

ful and contented with what life brings her."

In clearing the land some would cut the trees all round so that they could fall as they leaned. Miss McColl heard her father tell about felling a tree accidentally on a Highland neighbor's lot. He told him he would make him take it off his ground to the very last chip. Their home life was very simple, and some of them spent the summer sailing on the lakes. The first log school houses and their internal furniture and arrangements, were very similar to what has already been described in these sketches.

The first school house (a little log one) was built in 1840. The teacher was Mr. McCormick who boarded round at the different homes, and the salary was \$16 per month. He had the old country modes of punishment, but he was greatly respected as well as feared by the pupils. Before the school house was built the pupils met in the home of Henry Palmer, and he was their teacher.

The first record of the Westminster council is dated March 4th, 1817, when the first meeting was held at Archibald McMillan's tavern for the united townships of Westminster, Delaware and Dorchester. No doubt this was done, as in other townships, under authority of a warrant from the magistrates of the Board of Quarter Sessions, and meetings appear to have been held from that time onward annually, at which the township officers were appointed. There were no Highlanders at that time, and it does not appear that they took a very active part even in later days. Miss McColl says, "The voter of those days had to have a deed, and very often he had to take it with him to prove his right to vote. Politics are always in the Council, more or less. There was a Highlander in the Council who was a Tory, while most of the Highlanders here are Grits. Do what they would, they could not get him out, but they managed it at last by running a Lowland Scotchman, who had a Highland wife. The Highlanders were so true

that they would not run against one another."

Donald Campbell, one of the pupils of the pioneer period, contributes the following reminiscences: "In 1842 Mr. McCormick, who had been a teacher in the old land, was engaged as first teacher in S. S. No. 13, Westminster in the Highland settlement. He was paid by a rate bill, so much per pupil per month. He boarded in the homes of the pupils and the more pupils in a home the longer he stayed. He manufactured the seats and desks of the old log school house. He took some large boys to the woods with him, and they cut basswood slabs ten feet long, carried them to the school house, where they bored holes in the end, put in wooden pins, and used them for seats. Pine boards two feet wide, supported on stakes were used for desks.

"When in the woods they unfortunately found the skull of a horse, which was used in punishing boys. A basswood rope was passed through an opening in the skull, and it was hung around the neck of the naughty boy, who was made to march up and down while another bad boy was compelled to drive him. The 'taws' was unsparingly used, and even the grown men, if a lesson was missed, were punished, not daring to question the authority of the teacher. The three R's were the most important subjects."

John S. McColl, Glanworth, contributes the following reminiscences:

"I well remember the long bright nights, when the great fires blazed in the mud chimneys, made of home-made mortar and ash slats, when friends and neighbors and the merry young people gathered in pleasant social cheer, and played tricks and sang songs and told ghost stories till a late hour. There were also logging bees and dancing and fiddling. Sometimes the bag pipes were used in the logging field to cheer the Highland lads after a hard day's work. Sometimes the young chaps, when bringing home their cattle, amused themselves by fastening their hand sleds to the oxen with basswood bark ropes on a smooth ice track wellbeaten,