Standard* continues publishing today.



## **The Star**

*The Star* was established in June 1813 according to Liberal principles, with adherence to the Church of England. By the late 1860s, the newspaper was published three times a week, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at a price of 1 1/2 d. The proprietor in 1869 was Frederick Le Lievre. Competitor titles at this time were *The Comet*, published each Wednesday and Saturday, and *The Guernsey Mail and Telegraph*, published each Tuesday and Thursday. Both these papers were priced at 1d. A typical issue of *The Star* was four pages, with seven columns per page.

The issue of 15 July 1869 contains a familiar mix of news and local events. There is a report from the *London Gazette* of 13 July. Printed on the same page is an article on "The French Atlantic Cable". Page four has a poem: "The Woodland Glen"; an article on "Romance in Real Life"; "Settlement of the Franco- Belgian Railway Question", together with the "Stations of the British Army". The format remains the same five years later for the issue of 23 April 1874. The poem "Ilala" appears on page four - verses upon the death of Dr Livingstone, the African explorer. On the same page, there is a report of the foundering of the Transatlantic Steamer *Amerique* 100 miles west of Brest. Unsurprisingly, the tide charts are regularly reported. The publisher of this issue is given as E. Le Lievre.

The pattern of publication remained three times a week in 1882, and circulation was 1,700 copies, with the price still 1 1/2 d. The editorial on page two of the issue of 19 April 1884 concerns itself with the affairs of General Gordon at Khartoum, together with a further account of the situation on page four. On the same page, the article entitled "Bournville" contains an extensive account of a tour of Messrs. Cadbury's premises.

Publication continued until April 1950, when the paper was incorporated with the *Guernsey Evening Press*.

## **Trewman's Exeter Flying Post**

The first London daily, the *Daily Courant* was Whig in its politics, as was George Ridpath's *Flying Post* (Barker, p.129).

"Between April 13, 1887 and June 7, 1902 this periodical was published as the weekly edition of the *Evening Post* .... There is a gratis supplement published every month with this paper entitled *Supplement to Trewman's Exeter Flying Post : Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Gloucester Advertiser* .... Established in the year 1763. Circulated throughout all parts of Devon and Cornwall. Pays attention to the interests of agriculture and commerce" (Advertisement in Mitchell's, 1846).

"Circulates in every town and village in Devonshire, also generally in Cornwall, Somerset, and Dorset. Advocates especially the agricultural interest. A political and literary Journal, attached to the Church of England. It is the oldest paper in Devon and Cornwall, and almost from its commencement has been the property of the Trewman family" (Mitchell 1846).

"The *Flying Post* circulates more extensively than any Conservative Journal in the West of England" (Advertisement in Mitchell 1856).

Subtitles include: "the principal conservative newspaper in the West of England" or, "Plymouth and Cornish Advertiser Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Gloucester advertiser" (no 2142, 08 Nov 1804)

"An editorial in *Trewman's Exeter Flying Post* of 03 January 1856, calling for the establishment of a county police, noted 'scarcely a week passes without our paper containing the record of numerous thefts'...reported at length a clash between the mores of aristocratic society and the notion of public responsibility" (Black, pp.54,98).

"Robert Trueman, who died on the 19th of February, 1802, was the projector and founder of the *Exeter Flying Post* , which he conducted with great credit for forty years" (Andrews).

Source: *The Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals: 1800-1900*.

## **Western Mail**

Founded in Cardiff in 1869 by the Marquess of Bute, the **Western Mail** was initially intended to be conservative in its orientation. The publication was daily; the price was 1d, and remained so until 1900. In 1877, Bute sold the paper to Henry Lascelles Carr and Daniel Owen.

Carr had been its editor since 1869, and, under his continued leadership, it became one of Wales's foremost newspapers. From its early days, the paper claimed to be the national newspaper of Wales. It covered all aspects of Welsh life. It sought to establish itself as the foremost paper, as it advertised in 1878 in *Mitchell's Press Directory*: "It has been established regardless of expense and over the wide area which it covers, circulates for more extensively than all the other papers put together."

In the later years of the nineteenth century, the main rival of the **Western Mail** was the *South Wales Daily News*, begun in 1872, which fought against the Tory influence as Liberals. Occasionally, the **Western Mail** made news of its own, such as when, in 1893, a fire destroyed the original building in St Mary's Street. The paper was the first to have a women's supplement.

Lascelles retired from the editorship in 1901, owing to ill health. The paper is still published today.

Publication History: Variant Titles

**Western Mail** (1 May 1869-)

## ***Wrexham Advertiser***

The first issue of the *Wrexham Advertiser* appeared in March 1854. It was set up by George Bayley, and was Liberal in outlook. The paper was issued each Saturday, price 2d. George Bayley died in January 1863, and George Bradley is cited in *Mitchell's Press Directory* for the next thirty years as proprietor, until his death in 1893. From 1870, the newspaper was issued on Friday and Saturday. Circulation in 1880 was stated in an advertisement made by the *Advertiser*, to be 6,000 copies.

The newspaper charted the course of Wrexham and the surrounding district. Obituaries remain a constant source of people of note in the town, as in the example of Thomas Griffith Taylor (1795-1876), a surgeon and antiquary, whose obituary appeared in the *Wrexham Advertiser* of 8 July 1876. Taylor was active in supporting the incorporation of Wrexham (1849-57). He and his wife were among the pioneers of free education in the town, helping to found the Ragged School (1852-81), of which he was first treasurer. Court cases and sentences feature prominently. Henry Smith (of Woking) was convicted of eleven offences between 1854 and 1866—and for his last offence of burglary, he was sentenced to eight years hard labour. Edward Jackson, born in Wrexham in 1851, received eleven convictions between 1867 and 1876, with his last conviction of 1876 (for stealing a cow) receiving a sentence of seven years penal servitude.

