

May 15th. 1965

The Post,
Att. Ford Moynes, "Main street"
Lindsay,
Ont.

Dear Sir:-

So, you were chatting with "Bunny" Donaldson, formerly of Fenelon Falls; and you have passed on to us, some of the information he gave you, concerning the "Old Timers" of the Catarac Village, which included the Donaldsons.

Many years ago, one of the Donaldsons, was employed by the Village Council, to cut the grass etc, in the Park. I had a tent erected there, and Donaldson, let his mower get too close to it, and cut a $\frac{1}{2}$ in. chain link that I used to stabilize the tent, that is tough going for a mower.

However: he only told you of a few, of the old timers, true the Brook's House, was in operation, southerly, towards the railway station; owned and operated by the late Hank Brooks, he only catered to the upper class, he did not wish to see a farmer enter the house, because he might have snow, or something else, on his shoes.

At the junction of the then, Glenarm Road, George Martin kept a general store, for many years; a new gasoline station has recently been erected there, Martin also was interested in timber, my Father, drew telegraph poles for him from Deer Lake, to Diamond Lake, near Bancroft; to be loaded on the old I.B. & O in the winter of 1899.

Across the street from Martin's, ~~southwest~~ easterly, was the Howrie Lumber mill, which cut only the choice green pine logs, and lumber piles were stacked mountains high; the mill went up in flames, one night, and that was the last of the operators.

Then the first bridge, with the dam to the left, from which, once ran a log slide, beneath the bridge and beyond the falls, to expedite the movement of saw logs, and sometimes a man went over too. A local boy named G. Swift, who was assisting the Lock Master, Thos. Junkin, to adjust stop-logs went over and his body was not recovered for several weeks.

Between the bridges, were the stone mill, operated by McDougall, Brandon and Austin; and the red mill, operated by Frank Sandford; it was in three sections, a grist mill, a wood factory, (washing machines, churns etc) and a woolen mill, operated by one, ?Walsh. The jail, was, and still is, between the bridges.

Down the river, on the south side, Green & Ellis, operated a huge saw-mill; on the north side, not so far down, was another mill; in the area that is now the Park, ~~there~~ were several mills; the old Pulp Mill, was taken over by the Standard Chemical Co., the old lime kiln is long gone, the Moore & Connell mill, a short distance along the shore, has long since vanished, although, some saw dust may be found on the beach yet; another small mill operated in the point upstream from the railway bridge: enough for the mills for now. Oh yes, the old steam powered roller mill operated, just west of where Webster's Warehouse now stands.

In winter time the road was over the ice on Cameron Lake, and many a chilly trip was endured by via the lake ~~road~~ road, sometimes getting lost, a night, as did the Doctors of the Village on a night trip: there were three Doctors, H.H. Graham, and two Wilsons, the red Wilson, and the black Wilson.

Back on the main street, the two hotels; McArthur House (the pigs ear) and the Mansion House, by Aldous and Towney respectively. In addition to McCallum, J.J. Townley operated a ~~tailor~~ tail(y)lor shop, and did a huge business; Magee and Heard, ran hardware stores, Stanton was a photographer, Davies and Wm. Burgoyne (not Chas. Burgoyne) operated two double stores; I ~~remember~~ remember well, when Chas. Burgoyne, was made a partner in the business, which was from then on, known as Wm. Burgoyne & Son. Still later, on the decease of the

the Father, Chas. inherited the buisness, which during the years that followed
was greatly reduced; and merchant, Fred. Warren opened up a store where Davies,
formerly operated; Chas. as a young man, did own and operated a boat, or two.

In addition to Pohlson, one Kelly, had a blacksmith shop, and his
brother Foster, was an impliment agent. Thos. Robson and his brother, once had
a foundry, (known as Robson & Robson) where the Post Office is now; the foundry
was destroyed by fire, and Thomas and his Son William, ran a farm machinery
buisness there, until the Post Office was erected; Monty Robson, Registrar of
Deeds for Victoria County, is a grandson.

Several of the Northeys ran buisnesses in Fenelon Falls, ~~some are still the there, so too the Campbells and the Rutherfords, the McFar-~~
anes, and many others too numerous to mention; but I must refer back to the
mills again; Decew & Son, operated a stave mill, where I beleive is now known
as ~~Hughes's Point~~ Hughes's Point, and Mickle & Dymont had a mill for years,
near where the wood working plant, Allens I beleive they call it, is. Oh Fen-
elon Falls had plenty of industry, in the days that are long gone; the smoke
from the smoke stacks of those mills could be seen for a distance, and when
the Howrie mill burned, it was possible to read a paper at Nelson's corners.

In addition to Cashore the Auctioneer, there was another one, James
Powers, who was not favourably known for his ability as an auctioneer, but for
long grey beard, because of it, he was referred to as the second Dr. Chase.

Frank Sandford built a furniture factory, near the Railway Station
after he quit the Red Mill, it only operated for a short time, when fire over-
took it, and considerable loss was involved.

Andy Sutherland was the station agent for the G.T.R. for many years.
and one Brokenshire had a small factory, near the station where he manufact-
ured pumps, I have used many of them, as a young man; in fact, I have helped
my Father to cut and transport the timber, (tamarack logs with 8 inch tops)
cut in the summer, when the swamps were soft, to the Brokenshire factory; he
also, in addition to making pumps; did all the weighing of live stock for sh-
ipment via the railway; he used a horse to provide motive power for the plant.

Pte Beteau once drove a pedling wagon for a local merchant, he purchased
eggs, and butter, and other farm produce; he was a small man.

THOS. A. ENGLISH
7 RAVINA CRES.
TORONTO 6, ONT.

