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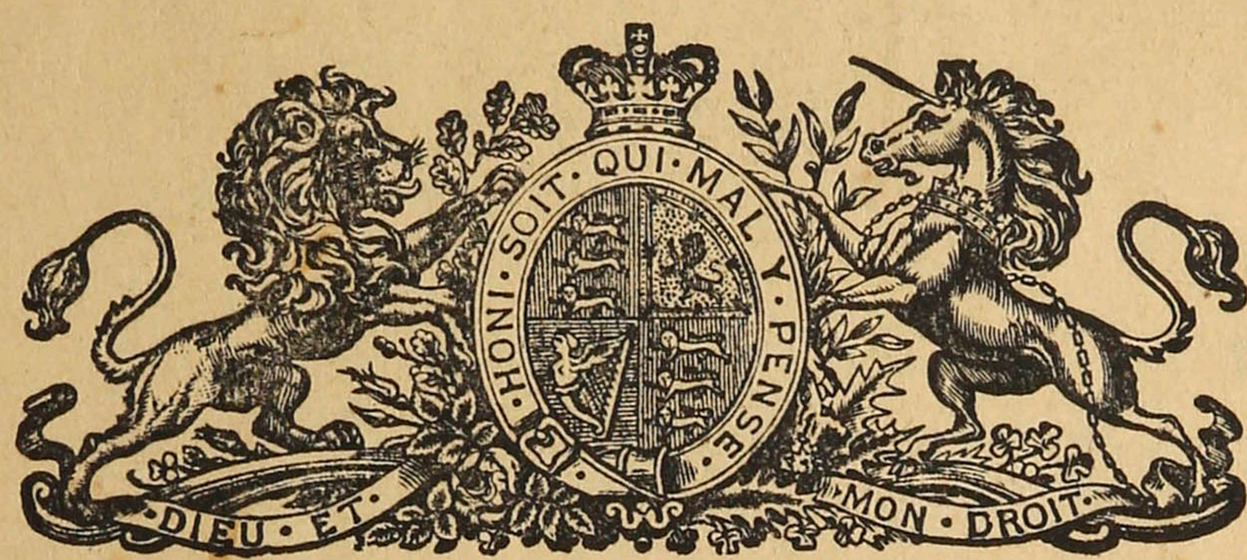

SCRIBBLING BOOK.

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150 KING STREET EAST, TORONTO.

"I was born in old England
"in merry Yorkshire"

In the hamlet of
Thoughstone a short distance from
the village of Todmorden on the
boundry line between Yorkshire and
Lankishire on the 11th of May 1811
My Father was a small cotton
manufacturer and also occupied
and owned a small farm -
At that time there was no power
looms the manufacturer only spun
the cotton and the weavers taking the
yarn home wove it into calico by hand
looms every small stream that
afforded a sufficient to drive
a spinning and carding machine were
utilized - this was before the advent
of steam after carding and spinning
the yarn was given out to weavers who
took it home and wove it into calico and
returned it to the "cotton masters, who
took it to Manchester or Halifax to

large Capitalists who bleached and
printed and fitted it for exportation
in this way the manufacturing Impor=
=ary of England had its origin
When I was seven years
old in the year 1818 My Father ~~and~~
emigrated to Canada bringing all
family with him or rather following
after him as he sailed from the port
of Sunderland in April for Quebec
and the Family from Liverpool in
June for New York His family con=
=sisted of 5 Sons and two daughters
and a son in Law John Eastwood and
two children Viz. Thomas John Joseph
William and Charles Betty Eastwood
and Mary — The reason of My Father
taking a different route and at a diffe=
time from his family was Skilled
manufactures were not allowed to
leave the country and he had to do it
Clandestinely and procure them in
order to prepare a home for them
Mr Eastwood had come the previous
year and after travelling about
Considerably

had fixed upon the vicinity of Niagara Falls as a desireable place to bring his family —
My oldest brother Thomas remained in England to settle some business and joined us at the falls the following year
On leaving the port of Liverpool on a vessel the Abbona of Portland 400 tuns register got out of the channel and ran aground and when tide went out we was left high and dry a quarter of a mile or more from the river the sailors and some of the passengers got down onto the sand carried the anchor a good distance from the ship so that when the tide came in they could have a purchase to pull her off and after some difficulty the succeeded in doing on sounding the pumps it was found she was making water fast the crew remonstrated with the captain and refused to go to sea with the ship in that condition so the captain was constrained to return to

