

pletely go out of fashion until the beginning of this century. But what was in use in the later years, were the original ones that had been brought out with the owners when they came from the other side of the world. The last one that I saw was in the house on a farm that I purchased in the Waikato in 1911.

Around the table we all gathered in the morning for breakfast. A blessing was asked - always on the food set before us. Various kinds of stools were around the table. Father at the head sat on an upturned firkin along the ~~each~~ each side was a form or long stool to sit on, in our case it got to be insufficient to accommodate all of the remainder of us stood up, put our hats between our knees for safety, & set to work. When finished the Book was brought a chapter read and then we all knelt down & Father asked God's blessing on us for the day. Then to the various duties. In general the milking of the cows had been finished before breakfast. And it was then mother's duty to get all our dinners ready to take with us to school. When I think of the conveniences now what work and what drudgery. No idle moments for any one, at that time. And when the day was done, yet mother's work was

never done, and it was mending clothes or darning socks or mending them. "Stitch, stitch, stick". And there was no such thing as a sewing machine in those early days. I can remember well when going home from school one day, there was a hand worked chain stitch sewing machine there. What a labour saver it was. What a great day that I can recall when on going home, there were four brand new wooden chairs for us to sit on. We seemed to be getting on. I recall mother's old dolly which she always used when she did the washing of clothes. The same principle is in the washing machines of this later day. Three or four short legs at the bottom inserted into a round piece of wood about 9 inches across, a long centre piece with a handle through at the top. This used in half turns amongst the clothes. There were no wringers at that time nor yet mangle, and it was necessary to have at least two flat irons set in front of a hot fire, in order that the ironing process might be done without undue delay. The one readjusted alternately used to the other was warmed up again