

something like kegs of the present day; we had also a wooden yoke made to fit the shoulders and neck, with a piece of rope on each end, and a hook made of iron to hitch to the bucket, and every drop of water which we used, was carried from the river, no matter how far the house stood from it.

Every family had from two to three canoes, and thought nothing of paddling over to Canada. Many a time did I paddle a canoe across the Detroit River. The shore was not obstructed as it is now; the beach was covered with white sand, shells and stones; the banks were overhung with wild grapes, blackberry bushes, wild roses, etc.

Saving ice was an unknown thing in those days. The water was brought from the channel of the river, put in large jugs, and buried in the ground to keep it cool.

When the young men, members of the family, wished for fresh meat, all they had to do was to step back of the house at the edge of the woods where the Michigan Central road now passes, and kill a deer, put a rope around his neck and draw it home. In one of the rooms a large spike was driven, upon which they hung the deer to dress it; the spike is still in the beam. They thought nothing of dressing from four to five per week.

They also set traps to catch wolves, which were numerous, by digging a hole in the ground, about eight feet deep, and large enough to catch as many as possible at one time; they would place a door on top, and put fresh meat in the hole. The minute a wolf stepped on the door, it would tip, let him in and close up; another would come, he was served in the same way. In that way, they caught great numbers; each head brought a bounty; it was great sport, and money making business at the same time.

Chimneys were built the same as the ovens, with poles, straw, and clay, which when dry were solid and very hard.

All the washing was done in the river, by driving two stakes, and placing a piece across to hold the end of a plank or log, eight or ten feet long, the other end resting on the shore. Upon the end on the water, whoever washed, would sit on a stool, dip the piece in the water, rub on the soap, and pound with a short handled paddle called a "battois."