

Northern Districts of Ontario Canada

NIPISSING, TEMISCAMING, ALGOMA,
THUNDER BAY, WABIGOON
and RAINY RIVER

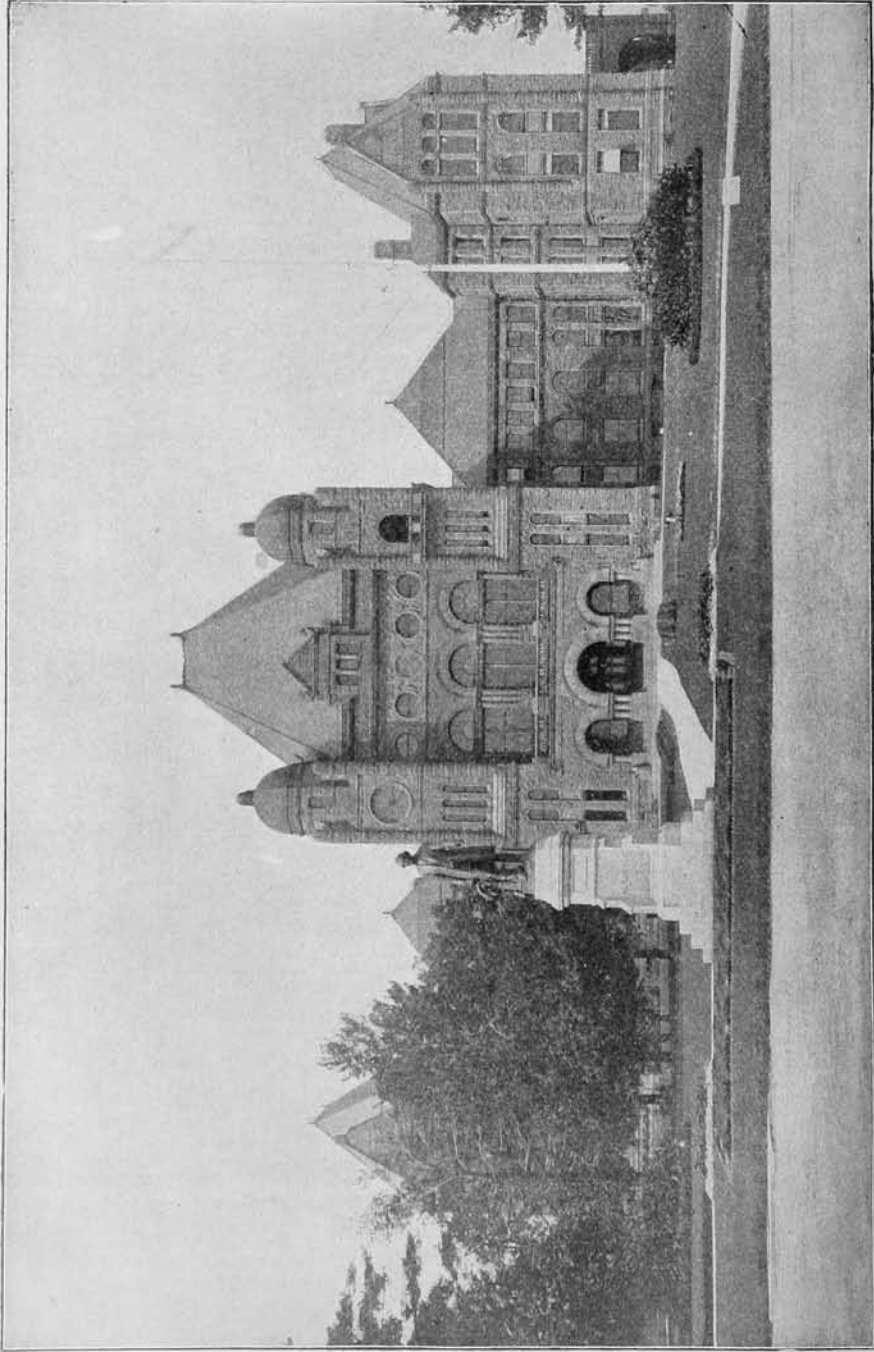
Their Climate, Soil, Products ; Agri-
cultural, Timber, and Mineral
Resources and Capabilities,

With Information as to How to Acquire Lands.

Prepared under Instructions from
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ONTARIO PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO.

Frontpiece.

These pages, while applicable in great measure to the whole of the Free Grant Territory, are intended to have special reference to that part of the Algoma District between Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, to the part of Nipissing District bordering on the Canadian Pacific Railway, to the Temiscaming Settlement, and to the Rainy River District, including the Thunder Bay District and the Wabigoon Settlement on the C. P. R. (in connection with the Government Pioneer Farm); all of which Districts are now easily accessible by railway or steamboat.

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INTRODUCTION.

It is the object of this pamphlet to render better known the capabilities of those parts of our undeveloped lands which for brevity's sake we are accustomed to call our northern districts,—namely, Eastern Algoma, North Nipissing, Temiscaming, the Wabigoon section and the Rainy River country. The statements hereafter made are drawn principally from official sources, or other accurate information, and in most cases the authority is cited. Great pains have been taken in order that an entirely trustworthy account of the country may be given. And from the testimony adduced and the arguments legitimately based thereon, the reader can scarcely avoid arriving at the following conclusions:

1. That Northern Ontario is the best field now open for settlement by persons of small capital willing and able to work for themselves.

2. That the abundance of well paid employment outside of agriculture renders it easy for a settler to establish himself by his own labor on his own land. Not only are there good wages to be earned in the winter in the lumber and mining camps and elsewhere, but the settler has abundant opportunity to realize ready money all the year round by working on his own account at such industries as

Cutting and hauling pulpwood and cordwood.

Railway ties, posts and telegraph poles.

Tanbark.

Getting out pine logs under contract for lumbermen.

Working on Government roads, bridges, etc.

3. That independence can be achieved there by a poor man sooner than the same position can be attained elsewhere.

4. That whether for dairying, stockraising or general agriculture the country presents a combination of advantages that are found in few localities.

5. That there is as great a range and variety of products there as anywhere.

6. That in yield per acre of the principal crops the Northern Ontario lands actually excel the most fertile states of the American Union.

7. That the advantages of having cheap fuel and building material more than counterbalance the disadvantage of having to clear the land.

8. That the country is near to the great markets of the world and has water communications unrivalled, and railway advantages such as no other country ever possessed in its early days.

9. That the climate is temperate when compared with that of many thickly inhabited and prosperous parts of the new and old world.

10. That there is an entire absence of fever and ague, there is no malarial disease whatever, and in fact there is no healthier country under the sun.

11. That our Northern Districts are capable of maintaining hundreds of thousands of people in agriculture, mining, manufacturing and general industries.

12. That already a surprising development has taken place.

13. And that our Northern Districts possess all the advantages and qualities necessary to render them attractive to, and suit them for the home of the most progressive races, namely :

Cheapness of land.

Fertility of soil.

First-class live stock and dairy advantages.

Ability to produce all the crops of the temperate zone.

Incalculable forest wealth.

Variety of industries.

Winter employment.

Good wages for labor.

Immense mineral resources.

Cheap building material.

Fuel for the cutting.

Fruit for the picking.

Fine Fisheries.

Game plentiful.

Great range of products.

Water communication.

Good railway accommodation.

Religious and educational advantages.

A healthy country.

Pure and plentiful water.

Regular rainfall.

Temperateness of climate.

Local markets.

Nearness to foreign markets.

Many causes are combining to direct renewed attention to the forest lands of Northern Ontario as a field for settlement. Chief among these causes are the following:

The merits of the lands themselves as proved by the experience of those who have settled upon them.

The almost complete absorption of the homestead lands of the United States. There is now no agricultural land to be had in the United States, except on payment of all it is worth, or more.

There are now no large tracts of fertile land anywhere in that country which have not fallen into the possession of railroads, alien land owners, land companies and syndicates or other corporations who hold it for speculative purposes.

The dealings of purchasers with these companies and corporations have been extremely unsatisfactory to the purchasers.

Many thousands of their purchasers have failed in their attempts to pay off mortgages given as part payment for their farms and have lost all their substance as well as the most valuable part of their lives.

Experience has shown there is a limit to the distance from the seaboard at which exportable crops, or crops whose price is settled in competition with foreign products, can be profitably raised—and this limit has been passed.

A very large proportion of the western plains of the United States, which heretofore have been supposed to possess inexhaustible fertility, are found by experience to be so cursed with drouth as to render agriculture a precarious and unattractive calling.

Contemporaneously with the discovery of these facts, there has occurred, from cause or causes which are as yet somewhat obscure, a world-wide fall in the prices of agricultural produce, of itself sufficient seriously to embarrass all producers whose farms lie beyond the limit from which their crops can be cheaply transported to the places of consumption.

And most important of all, it is clear that there has set in a reaction from that rush to the cities which has characterized the last fifteen years. It now looks probable that many of the cities on the continent will have difficulty in maintaining their own populations, and will not for some time to come be able to absorb the surplus population produced by the country districts, to say nothing of the foreign immigration.

From the above, among many other causes, it has come to pass that thousands of industrious, persevering and intelligent men have had it borne in upon them that there is no longer any hope in their present situation. Many have arrived at the conclusion that to go upon the land is the only resource that promises them at once safe present employment for their little savings and the prospect of an independent subsistence for the future.

The land being the only visible resource of many thousands of unemployed artisans, struggling traders and starving laborers, and also for the immense yearly output of thrifty farm hands and farmers' sons who cannot possibly find employment in the older settled districts, the question arises, Where is the land to be found? It must be cheap land for such persons as have been mentioned possess little or no capital. It must be near at hand, easily and cheaply accessible, healthy and temperate. It must be a district in which work is to be had and cash earned in order that the settler and his family may be maintained in comfort during the first few difficult months while the land is being cleared and brought into bearing. In short, what is wanted is land that can be had for the performance of settlement duties, or for little more than that; land on which a man possessing good health, strong arms and a resolute heart can go with only a rudimentary knowledge of agriculture, and from which, as can be seen from examples around him, not only a mere living but a competence can be wrested; land which is not so distant from market that the crops grown on it are valueless to the grower; and in a district possessing all the necessities and comforts of civilization.

