

Mr Chas. Mitchell's brother was built in a somewhat different mould, & a different disposition. Became a very large land holder and noted breeder of Lincoln Sheep. Did not take a great deal of interest in general matters, but was a prominent supporter of the Ellesmere Agricultural Society. But when that society was formed very keen interest was displayed, even amongst the women folks. And there was keen competition in household jars, & wines of various descriptions.

A Mr. Russel was a keen connoisseur of wines of all descriptions, parsnips, & elderberry etc etc. She was a keenly strung woman. I think at home she was maid of some sort in some big house & hence was used to ~~for~~ handling the finer foods. I remember once at our ^{home} place we had some Cheese on the table that had a few crawlers in it. She scooped them up of her plate & said to mother "By golly they're good".

Her husband was built in another mould, & perhaps after being at a sale where there was generally some beer, he would get a bit of a little merry, & boast that he was a real "John Bull". It was he who I heard say, when a certain man was to be executed, that he would do it for five pounds, if they couldn't get any body else. A man of no education but a good farmer.

Mr John Boag was our nearest neighbour & a good one in every respect, and what a pleasant thing it is to have a good neighbour. Behold how good and

"pleasant it is to brethren to dwell together in unity." But in reality we each kept to our own side of the fence as it were. But I have no recollections of him ever being in our house, nor father in his, but mother & Mr Boag visited each other frequently. It was John Boag whom I mentioned as casting out "Bobby Burns". My Brother George was helping them in with the harvest, I don't know but what he was acting as the "Crow" on the stack. Mr Boag's brother ~~was~~ Peter was pitching from the dray, & Mr John was doing the stacking. Peter was throwing the sheaves in a very erratic manner & sometimes they struck Mr John, till at last he turned on Peter & rebuked him for his manners. Well he said in reply, "I was trying to see if I could make you swear, for I haven't heard you do it since you were made an Elder".

Mr. M. Boag, as I mentioned previously was a celebrated breeder of Clydesdale horses, and very successful with his stock in the show ring. His holding amounted ultimately to over one thousand acres, having purchased properties of others who had left the district, & his first residence was of a modest character four rooms, the back portion being what we called a lean to. Not being a married man at the time this would be sufficient. His next was a two story building of six rooms a very plain barn like structure. For many years after (he married a daughter of Mr Stewart of Hatton Farm) and this