

gotten, living about four miles from them, was terribly frightened a few days before, by a large wild animal. He had been to Brockville on some business, and on his return journey he stopped at this house, rested, had supper and also hay and oats for his horse. He started for home about ten o'clock in the evening; it was a beautiful, bright moonlight night; he was perfectly sober, as he did not take any intoxicating drink. He was riding along at a gentle trot when, nearing a bridge across a stream, in a deep hollow, his horse gave a loud snort, suddenly stopped, reared up, swerved around, almost throwing him off. On looking in the direction indicated by the actions of his horse, he saw a large yellow animal, with a long tail, crouching by the side of the road, not many yards away. On his making a threatening gesture towards it, and giving a loud yell, the animal got up, looked at him for a moment, and then bounded into the woods. The horse was so frightened that he became unmanageable, and galloped back to the house from which they had started, when it was plain both man and horse were both very much frightened. This occurred in the Township of Ops.

I called to see this farmer soon after he had this adventure, and he gave me a very full account of it, many particulars of which I have omitted.

I offered an old hunter ten dollars if he could get the animal for me. He found the track several times, but it was always lost in the big swamp, known as Pigeon Creek Swamp, a broad and dismal swamp running through several townships.

I called at a farm house on the Ops side of the swamp, and the farmer asked me if I had heard anything while coming through it, which I had not. He said, "Last night something took a hog from my very door. Yon swamp is a terrible place; what terrible screams I hear down there almost every night!" (1853).

I remember reading in the *Toronto Globe*, about four years ago, an account of the killing of a large animal of the cat kind—I think in the Township of Malahide—which measured over six feet in length. It was an animal of a kind never before seen up there. It could not have been a lynx, for they were common there, and besides I never knew of one over four feet in length.