PART I.

ALGOMA AND NIPISSING.

The Advantages Offered.

At our own doors in the districts of Algoma and Nipissing we have a vast tract of land which possesses all the qualities and advantages just described as necessary. Not only do the lands of Algoma and Nipissing comprise millions of acres in extent, but they are easy of access, cheap, and a very large proportion of them are of remarkable fertility. As will be shown hereafter and proved by the official records of actual achievements, the lands in these districts will yield in abundance almost every article of agricultural produce proper to the temperate zone. The crops of cereals and grasses will be proved actually to exceed the yields of the most favored sections of the United States, and even the average of our own fertile Province. The capabilities of the districts for live stock and dairy produce will be shown to be very great.

As to length and severity of the winters it will be proved that Northern Ontario has nothing at all to be afraid of in comparison with other sections supposed to be more favored by nature. The winters in Algoma and Nipissing are infinitely more pleasant and less trying than the winters in the Western States, even so far south as the States of Illinois, Missouri and Kansas; and Algoma and Nipissing are paradise itself compared with the Dakotas and Minnesota. The parts of Algoma and Nipissing of which this is written are in fact further south than a large part of the states last named. Latitude for latitude the Canadian climate is more temperate than the American.

In the excitement that has attended the absorption of the good land of the Western States, the railroad-building and the rush to the cities, this northern land of ours has been somewhat overlooked—but by no means entirely so, for many thousands of industrious settlers have gone in there during the last few years, notwithstanding the apparently greater attractions offered elsewhere. It is now seen and realized that for solid sterling merit the bushlands of Northern and Western Ontario offer inducements which if not as great as those offered by the far-famed western peninsula of our own Province, are actually greater than those offered by any other now unoccupied body of land, when all things are taken into account.

It is the object of this work to show that not only have Algoma and Nipissing all the incidental advantages necessary for the satisfaction of every reasonable want of the settler, but that they furnish actually the

best field now open on which an industrious man can start with practically nothing, and, securing a comfortable living from the first, can achieve in a few years a position beyond comparison more stable and agreeable than anything which lies in front of the average wage worker.

It is not claimed this desirable position of independence can be obtained without continuous hard work, privation and self denial. New settlers everywhere have to suffer hardships and to perform labors which weaklings should not attempt. The settled part of this Province has only been wrested from the forests at the cost of hardships almost inconceivable to us who benefit by the labors of the early pioneers. In these days the labor of chopping out a bush farm, though severe, is child's play as compared with that which the former generation had to undergo. In the old times it was not uncommon for settlers to have to carry in on their backs for several days' journey their furniture, flour and general supplies. In the districts of which these pages treat, a settler would have to try very hard in order to get more than a few miles from a base of supplies and usually the greater part of his transportation can be done by water. The old pioneers had frequently to wait many years before they could establish churches, schools and municipal organizations. Now, so admirably organized are the missions of the various Christian denominations that very few indeed are the settlers who do not have an opportunity of hearing the Word of God every Sabbath. As to education, schools spring up as soon as the children are there, and the excellent municipal laws of this Province provide a form of local self-government cheap, efficient, easily worked and entirely adapted to the needs of a new and struggling community.

The Broken Character of the Land the only serious Drawback.

A disadvantage of Algoma and Nipissing, of which much is made by persons accustomed to level lands, is the broken character of parts of the country through which it is necessary to travel in order to reach the large tracts of really excellent agricultural lands with which the country is dotted over. It is not sought to minimize the seriousness of this drawback. Had it not been for the obtrusiveness of certain rocky ridges and escarpments, our northern townships would doubtless have been settled long ago. The fact that the immediate shores of Lake Huron are rocky has lead to the supposition that all behind was barrenness and desolation. But as a matter of fact, some millions of the best acres in Ontario lie a few miles beyond these rocky coast lines. Many very prosperous farmers are living there and thriving settlements are growing up.

Many of the smaller lakes and rivers have rocky and uninviting shores, and in some parts of the country outcrops of granite occur. It is not desired that anyone should settle on these ridges. On the contrary, it is the earnest desire of the Government of Ontario that these rocky lands should be left clothed with forests in their natural condition, for the shelter and protection of the adjacent country and the conservation of our summer rains.

But—and it is easily understood when pointed out—a ridge of rocks is often more conspicuous than formidable. So evident an object fills the eye and limits the horizon. At the same time the space occupied in the country may be quite insignificant in comparison with that occupied by the valleys and unobtrusive plains. Taking out a few parts of the country which are not fitted for settlement, the remainder may be accurately described as well fitted for agricultural purposes. Many thousands of lots can be found with little or no surface rock upon them—and, a word to the wise, first come first served. Other lots will be found having perhaps more rocks upon the surface; yet they may be very desirable lots. For the truth is that when this great natural drawback of broken lands is looked into, it is seen to have some compensating features. The fact of the many fertile tracts being interspersed with lakes, rivers and forest-crowned ridges of rock is by no means disadvantageous. Many a farmer in Southern Ontario would conceive himself blessed indeed if he had a hundred acres of hill or bush pasture attached to his farm; if he could have his fuel and fencing and building material for the cutting; if, in short, he had to own two hundred acres instead of one hundred, which is practically all the disadvantage entailed by the broken character of the land. The existence of the bush land, the lakes and the rivers, is in many ways most beneficial to the settler. The bush will furnish him with work that will be increasingly well paid, as the forests further south are depleted; and the lakes and rivers are not only a means of communication, but serve to temper the climate, warding off frost for days and weeks after it has appeared in localities remote from the water. The lakes and rivers also furnish an abundant food supply, which only needs reasonable treatment to be permanent.

Home Markets and Employment Outside Agriculture.

Among other advantages which the pioneer settler of to-day has over those of the last generation is that the market for hardwood is growing very rapidly. The getting out of hardwood is likely to be a regular business, and, conjoined with the pine lumbering, pulp-wood and other industries, is likely to furnish the settler with work for himself and his teams, and a ready market for his products for an indefinite period to come.

Large mills for the manufacture of wood-pulp have been established at Sault Ste. Marie, where an immense water power has just been made available by means of a canal, and also at Sturgeon Falls. These will furnish a market for a large quantity of pulp-wood, and having such an immense field to draw from, the industry can hardly fail of success. They will furnish employment directly and indirectly for hundreds of thousands of persons.

The business of getting out railway ties, tan-bark, cedar posts and telegraph poles is one the magnitude of which few outsiders can realize. When it is stated that the Canadian Pacific Railway alone has purchased from settlers and others since 1883-4 an enormous number of ties, probably ten million in all, some idea may be formed as to the amount of

money that has gone into the bush to pay for labor, etc. Over a million of these ties were bought from settlers, and were therefore free from government dues.

The possibilities in front of the Algoma settler in producing supplies for miners appear to be unlimited. Good authorities say that there is no other part of the world in which rich mineral lands and tracts of rich agricultural land are so mixed up together as they are in Algoma. To set on foot and develop a gigantic mining industry in Algoma, nothing is wanted but a market for the product—which market will some day be opened up, either rapidly by the admission of our mineral products to the United States, or more slowly by the expansion of our own industries.

Extent and Characteristics of Algoma and Nipissing Districts.

The name Algoma is commonly applied to all that large territory stretching from a little west of Sudbury to the Lake of the Woods, and from the Great Lakes, including the Manitoulin islands, etc., to the Albany river, one of the principal affluents of Hudson's Bay.

The Nipissing District bounds Algoma on the east, and extends northward to the limits of the Province on Hudson's Bay and the Albany river. It includes the Temiscaming settlement, hereafter described.

Algoma and Nipissing together form a territory of immense size. It is larger than almost any of the United States, larger than the New England States with New York added; larger than any European country except Russia, and larger than a half dozen of the smaller European states put together.

It is a region of considerable diversity of climate, of bountiful summer rains and moderate summer heat. The thousands of lakes are giving up constantly of their moisture to the air. The alternation of temperature over the land and the water cause frequent condensation and precipitation, and thus such a calamity as that summer drouth which in the summer of 1894 reduced the crops of the Western States by many millions of bushels is unknown.

It exhibits an endless variety of hill and dale, rapid and cascade, lake, river and forest. Its lakes and rivers furnish unrivalled waterways. Its numerous wood-crowned rocky ridges furnish shelter for the fertile valleys they enclose, and free pasturage for the cattle that roam therein for nearly seven months of the year. The lower lands are almost always cultivable, and frequently possess a degree of richness that surprises the beholder. The soil is of all varieties; clays of many kinds, clay loam, sandy loam, rich black vegetable mould, and not a little sand that is too light for agricultural purposes, though supporting a heavy timber growth, and presumably adapted excellently for bush pastures subsidiary to other richer land.

No country could be better drained. The irregular surface provides for a rapid flow of the water, which soon finds its way into the rivers and lakes lying on the lower levels. Thus, though the rains are frequent and bountiful, the crops are not subject to be drowned, or the land soured by stagnant water lying in the soil.

General Aspect of the Country.

The country is best described as an undulating plateau or table-land elevated some 600 to 1,000 feet above sea level. Ridges of rock, sometimes burned off and bare, but oftener clothed with a vigorous forest growth, traverse it in some sections. Naturally these ridges fill the eye, and the beholder is apt at first to underestimate the extent of the good land lying between them. As a matter of fact, the proportion of the country which consists of bare or scantily covered rock is much smaller than is generally supposed. Observations made at the river portages are necessarily misleading, as these always occur where some ridge of rocks has altered the level of the country.

