

that time the only settler in Euphrasia, though it had then been surveyed about seven years. In accounting for such fine land remaining unsettled for so long a time, he told me that when the surveyors were at work, the holders of land claims had their agents on the grounds, who selected all the best lots and had their claims entered in the Crown Land Office in Toronto, leaving intending settlers to take what they had left, or pay their prices for the land they had secured. The township of Collingwood appears to have been similarly handled, as there were at that time only three or four settlers and they were on the bay shore. I remained all night with Mr. Eaton and learned from him that my next stopping place would be fifteen miles distant, where a man named Brock "kept entertainment." In traveling this fifteen miles I found that I made it in five hours. I met no one during the entire distance. I found the Brock shanty occupied by himself, wife and daughter, the latter a girl about twelve years of age. Though the exterior of the premises was not very inviting the inside looked clean and comfortable. In reply to my inquiries as to the character of the country through which I should have to pass in order to reach Barrie, he told me that I would pass through the township of Nottawasaga, in which there were three settlements, one on the Hurontario street, known as "The Scotch Corners." From the name of this street it would seem that it had been the intention to open up a road which would unite Lake Ontario with Lake Huron. Its course through the first three townships was about northwest, and if it had been continued in this direction it would have reached the Owen Sound Bay. But owing to the Luther and Melancthon swamps appearing in the way. The course was changed to about north, by which it happened to strike the Hen and Chickens, a number of small islands,

with deep water intervening. I may have something more to say about these birds in a subsequent article, but in the meantime I must get on to Barrie, I was told that I would avoid the Scotch settlement by keeping to the South, and would pass through the Berowman settlement which was about eight miles distant, and should I wish to remain there over night, I could get good accommodation at the elder Berowman's. There was another settlement about four miles further on, but as it was composed of Irish and Scotch "he kinder thought" that I would not care to remain with such people. If the poor old man had known that I was Irish in everything but the accident of birth he would not have spoken with such freedom. During my short stay with Mr. Brock he had a good many stories to tell about the various schemes resorted to by the travellers to avoid paying for their accommodation, and ended by saying that should anyone be desirous of studying "human nature," he would advise them "to come out to the bush and keep entertainment."

I resumed my journey and arrived at Borman's early in the evening, and could have gone further but the place looked so inviting that I concluded to pass the night there, providing that the inmates had no objection. The dwelling was built of logs put together after the roughest style. It stood a short distance back from the road, the door yard being enclosed with a fence, and a plot of flowers in full bloom on each side of the door gave the premises a look of taste and comfort. I found the door open and the mistress the only occupant of the house. I asked if I could be accommodated for the night, telling her what Mr. Brock had said about the Irish and Scotch settlement. She replied that "any one might take her for Irish or Scotch, she was in such a mess with washing and scrubbing;" but instead of giving me a direct answer to my question she put me through a course of catechising to which I had become accustomed in my travels through the country