Medical advertisements were a regular feature of the newspaper, with the more lines being taken by the advertiser, the greater the revenue to the newspaper. The following appeared in the *Wrexham Advertiser*, 7 July 1855, p.1:

"Kaye's Worsdell's Pills - The experience of more than twenty years has proved that they are the most effective remedy ever offered to the public for the cure of diseases arising from the impurity of the blood or impeded circulation of the fluids, as Loss of appetite, Lowness of Spirits, Drowsiness, Heartburn, Flatulency, Acidity of the Stomach, Pain in the Side - Stomach - and Back, Biliary Attacks, Nervous -Periodical and Sick Headaches, Costiveness Indigestion, Rheumatism, Spansnia, Diarrhoea, Eruptions of the Skin, General Debility, Gout, Gravel, Influenza, Piles, Scrofula, Sore Legs, Ulcers, Worms, &c. ...As a medicine for general family use, KAYE'S WORSDSELL'S PILLS are unequalled..."

Sports reporting was common, with the England versus Wales friendly football match of Saturday 26 February 1881 being reported such:

"Hawtrey, the English goalkeeper, threw the ball out but was charged over at the same time and Vaughan running up placed the leather safely through the goal for Wales. The Englishmen strove hard to get on terms with their opponents. Shot after shot was aimed at the Welsh goal but each attempt was rendered futile. When time was called Wales were declared winners by one goal to love."

Objects in the local landscape were subjects of attention and report. The Jubilee Tower on Moel Famau, erected as a monument to the Golden Jubilee of George III in 1810, suffered damage in the storms of autumn 1862. A correspondent "Old Wales" wrote to the paper, and his letter was printed on 4 November, stating he "...was glad of it [the damage]. It [the monument] was an unsightly object, as a work of art, and in bad taste as a tribute of respect to a monarch who never did Wales any good."

The newspaper continued publication after 1900, changing its title to *Wrexham Advertiser and Star* in 1936, and then being incorporated with the *Wrexham Leader* in 1958.

## **York Herald**

The **York Herald** was first published on 2 January 1790. Alexander Bartholoman acquired the newspaper in 1799. After Bartholoman's death in 1811, the paper was printed for a short time by his widow, Mary, until on 8 June it appeared under the names of John Spence and Thomas Deighton. In November 1811, the paper's title changed to *The **York Herald**, County and General Advertiser*; the publishers in February 1820 were William and John Hargrove and Henry Cobb.

William and John Hargrove continued as publishers until July 1848; William was thenceforth sole publisher until, in January 1856, William Wallace Hargrove and Alfred Hargrove were admitted as partners with their father. Alfred had been on the paper's staff since 1841 and William Wallace since 1843. William Hargrove died in 1862, and in 1873 Alfred retired (daunted by his brother's plan to publish the paper daily), leaving W.W. Hargrove, as sole proprietor, to found the **York Herald** Newspaper Company Ltd in 1874. William Wallace Hargrove retired in 1899.

William Hargrove (1788-1862) made perhaps his biggest contribution to civic affairs through the **York Herald**; he played a leading part in the preservation of York city walls, the construction of the Parliament Street market, and the establishment of the modern cattle market. In 1818, he published his *History of York*. The contribution of William Wallace Hargrove (1826-1918) was to be instrumental in the Burton art collection being given to the city; and in 1893 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for York. Alfred Ely Hargrove (1824-94) played a prominent part in political life and was Lord Mayor of York in 1868.

The paper remained Liberal in Outlook and Mitchell's commented in 1846 and 1854: "Circulates widely in the counties of York, Lancaster, Durham, Cumberland, Northumberland, Westmoreland, &c. &c. Advocates sporting and agricultural pursuits, and is acknowledged to be one of the principal provincial sporting papers in England, containing both early and accurate information on all sporting subjects; the several reports being furnished by parties of long experience and extensive connection with the turf, unbiased by either interest or partiality. The accuracy of its turf details has long placed the *Herald* in the first rank of provincial sporting journals."

"The *Herald* strenuously advocates Civil and Religious Liberty, with Parliamentary and Financial Reform, to the fullest extent, consistent with the true spirit of the Constitution. The Education of the People, and the progress of the peaceful Arts and Sciences, are also supported, as of paramount importance."

The **York Herald** of 1790 contained four pages, increased to eight in 1843 and twelve in 1855. In 1869, W.W. and A.E. Hargrove founded the weekly *Yorkshire Telegraph* in order to test the popularity of a 1d newspaper. The success of the experiment with a 1d weekly led to the **York Herald** becoming a 1d daily with four pages on 1 January 1874; by February it had been increased to eight pages. An eight-page weekly paper continued to be published as a supplement to the daily paper. *The Yorkshire Telegraph* was incorporated with the **York Herald** on 1 January 1877. By the early 1880s, the circulation of the paper was stated to be 22,000. In the **York Herald**'s centenary year, 1890, its title was changed to *The Yorkshire Herald*.

*The **York Herald*** continued publication until 18 June 1954, when it was incorporated with the *Yorkshire Gazette*.