Generally, on the establishment of a settlement, it turns out that the proportion of cultivable land is larger than was at first supposed. The best land will usually be found in the valleys between the ridges. Frequently these valleys are of large extent, curving round the ridges, separating and reuniting, forming good arable tracts of thousands of acres in extent, while the rocky land furnishes bush range for cattle and a base of supplies for building, fencing and fuel purposes. The constant succession of hill and vale and the sparkle of the water illuminating its own setting of many shaded green, viewed under a sky of Italian blue, flecked here and there with the most wonderful fleecy clouds and lit up by a sun whose rays fall unimpeded through the singularly clear air, form a vision of entrancing loveliness. It is the world-famed scenery of the Muskoka lakes produced over and over again, but ever with new and surprising variation.

Water Everywhere.

No country could be more abundantly blessed than Algoma and Nipissing in this respect. The water of the rivers and lakes is of crystal purity and almost uniformly soft. Frequently it is of a brownish tint, the consequence of its action as an almost perfect solvent, aided perhaps by the presence of a little iron on the bark and roots of fallen trees. The coloration does not affect the pleasantness of the taste nor the perfection of the water for drinking purposes. Its softness renders it most valuable to all who are affected with rheumatic or kidney troubles. As many of the thousands of summer visitors to Muskoka know, rheumatism commonly disappears within a few days of their coming in, to reappear as soon as they have returned to their hard water at home. And the soft water appears also to have a permanently beneficial effects on many obstinate cases of constipation and diarrhoea. Almost everywhere are to be found springs apparently icy cold, but which never freeze up, maintaining the same temperature all the year round.

Cheap Fuel and Building Material.

The possession of cheap building material is a boon beyond price to the settler. It more than offsets the cost of clearing the land. Whereas on the prairies the settler must be prepared to pay out in cash several hundred dollars for lumber for house, outbuildings, barn, stable and some fencing, in the forest he can build for himself structures more convenient and efficient and infinitely more comfortable at a cash outlay quite insignificant in comparison. Especially is this the case with relation to buildings for housing live stock. It is not an inaccurate statement that the cost of the buildings necessary to shelter cattle on the western prairies is almost equal to the value of all the cattle they will hold. Again, the woodland settler has an immense advantage in not having to pay out cash for fuel. In the Western States, it is not uncommon for a farmer to have to lay out \$100 or more for his year's fuel. Even in Ontario in the older settled parts, there are many farmers on whom the cash outlay for fuel is one of the most serious demands. But in our newer districts, the farmer who chooses to profit by the experience of the older countries, and to lay out his farm properly, need have no apprehension that fuel will be scarce in his day or that of his children. The ridges and the poor land should never be cleared at all, but maintained as a pasture and fuel reserve, from which only those trees should be removed which have attained their growth and are about to be set aside by nature in the ordinary course.

As a Dairy Country.

Algoma and Nipissing possess advantages that are absolutely unrivalled as the scene for dairying operations. While, on account of the broken character of the country, the locations for large cheese factories and creameries may be few, yet there are undoubtedly some places where the milk of a sufficient number of cows can be got together to render possible the establishment of enterprises of the largest kind. But particularly where this district will shine will be in those gilt edged articles of dairy produce which are not necessarily made on a large scale. Given, a country where miasmatic exhalations are unknown; where the water is abundant, pure, free from mineral contamination and of unvarying quality the year round; where the grasses are juicy, sweet and fragrant and the forests full of aromatic leaves and herbs; where the cattle are as a rule exempt from all ailments except those consequent upon accidents occurring in the bush and upon such troubles as may be brought on by careless exposure, or its opposite, too little ventilation; where feeding is necessary not for a longer but for a shorter period than at the front; where ice can be had for hauling and stored in buildings costing practically nothing; where transportation to market is easy and cheap; there is no reason why our northern butter and cheese should not soon establish for themselves a reputation that would enable their makers practically to dictate their own prices.

As a Stock Country.

The prime requisites for profitable stock raising are: Cheap land, good water, cheap transportation, cheap building material, cheap food, a healthy country and a mild climate. Algoma and Nipissing possess all these to a remarkable degree. The land can be had for free grants; also for settlement duties and in some cases for twenty cents an acre and in others fifty cents an acre. The excellence and abundance of the water and the cheapness of building material have been spoken of elsewhere. As to transportation there is no reason why the residents of Algoma and Nipissing should pay appreciably more than is charged to the farmer 200 miles west of Toronto. In fact the probability is that from the frequency of the water routes, the northern farmer will eventually get his stuff to market cheaper than his western competitor will.

Cattle.

The breed of cattle best suited for the settler in his early days is the Devon, which is hardy, light, active, early to mature, furnishes an excellent article of beef, and is tractable and intelligent. The last named qualities are important, inasmuch as the settler being often poor is compelled to rely much on the labor of working oxen, and Devons make the best. Well trained oxen are easily and cheaply bought throughout the district. Not only do many of the settlers make a business of breeding and training them, but there are constantly yokes of oxen for sale by settlers who having become rich enough to purchase horses, have ceased to rely upon the slower and cheaper animals.

In these days, however, horseflesh is phenomenally cheap—cheaper in some places pound for pound than oxen; a condition which is quite unnatural and cannot last. The probability is that oxen will continue to be used in Northern Ontario just as they still are used in New England, and that therefore the Devon will continue to be a most desirable breed. Where dairying is the specialty, the Ayrshires are doubtless more profitable, and in particularly rich spots the Shorthorns, Herefords and Jerseys can be made to develop their peculiarities to perfection. In fact exhibitors from the free grant countries frequently capture some of the best prizes at the principal exhibitions in the Province.

Sheep.

The supreme excellence of the mutton in the Muskoka and Parry Sound countries and in the Manitoulins and other parts of Algoma is a matter of surprise and satisfaction to the visitor. Travelled Canadians and foreigners say there is nothing to compare with it elsewhere, even the famous Welsh and Cheviot products being held to be distinctly inferior in flavor. An immense business lies ready to the hand of the genius who will organize the production and placing on the markets of the large American and Canadian cities a regular supply of Northern Ontario mutton and lambs guaranteed to be such and charged for accordingly. The sheep is by nature exactly adapted to Northern Ontario, the larger breeds of Downs succeeding best. They thrive admirably, picking up a living for themselves, and even getting fat on the poorest of land

and needing but little care and attention, except during the breeding season. The greatest drawback to this industry is the depredations of the dogs, with which all new settlements are usually overrun. In Algoma and Nipissing this drawback is accentuated by the visits of a lot of hunters who bring in hounds not sufficiently trained to enable them to distinguish between mutton and venison. The dog difficulty, however, is not an insuperable one, and it should not be allowed to stand in the way of a most profitable branch of agriculture.

Hogs.

Within the last few years there has been a great change in the views of the Ontario farmer as to hogs. Whereas a few years ago he was inclined to abandon hog raising to the Western States, and it was a common thing to find Chicago pork all the year round on an Ontario farmer's table, now it is seen that the Western States cannot compete with us in raising small, quick maturing, not overfat animals, to be turned over to the packers at 100 to 120 pounds. Canadian bacon and hams from such animals have already made such a mark on foreign markets that the future of this business is assured. The product of corn-fed animals cannot enter into competition with us, and the market is one than can hardly be glutted. The farmers of Northern Ontario have great advantages in this business. The breeding sows will be easily sheltered and fed, the young pigs will pick up a great part of their own living almost from the start, and in the fall and early winter, after a few weeks of pea and barley feeding, will be brought to the knife in splendid condition for the packer. It is possible that the lumber camps will continue to import the thick, heavy product of the Western States, and that Northern Ontario will never be able to compete with that on even terms. Why attempt to compete with it when a better and higher priced article can be easily produced?

Cereals, Grasses and Vegetables.

No one tract of country will grow every crop valuable to man. Each grass and each grain has its favorite habitat wherein it grows to its greatest perfection. The belt of latitude comprising Algoma and North Nipissing will grow to perfection as great a number of the grasses and grains as can be grown anywhere. Timothy and red-top succeed admirably, especially the former. White clover is natural to the soil, coming in of its own accord along the roadside and in the pastures everywhere. Red clover yields prodigious crops. Potatoes in this soil so rich in potash give enormous yields of a quality that cannot be surpassed. Root crops are of such uniform excellence and certainty as put the district's future for stock raising beyond all doubt. Corn yields very profitably as a forage plant and with care and attention can be ripened, but not so cheaply as to compete with land farther south. Wheat of superb quality, both winter and spring, and with a yield equal to any part of the Province can be grown here. The barley almost equals that of the Lake Ontario counties in brightness and often exceeds it in yield. The oats are heavier in the head, cleaner from rust, and brighter in the straw than the oats of

the southern counties, and yields of fifty bushels to the acre are not uncommon. Peas flourish exceedingly, the straw being abundant and clean, and the peas bright, large, sound and free from weevil. From thirty to thirty-five bushels to the acre is a frequent crop. Buckwheat succeeds well; so do beans as a garden crop.

Wild Fruit.

Raspberries grow freely around the edges of the clearings, along fences and roads, in any waste places, and after fires. The yield of this fruit is incredibly great. Blueberries and huckleberries of several kinds grow on the rocky shores of the lakes, on the islands, and occasionally in swamps and old beaver meadows. Cranberries are found in the marshes and will always bring a good price. Another species called the high bush cranberry is a very palatable fruit, but does not occur in quantities sufficient to make it commercially valuable. Blackberries and dewberries occur in great quantities. Strawberries are scattered almost everywhere in the open parts. Wild cherries, plums, currants, gooseberries, and in sunny, sheltered spots wild grapes grow luxuriantly. There are many other kinds of edible wild fruit which have no familiar names.

Countries Included in Belt of Latitude, 40 to 55 Degrees.

In the New World, as well as in the Old, the grains and grasses attain their best development between latitudes 40 and 55. These latitudes include:

Old World.

Part of Spain.
France.
Germany.
Switzerland.
Netherlands.
Austria.
Denmark.
Russia.
Great Britain, most of, and the influence of the Gulf Stream so modifies the climate of the northern part of Great Britain and of the Scandinavian countries as to make their productions similar to those of countries further south.