Liverpool and put her on the dry dock for repairs which detained us for several days some of the passengers refusing to continue the voyage in that ship -
After knocking about the crew for seven weeks was taken to the Port of Portland through the ship had cleared from Liverpool to New York here we was detained some time untill a vessel could be found to take us to New York which soon left us at perth Amboy and was obliged to get another vessel to bring us to New York From thence we proceeded up the Hudson River in a sloop to Albany a voyage of several days thence by teams to Cannadady where we shipped again in Durham boats on the Mohawk River to Oneida Lake - thence down Wood Creek to Oswego this journey took us nearly three weeks - Here we shipped on board a Lake Ontario Steamer for Lewiston

on the Niagara River and had
a most tempestuous and dan-
-gerous voyage of four days and
at Lewiston on the 12 day of August
and on the following day was ferried
over the River to Queenston on which
day an Elephant was on shewing
the first I believe in Canada and
was viewed by great crowds from
hence we proceeded to Lundies lane
where my Brother in Law John Eustow
had rented a house for us my
Father was at that time in Mon-
-real purchasing goods to open
a store which he did at the corner
of Lundies lane and the Queenston road
which is now called Drummond-
ville the following year when
my Brother Thomas joined us
the Family was devided and my
Father Mother and Brother John
and Sister Mary remaining with the
Falls to a Distillery rented from
one

Christopher Buchner this was
at that time the only building
near the falls and is now and
has been for many years used
as museum -
Here we remained two years
I going to Drummond Hill to
School and also attending a
Sundy School taught by Mrs
Thomas Clark of the form of Clark
& Streets While living here my
Father purchased lot No 7 in
first Concession of Stamford from
a man who resided in Niagara
but whose name I have forgotten
Father and Brother Thomas
came over in a small Schooner
the only mode of crossing the lake
at that time to see the land and on
their return was overtaken by a
Storm which drove them to Kings
ton which took them three weeks
to return to the Niagara River so long
had they been away that it was feared

they had been lost We remain
at the Distillery at the Falls for two
years and during that time the
Stise at Johnsons Corner now
Drummonville was carried
on by my Brother Thomas and
John Eastwood and during that
time John Eastwood purchased
from the heirs of Isaah Skinner
who had been killed at the
battle of Chippawa during the
late American war - The property
at the Don then known as the Don
Mills consisting of a Grist mill
and Saw Mill of the most primi
discription My Father purchasing
Ten acres of the same on which in
1821 He commenced erecting a
Brewery Malt House and Distillery
and in 1822 he all removed over
part of the Family residing at the
Don and Brother Thomas in York

He had previously married a
Miss Marey Wilson of Stamford
Brother Joseph living with him
on the West Side of the Mark-
Square which was then an open
Square with a small wooden
market House in the Centre the
The present St Lawrence Arcade
is Brother Joseph working at
the tin smith business Father
Mother Sister Marey Brothers
John & Charles and self resideing
at the Down Carreying on the Brewry
and Distilerey and Thomas buying
grain and selling beer in York
where we soon established a prosp-
-perous business At this time I
was a boy and went to York to
School where Colborn Street is now
(Taught by Thomas Appleton) it was
then a common

I find I have advanced to fast
and must now return to the
Falls at the time I lived there it
was a comparitive wilderness
the space between the perpendicular
Rock and River margin was thick
ly wooded with Cedar and Elm
of a large growth and the only road
to the ferry was by common long
laddes attached to cedar roots at the
top end that on the Canada side was
about thirty feet long on the American
side not quite so long as the perpendicular
Rock was not quite as high the path from
from the foot of the ladders to the rivers
edge was very rough and uneven
obstructed by logs and rocks yet this
was the only road for delicate ladies
to get to the ferry and their luggage
had to be carried on the backs of the
ferry men to and from their Boats
and when Rich. Sutherso Horse omnibus
came which was quite frequently in
the summer season it was quite a

to ferry men and guides. many
a fifty cents I received for showing
a party of tourists The Table rock &c
the banks on both sides were then
thickly wooded and large numbers
of gray and bald headed Eagles
were at all times sailing above the
Reservoir perched in the tops of the
Cedar and Elm trees looking out
for fish and water fowl that were
killed coming over the falls and upon
which they subsisted as well as many
poor families in the neighbourhood who
drew a good part of their supplies from
the same source, I have known after
a dark and windy night in the fall
of the year as many as twenty ducks
picked up in the eddies and
along the side of the Reservoir in the morning

