

had sown a small field of oats near to the house, and just after they had come out into ear, that a large bear would come almost every day and feed upon them. He would sit and gather the grain all around him with his paws and then eat the tops off, and sometimes he would lie down and roll the oats flat to the ground and then eat his fill. When we little boys would try to frighten him away by making a great racket by knocking upon old pans and making other sounds, he would sit and look at us quite unconcerned for a time, apparently eyeing us with utter contempt, for we always had to remain at a very respectful distance from him, but as we kept up our noise he at length would move off leisurely to the woods, and go a short distance, and then climb up a tree and remain there until we had made a hurried retreat to the house, when he would slowly come down and return again to the oats, for we were strictly cautioned by our father and mother to keep away and not go near him. We then considered discretion to be the better part of valor, and left him to enjoy his feed of oats in peace, but the result was that the oats were all completely destroyed in a short time.

But seventy years or more have wrought very great changes, both upon the appearance of the country and its inhabitants, for it was in the year 1832 and the few following seasons that a great many immigrants arrived and settled in and around Guelph and the neighboring townships, and some of them brought a considerable amount of money with them, while many were