New World.

In the New World, nineteen-twentieths of the lands that can be profitably cultivated between the 40th and 55th parallels of latitude are in Canada. Nearly all of that part of this land which is in the United States is either, as in the west, affected with summer drouths, or, as in the south, has too high a summer temperature to favor the productions of the temperate zone.

Northern Limits of Production of Cereals.

Nearly all of the districts treated of in this pamphlet are situated between the 46th and 47th degrees of north latitude. On another page will be found a table showing that the countries from which have issued nearly all the progressive races in the world are north of latitude 46°. The facts

given next below prove that all the principal crops of the temperate zone can be grown successfully some hundreds of miles—even more than a thousand miles north of Algoma, Nipissing and Temiscaming. From Hudson Bay records and the reports of explorers it is proved that many kinds of crops are grown in the far north localities here mentioned:

Localities.	Latitude north.	Agricultural products.
Fort Yukon, Alaska.....	66.37	Barley, with various cereals, fruit, etc.
New Fort, Good Hope, on Mackenzie river.....	66.16	Turnips, onions, lettuce, potatoes, etc.
Fort Norman, on Mackenzie river...	64.54	Barley, potatoes, turnips and other vegetables.
Fort Simpson, “ “ ..	61.52	Wheat, barley, potatoes, turnips, onions, lettuce. Wheat sometimes succeeds.
Fort Providence, near Great Slave lake	61.30	Wheat, barley, potatoes, turnips, onions, lettuce. Barley is a sure crop.
Fort Chipewyan, Lake Athabasca...	58.42	Wheat 68 to 69 pounds to bushel, won prize at Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition.
Fort Laird, Mackenzie river.....	59.00	Wheat, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, potatoes, turnips and other vegetables.
Fort Dunvegan, on Peace river.....	56.08	Wheat, barley, peas, corn and potatoes have been raised here for 100 years and have seldom failed.
Edmonton, on the North Saskatchewan	53.35	Red Fife and Club wheat, besides other grain, and a variety of vegetables, are grown successfully.
Cumberland House, 425 miles north-west from Winnipeg.....	53.56	Luxuriant crops of wheat, barley and corn, with all sorts of vegetables are raised here.

The Question of Latitude.

Now, taking 46.30, the latitude of Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury, as the average latitude of the districts treated of in this pamphlet and taking the geographical degree at 69 statute miles, the stations above mentioned are situated at the following distances further north:

Fort Yukon is.....	1,388 miles further north than Sault Ste Marie
New Fort Good Hope	1,363 “ “ “ “
Fort Norman.....	1,210 “ “ “ “
Fort Simpson.....	1,050 “ “ “ “
Fort Providence...	1,035 “ “ “ “
Fort Chipewyan.....	842 “ “ “ “
Fort Laird.....	862 “ “ “ “
Fort Dunvegan.....	664 “ “ “ “
Edmonton	488 “ “ “ “
Cumberland House.	512 “ “ “ “

It will give the above figures a great deal more significance when it is pointed out that Sault Ste. Marie is only 193 miles north from the latitude of Toronto.

As far as latitude is concerned, Algoma and Nipissing districts and the Temiscaming settlement are in that belt of the world which has ever been the most famous for the production of grasses, vegetables, fruits, cereals and—men.

It is true that in Western Europe the different crops can be successfully cultivated two or three degrees farther north than they can here. Making all allowances on that score, we have in Algoma and Nipissing an immense tract of land situated as choicely with respect to latitude as any portion of the earth.

Countries and Parts of Countries Lying North of Latitude 46°.

In Canada—The whole of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, Manitoba, Keewatin, part of Algoma and Nipissing, Prince Edward Island, half of Cape Breton Island; three quarters of New Brunswick and nearly all of Quebec.

In United States—More than half of Minnesota, the whole of North Dakota, three-quarters of Montana and Idaho together, and 99-100ths of Washington Territory.

In Europe—The whole of Great Britain and Ireland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany and Switzerland, more than half of France, four-fifths of Austria-Hungary, a small part of Italy, four-fifths of Moldavia, 99-100ths of Russia.

Forest Productions.

A dense forest growth covers the whole of the land in these districts. The general character of it is—in the low-lying parts, cedar, black and white spruce, tamarac, alder; in the drier parts of the valleys and wherever there is depth enough of soil, a mixed growth of evergreen coniferæ and deciduous trees. Among them are white and red pine, black and white spruce, hemlock, red and white oak, maple of several species, white, yellow and black birch, ash, basswood elm, beech, poplar, aspen, etc. The ridges are usually crowned with a majestic growth of pines, but where this has been interfered with by fire or other cause, it has been usually succeeded by poplars and white birch.

The cutting and bringing to market of these woods employs armies of men. The work is rough and laborious but well paid. Great activity is now being manifested in the lumbering districts and the prospects for employment never looked brighter than they do now.

Pine and Other Timber on Free Grants.

The pine is not sold to the free grant settler, but the settler has the privilege of cutting pine in the course of clearing, also for building purposes and fencing upon his lot. If he sells any of the pine cut in the

course of clearing, he must pay timber dues upon it. On the issue of the patent, the title to the pine remains in the Crown, but the patentee is entitled to receive one-third of the timber dues paid by the licensee on pine cut on the patentee's lot after the 30th of April next following the issue of the patent.

Pine and Other Timber on Lands Sold.

The purchasers of land under the new price of fifty cents an acre regulations take the land subject to any timber license covering the land at the time of sale or granted within three years from the date of such sale. But the purchaser may cut pine for building, fencing and fuel, and may dispose of pine required to be removed in clearing, but on such pine sold he must pay timber dues. The pine trees remaining on the land at the time the patent issues will pass to the patentee.

On the 30th of April next following the sale of any lot, the right of the timber licensee to cut any timber other than pine on the settler's lot ceases.

New Forest Industries.

Within the last few years there has been a great change, immensely advantageous to the settler, in the value of woods other than pine. For instance, the pulp wood trade is assuming great proportions. For this purpose, spruce and poplar, which may be said to be the prevailing kinds in these districts, and of which the quantity standing is simply unimaginable, have now a ready market, and the settler can find steady work in cutting and hauling these woods to the sides of the railways or the water's edge where a good price is paid for them. It is evident, too, that the manufacture of the wood into pulp will soon become a large industry in Algoma and Nipissing, where the grinding, crushing or other treatment can be accomplished cheaply by water power, and the carriage of the product and the raw material affected by the same means. Large pulp mills are erected at Sault Ste. Marie and Sturgeon Falls, and others are in contemplation.

Another industry that has expanded rapidly in the last few years is the getting out of hardwood. The use of hardwood for flooring and finishing may be said to be just becoming general. The consumption has increased enormously of late, and as is often the case when production takes place on a large scale, the price to the consumer has gone down considerably, while the price to the first producer has gone up. In the early days of the settlement of this province, hardwood that would now be worth the farms it was on many times over, was burned up to get rid of it, or for the sake of the few miserable cents that could be had for the potash leached from the ashes. Even in the Muskoka country, in which settlement dates back some 25 or 30 years, the hardwood had to be destroyed to get rid of it. Now, the settlers around Lakes Muskoka, Joseph and Rosseau, and probably in other parts, are getting \$6.50 to \$8 per 1,000 feet for hardwood logs delivered on the shores—a rate which

pays them handsomely to work for. The Algoma and Nipissing settler will not have to wait long before all his standing merchantable hardwood is as good to him as so much money in the bank.

Preservation of Forests from Fire.

The Provincial Legislature has taken steps to prevent for the future the waste of our forest resources by fire. No one must set fire in the woods between 1st April and 1st November except for the purpose of clearing land, cooking, obtaining warmth or some industrial purpose. Everyone setting a fire between those days for the purpose of clearing land is to take every reasonable care that the fire shall not extend into the bush. Everyone setting a fire for any other purpose is to select a place in the neighborhood in which there is the smallest quantity of vegetable matter, or of resinous trees; to clear the place of all loose vegetable matter for a radius of ten feet from the fire, and to exercise due care to prevent a fire from spreading. Any person who drops any lighted match or burning tobacco ashes, or discharges any firearm must extinguish the fire caused by these substances before he leaves the spot. All locomotive engines must be equipped with spark arresters. Any infringement of the above provisions subjects the offender to a penalty of \$50 and costs or three months' imprisonment. The Crown Land agents, forest agents, free grant agents and bushrangers are to prosecute in every case of infringement of the Act that comes to their knowledge.

County councils may pass by-laws that whenever the woods are on fire in any township, the fire-guardians, fence-viewers, overseers of highways or pathmasters appointed by the township councils may call out as many of the persons liable to perform statute labor as are necessary to assist in quelling the fire. Every day's work done in attempting to quell the fire shall count as one day of next season's road work. Where there are no county councils the township council may pass the necessary by-law. Where persons not liable to statute labor are called out the council may direct that they shall be paid out of the municipal funds. Any person liable to perform statute labor who is called out to quell a fire and does not obey is liable to a fine of \$20 and costs or to imprisonment for twenty-one days.

Elevation of the Lakes and Country.

Lake Ontario.....	235 ft. above the sea.
Lake Huron.....	578 " "
Lake Superior.....	586 " "
Lake Temiscaming.....	612 " "
Ottawa river at junction of the Mattawa.....	519 " "
Upper Trout lake, source of the Mattawa river..	690 " "
Height of land between Lake Nipissing and Ottawa.....	714 ft. 5 in. above the sea.
Lake Abbitibbe.....	857 ft. above the sea.

Elevation of Points in Algoma and Nipissing Districts.