There is a rock not more
than two hundred yards below the falls
called the Sturgeon rock and almost
any day could be seen Sturgeon lurking

from the top of the bank frequently
my Father would go to the top of the
bank and look down and if there
was a sturgeon in would go to the
ladder and down to the rocks and
very often spear one of thirty or
forty pounds weight perhaps the
same thing is done now but the
most singular thing is that during
my residence at the falls I never
new or heard of one beening seen
at any other place or any other
dis cripsion of fish being seen there
though at other places in the
bays under the foam that collected
in considerable quantities every large
Black Buss and Pikerel were
caught by hook and line William
Forsyth who kept the only Hotel
for the accomodation of Tourists
kept his son Sam constantly fishing
to supply his table with fish as
most of his guests were from the
south and Roman Catholics

He also kept two or three four
Horse stages running to Queenston
and Niagara and Fort Erie to bring
and carry away parties visiting
the falls some years afterwards
more hotels and more cement
to the falls were built and his
was sold for a private residence
to Buchanan the British minister
at New York There was only one
hotel at that time at Manchester
on the American side of the river
In the spring of 1821 when I was
ten years old my Father and
Brother Joseph took me to assi=
st them to drive a drove of cattle
from the Falls to York we had a
yoke of oxen and an ox cart and
fourteen or fifteen heard of cattle
collected in payment of these bills
it to transport to the Don where the

Family was preparing to move to
The first day we made a tavern
kept by a man named Hill -
below the mountain the next
day we passed the forty mile
creek now called Grimsby and
Stoney Creek and turned off there
to the Lake shore and crossed
Burlington Beach and forded
the out let of Burlington Bay by
wading not far from ~~the Bay~~
where the Burlington Canal is now
situated at Toppers at was then
the Beach Hotel situated at or
near where Wellington Square is
now situated and continued our
journey through woods to Dundas
Street which was then being settled -
being partly through new clearings and
partly through the unbroken forest we -
passed the 12 & 16 mile creeks which

Crossed Dundass Street in deep gullies with very steep and narrow roads dug out of the side of the hill and very rude bridges over with round poles across the stream where we crossed the Credit it was an unbroken wilderness no house or settlement within miles of either side of it where now the village of Springfeild exists it was nearly dark when passed the Credit and no place to stop for some miles hence we was lighted the greater part of the distance by burning log heaps on on either side of the road untill we arived at Phillips Codys Inn where we stoped all night. The next day being Saterday we passed through Little York and arived at the Don Mills just before dark.
Here we found John Eastwood and

and my sister Betty who had
preceeded us by way of the Lake from
Niagara. On the following day
Sunday I accompanied some man
to visit a Family of new Comers in
the neighbourhood who had only
moved in a few days and had
just erected a small log shanty
during the previous night it being
verrey windy and some large elm
Trees over hanging the shanty the in-
-mates became frightened and left
the House and had only just seen
a safe distance when down came a
large elm Tree accross the shanty —
completely flattening it to the ground and
when we arived there the family were
busey removeing the tree and restoreing
the shanty to its original shape
I remained at the Don Mills one
week when my Father wrote me to

York and put me on board a small schooner owned and sailed by the McIntosh for Niagara on the following morning when I awoke I found the vessel tied up at Navy Hall and after partaking of a breakfast of sassifras tea and ship bread & butter I started on foot for the fall where I arrived some time after mid day

I remained with my Mother Sister Mary and Brother Silas at the Distillery during the summer attending the School on Drummond hill — In the fall Brother Joseph and I started for York with another drove of Cattle and Hogs and two Horses on this outing we reached the first day the forty mile Creek or as it is now called Grimsby and put up at a well known tavern of those days Keph by a man named Anderson the next day we made Dundass Street crossing the beach as formerly and put up at Hopkins tavern the following day our Hogs became foot sore and unable

to haul and was obliged to leave them on the way at Ephraim Posts Tavern on Dundass Street in the Township of Trafalgar we however made the Don Mills on that day where I remained with John Eastwood and Sister Betley untill Mother and the remainder of the family removed from the Falls during the winter Mother riding in a large brewing Kettle purchased from Clark & Street and which was used for my a year in the Don Brewery and was afterwards sold to Alexander Milne for a Dye Kettle in his woolen factory

