

For a description of life among the early pioneers of this Area, we can do no better than to quote from the letters of a Mr. Dawson written in 1866 to his brother-in-law in England, who was planning to come to Canada the following year. These letters were brought back to Canada with Mr. B. S. Beley and are now in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. Amy (Beley) Jackson, of Rasseau.

Oct. 1866

"We chose 2 lots about 19 miles from Parry Sound and 5 miles from the nearest settler, but that is nothing out here. One man left his work and came round with us to look at the lots and then we went to his home and had tea. He is going to put up a house next week and we are asked to the see."

"Our cooking utensils consist of 3 tin cups, 2 ditto knives, 1 frying pan, 1 bake Riddle and 1 pail."

"We have plenty of music in the shape of walrus as we hear them every night. They pay \$4.⁰⁰ a head for them. There are plenty of deer and bear about."

On Sunday we dined off bush mutton - which is heavier and very delicious it was, especially the tail.

There is a stage that carries the mails from the Sound to Lake Rasseau passing our door 2 a week. They bring anything you want and deliver it at your house