The following figures are taken from actual levels made by Mr. J. C. Bailey, chief engineer of the Northern and Pacific Junction Railway and the Toronto and James Bay Railway :

	<i>Miles from Gravenhurst.</i>	<i>Feet above Lake Ontario.</i>
Platform of station at Gravenhurst.....	....	572.0
Lake Muskoka .....	....	500.4
Caswell's lake.....	29	758.0
Vernon river at Huntsville	35	692.0
Opposite village of Cyprus	45	839.0
At village of Emsdale	51	798.0
Magnetawan river near Burk's falls	54	724.0
Doe lake at Village of Katrine.....	55	723.0
Berridale village	64	894.0
Stony lake, off Sundridge.....	71	841.0
South River station	77	902.0
Marsh lake	79½	947.0
Highest point on the line is at.....	80	952.5
Beaver Creek	88	782.0
Powassan village	95½	611.5
Wistawahsing river	104½	483.5
Callendar station, on track	107	426.5
Lake Nipissing, opposite this station, level of water	107	398.5
Crossing of C.P. Railway at La Vase	111	434.5
At North Bay station ground of C.P. Railway the eleva- tion above Lake Ontario is		420.0
Marten lake, 38½ miles from North Bay		694.0
Temagami lake, 68½ miles from North Bay		721.7

The River Systems of Algoma and Nipissing.

At a distance of about, on the average, 150 miles north of Lakes Huron and Nipissing occurs the "divide" or watershed which separates the streams that flow northward into Hudson's Bay from those which run southward into the great lakes or into the Ottawa river, thence into the St. Lawrence.

Of the rivers flowing north, the Albany, Jig-a-wa, Moose, Missanibi, Abbitibbe, etc., and of the country through which they run, it is not the intention now to speak. Suffice it to say that very little is known of the country except in the immediate neighborhood of the rivers and lakes.

Of the rivers flowing south the principal one is the Ottawa, a magnificent stream, the boundary (south of the head of Lake Temiscaming) between Ontario and Quebec. Formerly Lake Temiscaming was considered the source of the Ottawa, but better explorations show that the lake receives several large streams, to one of which coming from the northeast under the various names of River des Quinze, Lac des Quinze, Lac Expans, etc., the source of the Ottawa must be ascribed. Lake

Temiscaming receives, on the Ontario side, the Blanche river, the Montreal river, each draining a considerable area, also Wahbe's creek, Metabetchouan, Opinicon and smaller creeks and streams without number and thus far without name.

The large Lake Temagami, said to contain 1,300 islands and to be with its picturesque scenery and its deep, clear, crystal waters a very elysium for sportsmen, discharges both ways, into the Ottawa and into Lake Huron.

The Mattawa river drains the district between Lake Nipissing and the Ottawa into which river it flows at Mattawa village, traversing or draining the townships of Mattawa, Papineau, Calvin, Orlig, Phelps, Bonfield, Ferris and Widdifield.

Lake Nipissing, a fine body of water of about forty miles long by eighteen wide, receives the drainage of a large area which is poured into it from the north by the Sturgeon river, Veuve, Duchesnay, La Vase, etc., and on the south by the South river. The outlet of this lake is by a perfect maze of channels known as the French river.

Next west of Lake Nipissing comes the Wahnapiatae river flowing out of Wahnapiatae Lake and passing through the townships of Dryden and Dill among others, crossing the C. P. R. at Wahnapiatae station and falling into the French river a short distance from its mouth in Lake Huron.

Then comes the Whitefish river which discharges into Lake Huron back of Cloche island and within a few miles of Little Current, the most northerly point of the Grand Manitoulin. The Whitefish river consists of a series of long lakes connected by short and frequently rapid streams.

The next considerable stream is the Spanish river. This is navigable to five-foot craft for thirty miles from its mouth. It traverses the townships of Albert, Victoria, Salter, May, Hallam, Merritt, Foster, Nairn, Lorne, Drury, Hyman, Baldwin, Shakespeare, etc. In the township of Foster there unites with it the Vermilion river, a fine broad deep stream rising in the height of land and flowing through Vermilion lake, a long narrow sheet of water which takes its name from the beautiful autumnal coloring put on by the maple, oak, birch, poplar, etc., which line it throughout its course to the water's edge.

The Serpent river, the mouth of which is in the township of Lewis, flows into a deep landlocked inlet of Lake Huron, about ten miles west of the Spanish river.

About twenty miles further west is the Blind river forming the boundary of an Indian reserve and draining the townships of Cobden, Scarfe, Patton, etc.

The Mississaga river is a very important stream entering Lake Huron in an excellent harbor formed by outlying islands. The river is at present, however, navigable for only four miles from its mouth.

The next large river is the Thessalon, draining a chain of lakes and entering Lake Huron at Thessalon Point.

Garden river empties into the St. Mary's river a few miles east of Sault Ste. Marie. It is a fine stream of some three chains in width.

Educational Facilities.

In common with all the newly-settled parts of Canada, Algoma and Nipissing are being settled up with a quiet, orderly and distinctly religious population. Whereas on the other side of the line rowdies seem to gravitate naturally to the frontier settlements, with us there always has been in our remotest backwoods a God-fearing and law-abiding sentiment that has made life and property as safe as anywhere in the world, civilized or uncivilized. In Canada the border-ruffian is unknown. The older parts of the free grant districts are well supplied with churches and places of worship for all the principal Christian denominations. The newer sections are taken care of by very active home missionaries sent out by the different bodies. These worthy men travel great distances in the effort to reach the scattered settlers. It is not uncommon for one man to hold services on one Sunday in three different places ten or fifteen miles apart, the distance from place to place being travelled by canoe or road between services.

As far as religious or educational advantages are concerned, no one need hesitate to take up his habitation in these new districts. The educational system of Ontario is known all over the world for its thoroughness and progressiveness. At no point is it more completely adapted to its environments than in its application to the newer districts of the Province. No sooner has the settler gone in than the teacher follows him. As soon as a handful of children can be gathered together the school is opened. And such is the efficiency of our system that many of these same children, taught within the four bare walls of a backwoods school, step out into life equal at most and superior in many points to those who have had the benefit of training at the larger centres. Our legislative chambers, our pulpits, universities, banks, warehouses and offices are full of men whose entire schooling was received in backwoods schools.

When a municipality has been formed, it is the duty of the township council to divide the township into school sections so formed that no part of a section shall be more than three miles in a direct line from the schoolhouse.

Township councils are required to provide at least \$150 per annum for each school section by assessment over the whole township.

In unorganized townships, on the petition of five heads of families residing in a certain district, the Public School Inspector can set apart a school section not to exceed five miles in length and breadth. Any person whose house is more than three miles from the schoolhouse is exempt from school taxes unless he sends children to the school. The trustees are elected for such districts and these make an assessment and levy taxes, out of which schoolhouses are erected and teachers paid.

The Legislative Assembly annually makes a grant in aid of the cost of education, which grant is apportioned according to population (providing that the amount payable to every rural school in the territorial districts shall be at least \$100). The School Act of the Province provides that the money so apportioned, shall be paid on or before the first day of July in each year.

The Legislative Grant for the year 1898 in aid of schools was thus apportioned as respects schools in the Free Grant Districts :

Algoma District (grants to rural schools).....	\$13,135 00
Nipissing "	4,055 00
Little Current	117 00
Mattawa(rural school \$62; Separate School \$149	211 00
North Bay.....	170 00
" Separate School	90 00
Sault Ste. Marie	356 00
" Separate School	57 00
Gore Bay	78 00
Fort Wilham	196 00
Port Arthur	273 00
Rat Portage Separate School.....	81 00
" 	199 00
Thessalon	68 00
Sudbury	95 00
" Separate School	93 00

In his report to the Education Department, 1897, Mr. D. McCaig, Public School Inspector of Algoma District, states that 147 school sections have been formed and 127 schools were open for the year. In these schools 127 teachers were employed. He states that in the rural sections alone \$71,409 were spent on education during the year. In the seven towns of the District \$59,418 more were spent, making \$130,827 spent in Algoma in a year on Education, of which \$53,299 went in paying teachers' salaries.

Rev. Geo. Grant, Inspector for Nipissing, reports thirty-four rural schools in operation, twenty-six schoolhouses and thirty-four teachers. Altogether there are now forty-one public schools in the district, fifty-six teachers and thirty-four schoolhouses.

Partly Cleared Farms for Sale.

As in all new countries there are in Algoma and Nipissing many settlers who prefer the rough work of pioneering before the more hum-drum business of farming. These people make a practice of taking up land, clearing a few acres, putting up a small house and necessary buildings, then selling out to some newcomer and starting again in a new place. This is an arrangement mutually advantageous to all parties. The one party necessarily acquires great expertness and bodily endurance, as well as considerable judgment in the selection of claims, while the other gets done for him, at a cheap rate compared with that at which he could do the work for himself, the very part of the work which bristles with terrors for the newcomer—namely, the fatiguing tramp through the bush in search of a location, and the very trying first few days before a shelter is provided. It is therefore frequently the case that persons who have a little money can avail themselves of an opportunity to purchase a partly-cleared location. They should take care, of course, that the location is a suitable one and also that the seller has a title to that which he proposes to sell. And very great care should be taken that the location is not one which the seller wishes to abandon because he has discovered that he has made a mistake in selecting it.

Means of Access to Algoma and Nipissing.

There is probably no equal area of undeveloped land on the earth which is so easy of access. It has a coast line of many hundred miles indented with many safe and commodious harbors accessible to the rapidly growing commerce of the United States and Canada, and within a few months, on the completion of the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals to fourteen feet, now almost within sight, will be open to the smaller class of ocean-going vessels.