After I grew up to mens-estate I was appointed path master on the old Don Mills Road which office I held allmost continuously untill I left the neighbourhood and removed to the High=land Creek in 1847 - In the year 1841 the Inhabitants of the Don became dissatisfied with the Toll gate placed at the Don Bridge in Consequence of as much Tole being charged for Teams Coming down the Don Mills Road and Travelling less than half a mile on the

Kingston Road as thus travelling
five miles on said Road And -
began to look about for some other
way of reaching the City and having
procured permission from John -
Scadding to open up and construct
a Road leading off from the Don Mills
Road at a point where the above m
= entioned Road crosses the first Concession
of York where a natural Gulley exists
leading down the high bank to the River
Don And in December of 1841 the
inhabitants turned out with men and
teams and commenced the construction
of the Road down to the Don under my
supervision and continued at it from
day to day as voluntary labour untill
a passable road was made down to the
Don and up the hill on the West side
bounding what is now the Necropolis
during the winter timber was procured
and preparations for erecting a bridge
over the River and in the spring the
Road was opned for travel passing
down Sumach Street to King Street the
Hospitall or Parke Reserve was at that
time covered with wood

I remember working a week putting in a culvert and felling up a swail without seeing a single person but those that were with me After useing this Road for two or three years it was thought desireable to plank it and a portion of the mill road and we put a tole upon it to defray the expen As there was then no law authorizing joint stock Companys a number of the inhabitants entered into a copartner=ship under a deed of copartnership and planked the Road and erected a tole gate at the bottom of the Hill near the river we afterwards planked a street from the top of the Hill to Parlia=ment Street which we named Bown Street in honor of the man who gave the land this the Corporation thought proper to change to Winchester Street Immediely after this the Cemetary was opened and Parliament Street Planked by the Corporation in 1832 The Road from the Forks of the Don to Milns Mill was opened and made a public Road for the benefit of the upper Don settlement

In 1822 When I first came to the
Don Miles the Roads being so
bad it was the usual custom to
raft the lumber from the tail
of the Saw mill to the Town of
York at that time the volum
of water was so large That the
rafts were built at the tail of
the mill containing from 1500 to
2000 feet by laying the boards
cross ways and diagonily upon
each other and a man stundy
on each end with a pole in
his hand desended The rafts
to dead water where the raft
was left and another bote down
and so on untill there was accu=
=mulated sufficient to make one
large raft of many thousand feet.
When they was put together and
laked down the stream into the
Bay and thence along the shore to

the most convenient point
for landing from whence it was
drawn by teams to where it was
wanted as a load I was very
fond of accompanying the men
in this service and have often
sailed on rafts from the Dun
Mills to York over ground
that would scarcely float
a single at the present time.

In the spring of the year the
Rivers was literally alive with
suckers where they was caught
and carried away by the wagon
load And in the autumn
salmon were almost as nu
=merous weighing from 10 lb to 20 lb
each and as a cherry to healthy
first came into the stream they
were caught with a light sack
and spear the suckers with
nets We have had several

Dogs that in their day would
Catch salmon on the rapids
and carry and drag them to
those where the water was
not deep and injod the sport
as much as any bypeel,
In deed they pequently watched
the rapids during the night and
and often in the morning we found
salmon they had caught during the
night.
In the spring vast quantities
of Pigeons used to be flying to
their breeding grounds and for
days and even weeks the sky
was almosh darkned by the
immense flocks that were flying
and at street corners and parts
of hills people assembled with
guns and fired into the flocks

as they passed the deadly
shot killing greats number of
them Wild Ducks also were
flying past certain points
morning and evening going
and returning to and from the
feeding grounds to Lake and
marsh to spend the night
Toronto Bay was covered
with acres of Ducks at all
times when not frozen over and
Ashbridges Bay and the marsh
literally alive with them
No uncommon thing for Mr
Thomas Bright to bag 80 or 140 in
an afternoon after his business at
the market was over and many
others as well as him

