

trader and inn keeper, all of whom played an important part in the development of the area.

Many of these early settlers had no money to hire laborers and so they gathered together to help a neighbor with a large job - they held a bee. The most common were house and barn raising bees, bees to clear land, cut wood and build fences.

The womenfolk also took part in bees, preparing the meals for the hungry men, and tho' the day was long, raisings usually grew into celebrations. Someone was certain to bring along a mealin, perhaps a wee dram of spirits was on hand to christen the new building, and the folks would dance until the early hours of the morning.

Encamped on the Straight line
Where the Traversing Rd. will run
Dec. 20th, 1866.

When the packers start, Mr Bolyer, my man and myself go off chaining.

First of all we fix the compass and put out the road allowance, fixing posts and marking them with an iron.

Then 2 men go in front under brushing and blazing whilst Mr B. and I run the line with a compass. Then as the road gets a little clear, I chain up to them.

At the end of each 10 chains I take down in a book the sort of land and timber I pass through, marking all lakes, beaver meadows, swamps, and hills etc., and then bearing by compass, so that when I come back next spring I shall have a full history of the land on both sides of the Traversing Road."