Communicating with the Great Lakes are the several considerable rivers already mentioned, the outlets of large lakes which expand and ramify until they furnish water routes through almost every township. Possession of these water-ways render the settlers in a measure independent of the railways as the latter must always be limited in their freight rates by the proximity and ease of water carriage. Therefore the fact that two of the main lines of the Canadian Pacific Railway pass through the district can only be regarded by the settler as wholly beneficial to him. From east to west the main line of the Canadian Pacific traverses the Algoma district throughout its 800 miles of longitude. The connecting line from the Sault to Sudbury, some 175 miles, which is likely to become one of the most important roads on the continent, also passes its whole length through this district near Mattawa, where the C.P.R.'s northern extension begins. It is complete as far as the foot of the Long Sault Rapids on the Upper Ottawa. In due time it will doubtless be extended northward to Hudson's Bay. Connection is had at North Bay at the head of Lake Nipissing with the Northern and Northwestern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway, which brings Toronto and southern Ontario in close touch with Algoma and Nipissing. It is in fact a run of only about ten hours from Toronto to North Bay, so that the lands in question may be said to be at our very doors! What a contrast with the times still fresh in the memory of middle-aged men when the then backwoods of Upper Canada say fifty miles from Toronto could only be reached from the ocean by weeks of slow and laborious travel.

Toronto and James Bay Railway.

And soon there will be under construction a line from North Bay or Sudbury, projected northwards until the shores of Hudson's Bay shall be reached. This line is already located for a considerable distance. It will strike the northeastern arm of Lake Temagami and the northwesterly arm of Lake Temiscaming and will thence proceed northward by the best available route. It will pass through a country in which there are some rough places, but it is stated that it will not be of difficult construction. The company has been granted bonuses by the Governments of Canada and Ontario. The point it is intended to reach is Moose factory, an old Hudson's Bay trading place situated upon an island in the mouth or estuary of the Moo-e river. This will be a very important line. Even as a colonization road only it would open up an immense country, the resources of which are probably as great as those of any equal area in the Province. It would beside put this Province in contact with the rich fisheries and the whaling and sealing

industries of Hudson's Bay. The Ontario, Hudson Bay and Western Railway Company has also been granted a bonus for 240 miles of line, to run from Missanabie, on the C.P.R.R. in a northeasterly direction to the tidal waters of James Bay.

There are known to be extensive deposits of coal—brown and black lignite—at many places between Lake Abbitibbe and the Hudson Bay. Pieces of anthracite have been found along the rivers south of James Bay, but so far no mine has been located. The known deposits of iron are of great wealth. Porcelain clay, or kaolin, of the finest quality is found. In short, an explorer says: "I have no hesitation in pronouncing the James Bay district the richest mineral region in the Dominion, perhaps continent."

The distance between James Bay and the Canadian Pacific at North Bay is about 350 miles, in sections as follows:

First section, North Bay to head of Lake Temiscaming.. 81 miles.

Second section, Lake Temiscaming to Lake Abbitibbe.. 94 "

Third section, Lake Abbitibbe to Moose Factory175 "

Total.....350 "

Fish, Game and Wild Animals.

There is no easily accessible part of the world where better sport with the rod or gun can be obtained. The virgin waters teem with fish of all kinds, salmon trout, speckled or brook trout, gray trout, lake trout, river trout, black bass, rock bass, green bass, sturgeon, maskinonge, pike of several kinds, the *jean d'oree* and other pickerel, whitefish, herring, etc. Nearly all the different kinds of fish take the fly or bait or trowl freely. The various rivers and lakes differ strangely in the species of their finny inhabitants. In some, only bass will be found, in others closely adjacent, only pike, or only pickerel. The last named is a very ferocious fish which has made a clean sweep of all other kinds from many a lake. He does not furnish much sport, but it is to be said in his favor that he is very fair food-fish, and grows to great size.

Chiefly among the wild animals is the lordly moose, the largest surviving species of the elk tribe. The moose is still rather abundant in Algoma and Nipissing. In this Province the killing of moose and caribou was forbidden until October, 1900, thanks to which provision a notable increase in their numbers has lately been observed. This district, with the adjacent parts of Quebec, is almost the last home of this gigantic deer, but a few scattered head remain in New Brunswick and part of Maine. A large moose will stand over 16 hands in height, will weigh 1,600 to 2,000 pounds, and his horns will spread six feet.

The caribou, or reindeer, is quite common, so also is the Virginia deer, the smaller one that was once so abundant throughout the northern part of the continent.

Black bears are rather numerous in the unsettled parts, but as a rule they keep out of the way of man. When seen, it is usually in the berry patches, or along the shores of lakes after a windstorm, looking for fish

cast up by the waves, or in the spring near the dens in which they have hibernated. They are also seen occasionally in the spring actually fishing, and showing great dexterity in throwing out of the water the suckers and other fish that run up the creeks at that season. Bears are not dangerous to man except in the spring when the cubs are small. Then a she-bear will attack anything in defence of her young. Black bears are frequently captured of a weight exceeding 400 pounds. The meat is excellent, having a taste somewhat between pork and beef, and according to the testimony of lumbermen and others, who have to undergo great exertions, bear meat is the strongest and heartiest food a man can eat.

In the northern part of Nipissing district there is a brown bear, intermediate in size between the black and the polar or white bear. The last named formidable animal is found on the shores of Hudson's Bay in great numbers.

There are not many wolves in the inhabited parts of Algoma and Nipissing, and from the abundance of their food they are not dangerous to man except in the more remote parts, and towards the end of the winter when they hunt in packs, and may become very formidable antagonists. A bounty of \$10 a head is now paid for every wolf destroyed. The head of the wolf with the ears attached has to be produced before a Justice of the Peace, who, on proof being made to him that the animal was killed in his county, or within a mile of a settlement in his county, issues a certificate of the fact of the killing, and cuts off the ears from the wolf's head. On presentation of the certificate the county treasurer pays \$10. The Provincial Treasurer refunds \$4 of this sum to the county. And where the wolf is killed in the provisional county of Haliburton, or in any district of the Province which does not form part of a county, the wolf's head is produced before a stipendiary or police magistrate, sheriff, crown land or free grant agent, or Division Court clerk, who issues the certificate, for which on presentation the Provincial Treasurer pays \$10.

Beaver are still to be found, also red, black, and silver-grey fox, mink, fisher, marten, otter, and other fur-bearing animals. The settlers in the remoter districts make a good deal of money by trapping, a business which is also carried on by persons who give up their whole time to it, and frequently amass considerable sums of money. No beaver or otter is to be killed until 1st November, 1900.

Among the birds are several species of wild geese and swans, many of ducks, teal, rail, loons, divers, woodcock, snipe, cranes, bitterns, herons, plovers, partridge or grouse; hawks, ravens, crows and eagles; and a multitude of small migrating birds which render the woods beautiful and lively from snow-time to snow-time. Among these are several species of humming birds, the scarlet tanager, the oriole, the bluebird, several kinds of blackbird, the robin or thrush and several other thrushes, the kingfisher, the swallow, the indigo bird, many kinds of woodpeckers, the goldfinch, the jays, the titmouse and many others.

Game and Fishery Laws.

The Dominion and Provincial Parliaments have passed laws to prevent the wanton destruction of fish and game, and for the establishment of close seasons. The principal points so far as the unsettled districts are concerned are :

Moose, elk, reindeer or caribou are not to be killed before 25th October, 1900. No deer, elk, moose, caribou, partridge, quail, woodcock, snipe, ducks or any other game bird shall at any time be hunted or killed for the purpose of exporting the same out of Ontario. No person shall in any one year take more than two deer, elk, moose, reindeer or caribou, except that Indians and settlers in the unorganized districts may kill for their own immediate use and for food only. Hunting or killing deer by crusting or while they are yarding or while in the water is forbidden.

Non-residents are required to take out a license to shoot deer during the season, the price being \$25.00. Bona-fide settlers in organized or unorganized townships are entitled to take out a license without charge and to shoot thereunder not more than two deer each.

Centres of Population.

Eastern Algoma and North Nipissing contain the following towns :

NORTH NIPISSING—		Municipal census, 1897.
North Bay	2,024	
Mattawa	1,750	
Sturgeon Falls	960	
Sudbury	1,534	
EASTERN ALGOMA—		
Gore Bay.....	549	
Little Current.....	514	
Sault Ste. Marie.....	3,345	
Thessalon.....	720	

Municipal Statistics, 1897.

The Bureau of Industries has collected the following statistics relating to Algoma and Nipissing :

Assessment and Taxation.

	No. of acres assessed.	Assessment.	Taxes imposed for all purposes.	
			Total.	Per head.
Nipissing, rural	288,953	622,652	16,068	2.14
“ urban	4,911	1,154,081	28,892	4.61
Algoma, Manitoulin, Rainy River and Thunder Bay, rural . . .	872,679	2,780,754	50,887	3.42
Algoma, Manitoulin, Rainy River and Thunder Bay, urban . .	29,590	4,586,020	111,902	7.31

The above figures relate only to those townships and towns which have been organized for municipal purposes. Before organization no taxes are levied except for school purposes as set forth elsewhere.

Crops of 1897—Northern Districts Compared with the whole Province.

NOTE.—In these tables the term "Northern Districts" includes the townships having a municipal organization in Algoma, Nipissing, Muskoka and Parry Sound.

	Acres northern district.	Bushels northern district.	Bushels per acre northern district.	Bushels per acre, whole province.
Fall wheat	1,442	22,969	15.9	25.2
Spring wheat	5,012	74,277	14.8	15.1
Barley	3,077	70,318	22.9	26.6
Oats	43,178	1,254,717	29.1	35.5
Rye	1,194	21,186	17.7	18.0
Peas	19,634	358,405	18.3	15.5
Corn (for husking).....	686	30,160	44.0	73.6
Buckwheat	1,148	24,711	21.5	22.8
Beans	186	2,682	14.4	19.4
Potatoes	4,919	741,809	151.	95.
Mangel wurzels	251	81,528	325.0	440.0
Carrots	455	149,686	329.0	369.0
Turnips	3,439	1,202,883	350.0	457.0
		tons.	tons.	tons.
Corn for fodder	898	10,760	11.98	12.77
Hay and clover	75,990	90,043	1.18	1.63

Comparison of Northern Districts of Ontario with principal grain growing States of the American Union and Manitoba.

Crops of 1897 per acre.