On the 7th day of December
1837 was a memorable day
for Canada The Rebels under
W L Mackenzie Lount and Gibbons
were assembled at Montgo=
=mereys Tavern Eglington
menacing the City of Toronto
During the night previous
or early in the morning of
that day Sir Allan McNab
had arrived from Hamilton
with several hundred of
the men of Gore and surrou=
=nd arrived from all over
and assembled at the
Parliament buildings fro=
=ot Street Toronto = I walked
into the City from the Don
and on arriving at the
Parliament found the men

assembling and arming
preparatory to a march
to dislodge the insurgents
at Montgomerys under
the Command of Sir Francis
Bond Head Governor and
Sir Allan McNab on arriving
there I immediately went
into the building to procure
a gun and equipment and
having secured one and was
passing out I was met by
Sir John Beverley Robinson
the Chief Justice of Upper Canada
who stopped me and said
he was in search of a reli-
able man to take charge of
the powder magizine in
the basement of the building
and requested me to do so

I went with him down
stairs and he put me
in charge with instruction
to hand out to parties apply
-ing for it to some I gave
a pint cup full and some
Captains of Companyies I
gave a Keg and they took it
and divided it among them
selves in this way I was —
employed untile the men had
all marched away up your
street. I was then asked
by some person in authority
(I do not remember who at the
present time) to go to a plum
-mbers shop on
and assist in running balls
which I did and remained
there all day and made I.

two patent pails full
of musket balls at night
when I left to come home
I met some of the men
returning with several
wounded men in carts
on arriving at the Don
Bridge I found a strong
guard and centry refused
what me pass I then turned
up a bush Road where the
present River Street is located
and came up by Castle Frank
and the Fenis to opposite the
Brewery where I hallowed
and one of the men brote a
horse and I rode behind him
over the River Gull to meet
my wife all safe

In June 1848 when The
Port union wharf company was
building their wharf and a
number of men were imploed
there by William Fisher the
contractor William Hetherington
who had purchased a lot
from Thomas Adams and built
a House and was the owner
of a small Schooner lay
at anchor off the place when
the wharf was being erected
with his son and one sailor
when his wife came to the Lake
bank and signalled him to come
to dinner the wind at the time
blowing off the shore a gale
they awordingly all three got
into a small sewo or punt
without any oes simply a

[illegible]

pole as the water was
not deep where the schoon
ner lay the wind being strong
and they having only one pole
The scow twisted about and
untill they got out of shoal
water and the pole was
useless and the wind struck
them with greate effect when
they got out of the cover of the
land they was driven into the
Lak to certain death as it
was supposed in the sight
of a dozen men and a vessel
lay in at Anchor but no boat
or means of getting on board
of her or they might have been
followed and rescued from their
perelious situation Thus they
were driven to see in the
sight of his wife and family

[illegible]

and a number of men
gradually dimini shing
is size until they finally
dis appeared and nothing
visible but the angry rolling
waves of Lake Ontario —
On treadzing their positions
they lashed the pole amidships
to hold on by and dis pursed of
themselves "to the best advan-
= tage to keep their frail boat
from upsetting they fortunally
had a small tin dish with which
they baled out the water that
came over the side in this
very drizzing before a terrifi
gale they was wafted awa
the Lake and driven onto the
American shore at about
12 Oclock P.M. thus making

[illegible]

thus smuggling the pattur
in about twelve hours some
12 or 14 miles below the Niagara
River they left their boat on
the shore and walked to the
River where they arrived in time
to get the Transit Steamer to Toronto
where they arrived in due course and
reached Port Union at 8 or 9 oclock
where were assembled their relatives
and Friends mourning their
sad fate not doubting but they
were reposing on the bottom of
the Lake the surprise and joy
of the party assembled may be
immagined but not discribed
Hetherington for all his murderous
escape was doomed to be drowned
which happined some years along
with two others in endeavouring

rescue some shipped (wrecked) sailor
in the Mackinow Straits — —
An episode in the life
of the William Smith of Toronto
Tanner He and his wife were
both at times in the habit of go-
=ing on a drunken spree I hum
ony self put a fifteen barrel of
beer up by his bed side so that
He could reach the tap without
getting out of bed where He
lay and drink for days and
weeks - at a time His wife.
would go off to the Tavernons
and spree and drink for days
together on one of these drunk
=ing bouts she took a small
trunk containing £400 as in
cash several notes of hand a
gold watch and chain several

