

HEAD LAKE, VICTORIA COUNTY, ONT.

Head Lake in the township of Laxton,
The county was named for the queen;
But few of our brave loyal subjects
Its beauties have ever yet seen ;
From waters so pure and so sparkling
Rich tribute could fishermen take,
Choice fishes the clear depths were darkling
Of thy transparent waters, Head Lake.

Set like a gem in the highlands
With evergreen woods for a frame,
There may be on earth equal beauty
But nothing to memory the same ;
Ah ! well I remember the raptures
When it first on my vision did break
And my young boyish heart you did capture
By thy mirror-like waters, Head Lake.

The forests so grand and so boundless
Were filled with the choicest of game,
Slight skill was required to obtain them
They were so numerous and tame.
How often in days of my boyhood,
The wild deer their thirst for to slake
Would come through some paths of the forest
And drink deep of thy waters, Head Lake.

Other lakes there were numerous and lovely,
Linked to thee by rivers a chain,
How often in sweet recollections
I traverse their courses again ;
And often I dream of my childhood,
And am loath from that dream to awake,
For in fancy I roam through the wild wood
Surrounding the shores of Head Lake.

The waters were teaming with fishes,
Countless wild fowl of water and land ;
As a hunting ground 'twas most auspicious,
For sportsmen a paradise grand ;
For in the days which are over
Wild nature great beauty did make,
And no scene I e'er did discover
Could surpass the sweet shores of Head Lake.

But gone are large sections of wildwood
Where in boyhood I often did range ;
In the homes of friends of my childhood
Are places and faces strange,
Yet owing to sweet recollection.