	Fall wheat, bush.	Spring wheat bush.	Barley, bush.	Oats, bush.
Northern Districts of Ontario ..	15.9	14.8	22.9	29.1
New York	21.4	.....	.....	31.0
Pennsylvania	19.7	.....	.....	28.2
Ohio	16.9	.....	.....	32.0
Michigan	15.6	.....	.....	26.0
Indiana	13.0	.....	.....	30.2
Illinois	7.9	.....	.....	32.0
Missouri	9.0	.....	.....	.....
Kansas	15.5	.....	.....	.....
California	10.0	.....	23.0	.....
Manitoba .....	.....	14.1	20.8	.....
Wisconsin .....	.....	12.5	28.0	34.0
Minnesota .....	.....	13.0	25.5	26.0
Iowa .....	.....	13.0	24.0	30.0
Nebraska .....	.....	14.5	22.0	31.0
Dakota N. ....	.....	10.3	22.5	.....
Dakota S. ....	.....	8.0	20.0	.....

It will be seen from the above that the northern districts of Ontario show up remarkably well in comparison with the most fertile districts of the United States.

Northern Ontario Crops of 1896 Compared with the Average of former years.

	1897.	Average of sixteen years, 1882-1897.
Spring wheat, bushels per acre	14.8	17.3
Barley, "	22.9	23.2
Oats, "	29.1	30.3

Value of Farm Property in the Northern Districts in 1897 and 1883.

	1897.	1883.
Farm land	\$7,447,020	\$4,691,435
Buildings	2,324,548	998,665
Implements	805,307	330,570
Live stock	1,918,776	978,015
Total farm property....	<u>\$12,495,651</u>	<u>\$6,998,685</u>

The above shows that in the face of the great decline in farm values which has taken place in Britain, the United States, and other parts of the world, the free grant districts of Ontario have made very satisfactory progress during the past few years.

Live Stock.

Number of Head in the Northern Districts of Ontario in the year 1897.

	No.		No.
Working horses	7,701	Working oxen	644
Breeding mares	1,375	Milch cows	17,205
Unbroken horses	2,096	Store cattle over 2 years..	7,144
		Young and other cattle....	23,890
Total horses	<u>11,172</u>	Total cattle	<u>48,883</u>
Hogs, over 1 year	5,213	Sheep, over 1 year	34,411
" under 1 year	13,184	" under 1 year	25,981
Total hogs	<u>18,397</u>		<u>60,392</u>
Poultry—turkeys	16,957	Wool clip, fleece	34,304
" geese	7,067	" pounds	183,247
" other fowls	113,585	" pounds per fleece	534
	<u>137,609</u>		

Value of Live Stock on Hand 1895.

Horses	\$746,363
Cattle	826,424
Sheep	205,601
Hogs	99,965
Poultry	40,423
	<u>\$1,918,776</u>

Value Per Head of Live Stock Sold or Killed in Northern Districts in 1897.

	Value per head.
Horses sold.....	\$51 00
Cattle sold or killed	19 47
Sheep ".....	3 20
Hogs ".....	7 65
Poultry ".....	34

Wages of Farm Laborers in Northern Districts in 1897.

	Northern districts.	Average of whole province.
With board, per year.....	\$159 00	\$158 00
Without board, per year.....	237 00	251 00
With board, per month in working season.	16 26	16 92
Without board per month in working season	26 23	26 29

NOTE.—It should be borne in mind, that only the best men can get high wages. An inexperienced hand would have to be contented with less pay.

Northern Fruit Statistics.

Returns to the Ontario Department of Agriculture (Bureau of Industries) in 1897 by farmers and fruit-growers give the following as the number of fruit trees in Algoma, Nipissing, Muskoka, Parry Sound, Manitoulin, Thunder Bay and Rainy River:

	Over fifteen years of age.	Under fifteen years of age.
Apple trees.....	12,025	68,714

The number of acres in orchard and gardens in the northern districts, was:

In 1889.....	526 acres.
In 1897.....	2,941 "

Apples and Grapes for Northern Districts

The Ontario Fruit Growers' Association recommend the following varieties of apples and grapes as most desirable for planting in Algoma Nipissing, Simcoe, Muskoka and Parry Sound:

- APPLES.—*Summer*, Duchess of Oldenburg and Yellow Transparent.
Autumn, Alexander, Colvert, Red Bietigheimer and St. Lawrence.
Winter, Pewaukee, Golden Russet, Scott's Winter, LaRue, Wealthy.
- GRAPES.—*Black*, Worden, Moore's Early, Champion.
Red, Delaware, Lindley, Wyoming Red.
White, Jessica, Moore's Diamond, Lady.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees for the North

In the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association Report for 1891, Mr. J. P. Cockburn of Gravenhurst, says :

No resident of Muskoka need send to the nursery for trees wherewith to decorate his lawn or garden, while such shrubs as the dogwood, juneberries, arrow-wood, black alder, high bush cranberries, striped maple, mountain maple, witch hazel and a dozen other sorts may be had for the digging ; but where there is no taste there is no knowledge. It is the few who have had a desire for these things, and more especially the wives of the settlers who have persistently tried to grow the fruits they formerly enjoyed in their " Old homes at the front," that we owe much of our success at the present time, and it is much to their credit that they have shown us the possibilities of Muskoka as a fruit-growing district. Still the great majority are " regarding the winds," although many have placed a few trees in the most careless manner and without any enclosure other than the rude structure which encircles the barn and house in the same field. The trees grow well the first season, but after the cows have browsed and scratched themselves against the stumps the first winter, because the trees fail to grow the poor settler utters vengeance against the tree agent for selling trees that do not bloom the following season. These are troubles and prejudices it takes time to overcome in a new country, but now the most dubious are convinced that apples of the best quality can be grown in Muskoka of such varieties as Duchess of Oldenburg, Yellow Transparent, Wealthy, Haas, Tetofsky, Walbride, Alexander and many of the standard winter sorts, together with several hardy seedlings of great merit. Our long warm days and cold, dewy nights develop all the beauty of form and coloring possible, and there is room for the product of many orchards in the district to supply the local demand at good prices, and no man need be afraid of the venture who will make a judicious selection of varieties.

The much abused Champion grape grows to great perfection here. Our soil seems to almost change the variety, the skin gets thin, the pulp juicy, sweet and sprightly. All the early Rogers, Concord, Jessica, and Brighton, ripen well in the open air. Currants and gooseberries grow here to great perfection, and on our warm soil mildew is unknown except in some damp and shady nooks. Strawberries need little or no protection in winter as the snow makes a more effective protection than any other. For home use I find the Manchester, Bubach and Jessie are all that is desired. Raspberries, blueberries and blackberries of the best quality grow wild and can be had for the picking.

Temperature and Rainfall.

For the following information this department is indebted to the Meteorological Office, Toronto. It will be found very interesting and it effectually disposes of any idea that these northern districts of Ontario should be shunned on account of extremes of climate, the fact being that the weather in Algoma and Nipissing compares favorably with that of any other part of Canada, except South-Western Ontario, and with that of a very large part of the United States.

Highest Temperature.

		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Desbarats,	1897	45.0	49.0	52.0	63.0	71.0	81.0	92.0	85.0	85.0	76.0	57.0	
"	1898	33.0	43.0				81.0						
Mattawa,	1897	42.0	37.0	52.0	76.0	75.0	84.0	97.5	85.0	91.0	80.0	53.0	42.0
"	1898	38.0	56.0	59.0	74.0	82.0	87.0	90.0	79.0	89.0	72.0	65.0	45.0
Haileybury,	1897	45.7	35.2	48.7	70.3	74.8	84.0	96.3	82.0	89.1	73.3	52.1	41.9
"	1898	39.7	42.9	56.0	67.0	78.8	88.3	89.8	80.8	85.8	76.5	61.5	37.1

Lowest Temperature.

Desbarats,	1897	28.0	34.0	27.0	2.0	23.0	26.0	43.0	31.0	21.0	17.0	10.0	
"	1898	29.0	31.0				27.0						
Mattawa,	1897	28.0	36.5	25.0	4.5	24.0	28.0	50.0	36.0	27.0	18.0	0.0	29.5
"	1898	43.5	35.0	8.0	5.0	29.0	35.0	34.0	39.0	30.0	15.0	2.0	41.0
Haileybury,	1897	32.2	34.0	21.4	0.8	20.0	28.2	44.0	30.3	27.2	18.0	4.5	22.0
"	1898	36.2	30.0	8.6	1.2	24.8	33.0	37.8	41.0	31.7	16.0	0.2	34.3

Mean Temperature.

Desbarats,	1897	18.1	18.8	21.6	36.4	44.7	52.5	70.3	59.4	56.1	45.4	27.2	
"	1898	13.0	15.1				53.6						
Mattawa,	1897	11.5	8.9	20.7	38.1	50.0	59.3	70.6	61.0	57.4	48.4	26.5	11.4
"	1898	4.6	13.1	31.9	39.8	51.1	62.3	67.5	63.3	51.6	43.6	30.9	10.5
Haileybury,	1897	11.4	11.0	20.9	36.4	47.2	57.4	70.8	60.2	55.7	44.8	25.6	11.7
"	1898	7.5	13.5	29.5	38.0	53.1	61.4	66.7	61.6	57.9	42.3	29.7	10.8

Precipitation.

Desbarats,	1897	2.20	2.30	2.20	1.97	4.19	1.65	4.18	2.66	0.95	4.37	3.31	
"	1898	0.97	1.97										
Mattawa,	1897	0.60	2.80	1.26	0.48	2.56	2.61	3.25	4.55	0.16	3.37	1.70	2.86
"	1898	1.85	1.65	1.49	0.25	2.89	4.31	1.88	2.73	2.27	4.18	1.24	1.04
Haileybury,	1897	1.69	2.35	2.86	2.94	3.64	3.08	3.13	2.66	1.94	5.14	2.87	3.27
"	1898	1.31	3.26	2.00	0.56	3.86	5.55	2.16	4.38	3.64	4.11	1.13	2.34

Comparison of Temperatures.

