

during the early days of the settlement, but they had all disappeared before the original settlers laid their armour by—though bear stories were told for many a day afterwards, and were a terror to the youths in their nightly wanderings.

In the "Olden time" when men were not so highly educated, and had ruder ways, instead of discussing questions which would naturally arise among them, with their tongues, and convince their antagonist by a brilliant display of rhetoric, they often discussed them with sticks, or with any other convincing medium that was at hand.

As a result of this combativeness, so inherent in human nature, and which requires so much education and training to overcome, there were a good many assault and battery cases for the magistrates of these earlier days to settle.

These cases though tried in Cavendish, mostly came from outside the settlement. Squire McNeill was generally the magistrate to issue the documents, and dispense justice between the combatants. I well remember hearing him tell of a case which gave him a great amount of trouble to get settled so that it would stay so.

The parties in the strife belonged to that nation that is proverbial for its love of fight. They were named respectively Tim and Jerry. They lived some three or four miles from Cavendish, and used to quarrel very often, and use such convincing arguments as sticks, and plow coulters, to strengthen their case. On one of these warlike occasions, when the plow coulters had been used as a sword with telling effect, the parties both started to run to the squire's to lodge complaint. It was a race for life and no "let up." Each thought everything depended on getting his story told first. This time Tim arrived first, almost breathless, with just enough wind left to utter the following exclamation "Mr. McNall I faint wid the shame two brothers goin to law like we are, but he cut me big toe wid the knife of the plow."

By this time Jerry had arrived on the scene, and though he had not heard Tim's accusation, he must certainly deny it, and he exclaimed "Its all a lie Mr. McNall." Our readers can imagine what a difficult task it was for the "justice" to settle a family