

10 quired some cows, & had a milk run in the city. The farm being in close proximity, he may have still kept in his employment as well. In later years, & at the present time, that farm is now all built over, & on it the present Waltham school stands.

I sometimes try to conjecture the doings of those early years, and what they had to put up with, for it was not a question of sitting down and enjoying luxuries, but every one would have to be at it and doing their bit. And coming so recently as they had from a place where the conditions were hard & hard work was essential, the children even would all have to help out and do all the little jobs possible.

With the continual arrival of fresh people from overseas, with their families, the children I presume would occasionally have a chance of having a little pleasure, & I have wondered sometimes whether William & Annie & George would

ever go with their dad to the Heathcote river and fish for eels. I know that eels were a consideration in the domestic menu. I remember another telling of a Big Island Maori coming one day with a big eel to dispose of. He had very little clothing on beyond his natural garb plus his tattoo & she received somewhat of a shock.

How very little ^{things} events transpire to turn the course of events in ones life. It was somewhere in these early years, just before I was born. The report that gold had been discovered in Otago at Gabriels Gully, caused quite a stampede and people from every direction were on the move, & thousands flocking into the country. Father was inclined to be struck with the fever and arrangements were being made with a neighbour to go, provided he could go, would he wait for a few days, until ^{they} Father had was ready? So great however, was the urge that he could not wait, & was off the next morning. Father never got away, but ultimately became the possessor of one of the finest herds of