Stiles of Sudbury and subs=
=ubles with Her and visited
several Taverns and remai=
=ined away from home seve=
days carrying the trunk with
Her from place to place and
finally on arriving at home and
opening the Trunk found only a
few Brick Bats She had a
Tavern Keeper by the name of
Sherborn taken up and put
on his trial for robbery but
there was no proof to convict
him and he was discharged
At that time the Hospital
Reserve extending from Par=
=liament Street to the Don was
was an unbroken forest dense
a few wood paths thro' it
some fifteen years after Mrs
Smith's

loss of the contents of the
Tunk and when the Don
Mills Road Company were
grading and forming -
Parliament Street to receive
the covering of plank with
which it was covered it had
been necessary at one point
to make a cutting of three or
four feet deep and one day
a teamster of the Messrs Taylor
a coloured man was driving
a load of wood along the road he
observed something shining
in the face of the cutting but
being too indolent to dismount
from his load of wood deferred to
to his return to make an examin
-tion when doing so he found
that a cow on climbing up the

Cutting knife scraped the
crustal off a gold watch
and behind it was the Smith
Infancy which had lain buried
for so many years Mr & Mrs
Smith were both dead but their
son John laid claim to the
property and proved it The No
of the watch being recorded
in the books of Charles Clint
= informer who had repaired
it and taken down The No
of same (this is repealed) so do not prove
When I was a boy of
three years old I accom
panyed my Father and
Brother Joseph from Niag=
=ara Falls to Little York
and The Don Mills. This

was in 1820 we had
a yoke of oxen and an ox
cart ten or twelve head of
cattle cows and steers and
heifers and one Horse which
I and Joseph rode alternate
-ly but mostly me as I could
not drive the oxen as well as
Joseph and followed after the
cattle Father when not wanted
to drive the cattle were in the
cart
The first day we made a-
-way side Jackson some
miles short of the Forty Mile
Creek Kept by one Hills
The second day we crossed

Burlington beach and
put up at the Beach Hotel
There was no Bridge over
the Outlet of Burlington Bay
and we had to wade through
the water the third day we
came down Dundas Street
to Phillips Foundry on this side
of the Credit where we stopped
all night the next day we
passed through Little York and
reached the Don Mills where
my Brother in Law John Eath-
=wood was living and
where my Father intended
building a Brewery Joseph
returned to the Falls in a

[illegible]

day or two but I remain
at the Dock some time longer
when my Father took me to
York and put me onboard
of a small schooner called the
Nancy sailed and owned by
The Mc Intosh we left York
about mid day and on the
following morning when I
awoke the vessel was now
fast to the Dock at Navy Hale
Niagara after breakfast
of sausages Tea and biscuits
I started to walk along the
River to Queenston and then
the Chippawa Road to the falls
which I reached about mid
day

[illegible]

The above mentioned journey was performed in the month of May when there was plenty of grass for the animals & we got them into good, passable condition at night and during the day they fed a little on the Road sides –

In October Joseph and my I again made the same journey with a drove of cattle and a number of Hogs on his account over first night stopping place was the forty mile Creek as it was then called Grimsby now and our next was at a then

famous Hostilery in Niag
Kept by N. J. Sunnen on the
following day our Hogs
had become foot sore and
unable to travil and we
left them with one Menn
an Inn Keeper a little west
of the Credit and made a
few miles farther then Cudy
for the night and the fol
- lowing day reached the Don
Mills where I found the
Brewery erected and almost
ready for work I remained
here with my Father and
Brother in Law John Eubank.
in the Winter the remainder
of the Family came from the

[illegible]

my Brother John made several journeys with the team conveying the Household goods He on one occasion He bought the large copper kettle purchase from Clark and Street of the Falls and in which was conveyed the bed and bedding and my Mother occupying a seat amongst them some years afterwards this Kettle was found to be too small for the increased business and was sold to Alexander Milne for a dye Kettle in his woolen factory on the Don where it is now 1889 in use —

An episode

In 1822 or three the household at the Don was disturbed in the middle of the night by the howling & crying of the dog a large and at other times rather a fierce mastiff but now was completely frightened & crouched against the door on opening the door was seen four dead & dying sheep that had just been killed by the wolves in the morning we found the sheep everywhere & completely stunned the same night our neighbor Samuel Sinclair lost fourteen sheep no doubt killed by the same pack of wolves