

Waterloo line to the town, a distance of six miles. He soon after commenced another contract of chopping and clearing the road through the Township of Puslinch or Clergy Reserve. The Company, with but few exceptions, were then getting all their supplies from Mr. Shade, viz., pork, flour, whiskey, etc., etc., so that teams were almost daily on the road from Galt. By this means the writer was enabled to work his way for the first time to the new town. My father and brother being here at the time was an additional inducement to me to visit the place of so much notoriety. The King's birthday happening to fall on Sunday the celebration must necessarily come off on Monday the 13th, but Sunday did not prove a day of rest. The new market house was only about half shingled. The ox had to be dressed and made ready for the roast, and various other little preliminaries preparatory to the occasion. The day came, and visitors from various parts began to flock in. The band from "Little York," now Toronto, was in attendance. Mr. Gurnett, of Ancaster, editor of the *Gore Gazette*, was present, and had quite a lengthy article in his next issue.

Waterloo, Galt, Eramosa, and Woolwich were all represented. About five hundred strangers in all were present early in the morning. The dressed ox had been placed on a windlass in front of a burning log pile and turned as on a spit for about six hours. He was then cut in pieces and served up. Two pot-ash kettles of potatoes were by this time also ready for serving up, together with plenty of bread, hemlock tea, and whiskey. The entire company were supplied with a plain but sumptuous dinner; the only attempt at ornamentation being the head and horns of the bullock placed on a large side dish at the head of one of the tables. All were satisfied that the ox had been roasted whole, but very few of those who partook believed that the whole of the ox was roasted.

Next on the programme was the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the two first stone buildings in the town. One of these was intended for a bank. It was located on or about the spot where the Grand Trunk Passenger Station now stands. It was finished in the spring of 1828, and used for some months as an office by some of the Canada Company's clerks. The property was subsequently purchased from the Company by the late Dr. Alling. This building was afterwards demolished in order to make room for a large two-story brick dwelling. This was likewise demolished to make room for the station-house. The other referred to was a school-house located a few chains further to the east. Mr. David Matthews was the teacher in this house for the first ten or fifteen years. It was also used as a meeting-house or church by the various religious denominations for several years after its erection. The amusements of the day were various and diversified. The only thing that attracted much attention was the firing of wooden cannon. These were made of beech and maple logs about two feet in length and one foot in diameter, with a two-inch bore, and bound with three strong iron bands, generally bursting after the first or second shot. A few fights brought the day's proceedings to a close, and the crowd generally dispersed. Some, however, of the more aristocratic remained for the evening. A ball and supper was to come off in the Priory. The tables were spread in the main building, as yet in an unfinished state. From sixty to eighty sat down to a sumptuous supper, Mr. Galt at the head of the table and the old Doctor acting as Vice. What followed the removing of the cloth may be easier imagined than described. Suffice it to say the night drive on w' sangs an' clatter, and aye the grog was growin better. The ball wasled off by Mr. Galt and Mrs. Leaden. Farther on in the evening, however, a row ensued, and one Thomas Brown, acting as Constable *pro tem.*, while endeavoring to restore peace, had one of his hands badly cut by a carving knife in the hands of one of the rioters. Brown was in consequence appointed Grog Boss among the company's workmen. This Brown was father of the first child born in the town. Letitia Brown, infant, was the grantee of a house and lot as a free grant from the Canada Company prom-