

spoons, and sugar tongs. The candlesticks were usually brass, with tray and snuffers of the same material. Pewter was also in vogue instead of silver. It was called Britannia ware. Gather up these relics and carefully preserve them. Precious they were in every sense to your ancestors. A silver spoon with a china cup was to go back to the civilization and plenty of Colonial times.

Taverns and inns abounded everywhere. There was not a corner, and seldom a concession road, that did not have one or more. Most of these were poorly kept, and the provisions for the traveller of the scantiest and poorest kind. Letters of travellers were full of complaints. Most taverns had a sign with some emblem upon it that told the traveller that here was the place for shelter, food and rest. Some of the old buildings still survive. The Black Horse Tavern on the Niagara River Road was a famous resort for the soldiers stationed at Niagara. At Queenston there was a large swinging sign, depicting the Battle of Queenston on one side and the death of General Brock upon the other. On the Ridge Road, from Lewiston to Sandy Creek, was a large oval signboard which made a deep impression. On one side was "Going to Law," which showed a young couple with a fine horse and carriage passing through the gateway from a pleasant home, a good house, with fruit and flowers on each side of the lane. On the other side, a solitary man, with a bundle and stick, sits on the bank outside looking at the tumble-down ruins of house and fence, a picture of poverty and desolation. This was the other "Been to Law." One pleasant sign was a beehive, and underneath, the couplet "This is the home of peace and plenty, always full and never empty." Queenston at one time had sixteen taverns, and Virgil nineteen.

In those early days there were no stoves. To heat their beds a "warming-pan" was used. It was usually of copper, shaped like a frying pan with a cover. In it coals were placed and passed between the sheets. When there was no warming-pan woollen sheets were used. These were not washed more than two or three times during the cold season.

In the old days, a glance from the school-room window the ever constant sight was the emigrant's wagon. It had its complement of children, and the few belongings it was possible to take. Under the wagon hung the iron pot and the water pail. As they passed through the village provisions were purchased to cook where neither inns nor friends had prepared the way before them. Hospitality was used and abused to its fullest extent. When the beds were filled, often sleeping on the floor. These were the days of emigration to the Western States. Fever and ague was generally the first enemy to overcome. Many a