This is from the U. S. Sault. Take the coldest month, February. The mean temperature of that month in 1899, at Sault Ste. Marie, was 17.3, but the average mean temperature of that month in a series of years was 17°. For purposes of comparison the February mean temperature of a number of United States and Canadian places is here given:

1899. February Mean Temperatures.

Toronto	19.3	Portland, Maine	26.8
Montreal	16.1	Boston, Mass.	31.2
Quebec	12.1	Albany, N.Y.	26.4
Fredericton	13.2	Buffalo, N.Y.	27.3
Winnipeg	6.9	Oswego, N.Y.	26.3
Gravenhurst	11.9	Chicago, Ill.	27.1
Guelph	17.0	Milwaukee, Wis.	24.3
Hamilton	19.8	Duluth, Minn.	17.6
Lindsay	14.2	Port Huron, Mich.	24.3
Kingston	17.0	Moorhead, Minn.	12.2
Barrie	16.6	Williston, N.D.	12.5
Woodstock	15.7	Bismarck, N.D.	14.7
London	17.4	Marquette, Mich.	20.0
Brantford	15.7	St. Paul, Minn.	20.2
Ottawa	12.4	La Crosse, Wis.	22.2
Peterborough	15.4	Davenport, Iowa	25.7
Orillia	11.6	Des Moines, Iowa	25.1
Collingwood	14.0	Dubuque, Iowa	23.1
Halifax	22.8	Huron	19.3



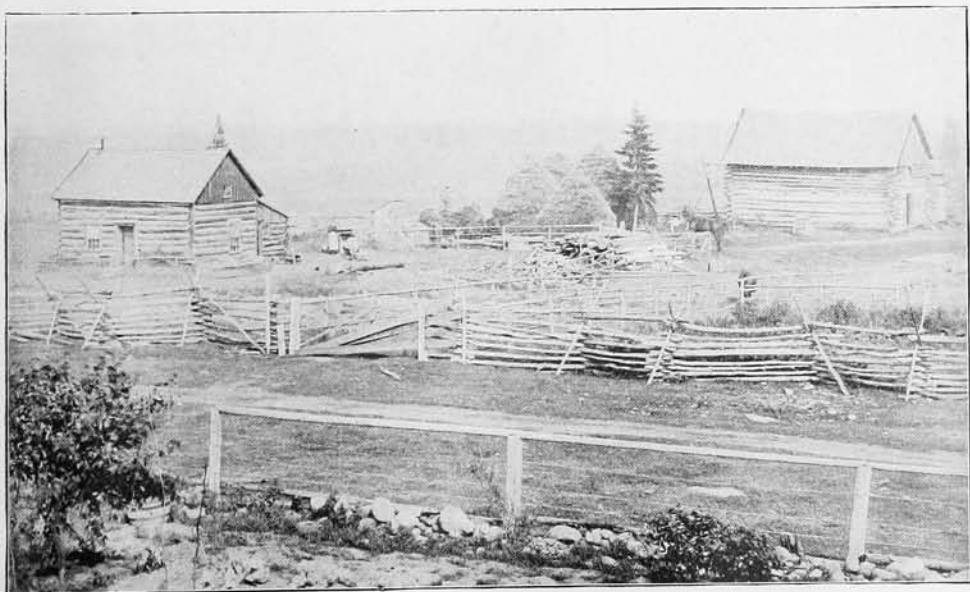
PROSPECTOR'S CAMP, LAKE OF THE WOODS.



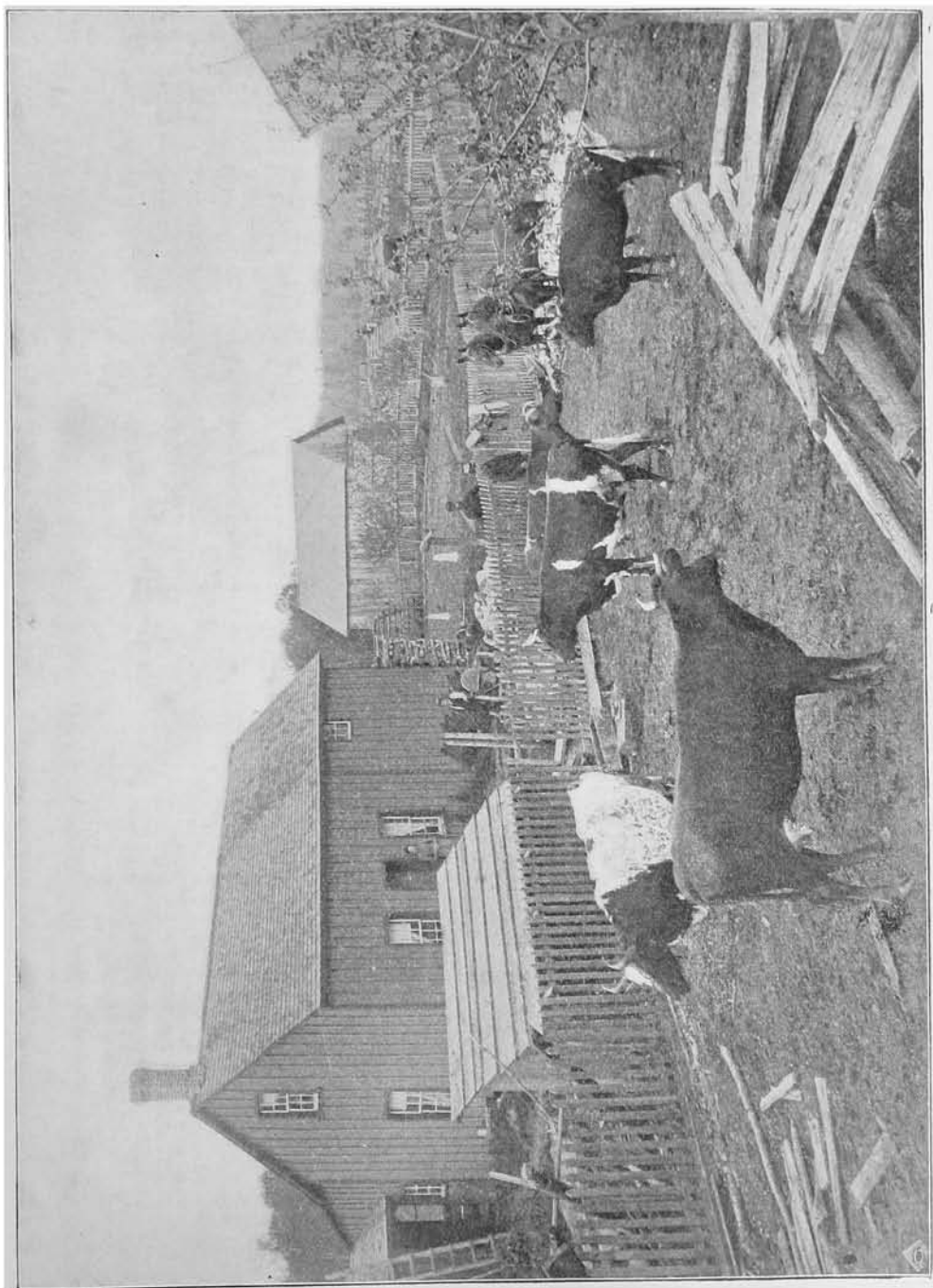
"ECHO ROCKS," LAKE JOSEPH, MUSKOKA.



A RIVER SCENE : NORTHERN ONTARIO.



AN ALGOMA DISTRICT FARM.



A SETTLER'S FARM AND HOME IN ALGOMA.



SECTION OF QUARTZ GOLD-BEARING VEIN, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



AN ONTARIO LUMBER SCENE.

WHAT THE SETTLERS SAY REGARDING ALGOMA.

The following notes are extracted from a pamphlet prepared by Algoma settlers, entitled "Algoma Farmers Testify," and from other sources :

Any settler in Algoma can testify to the following facts :

The abundance of good water, the absence of drouth or summer frosts, or blizzards. The fertility of the soil, and the rapid growth in summer. The abundance of good wood and timber. The fact that directly the snow goes off the grass is green, and that cattle and sheep can pasture outside in the woods and commons, etc., till very late in the fall or early in the winter and still thrive on the wild grass and herbage ; that the rocky ridges are covered with grass and herbage very suitable and nourishing for sheep and that white clover is indigenous everywhere and that there are thousands of acres of magnificent lands along the different rivers suitable for ranching or pasturing cattle. That wheat, spring and fall, oats, barley, peas and other crops do extremely well and yield largely. That the hay crop is enormous. That roots of all kinds: potatoes, turnips, mangolds, etc., do exceeding well. That gardening pays here, that everything which can be or usually is grown in a garden can be successfully and profitably grown here. That fruits of different kinds can be grown here in abundance. That the strawberry, raspberry, huckleberry, cranberry, etc., grow wild here in abundance. That currants of the different kinds do well here, also plums, cherries, apples and crab apples. And further that the farmer coming here with a little means and a practical knowledge of farming would escape a great many hardships and privations, as he would find here roads, schools, churches, stores, etc., and would not have to undergo a great many of the privations which the pioneer in other countries had to endure.

Here follow a number of statements by settlers as to their experience:

"Land fertile. Good yields of wheat, peas and oats. Roots of all kinds do well."

"Grows good grain of all kinds ; grows good roots also. The very best fruits, such as cherries, plums, currants and apples. Cattle and sheep do extra well here. Have a large number of bees which do well also. Have handled bees for forty years and never saw them do so well."

"Directly the snow goes away in the spring the grass comes up green and it stays green and luxuriant all summer—does not wither or get parched or brown as in other countries."

"Farmers are commencing to set out orchards all over the district, and the trees are doing well. There were splendid exhibits of apples, pears and other fruits at the recent fall exhibition at Sault Ste. Marie."

"One good thing about Algoma is that there is a home market and good prices for all a farmer, stock-raiser, fruit-grower or market gardener can raise or grow."

From Mr. Andrew McAuley, Goulais Bay : "I bought (May, 1886) 160 acres and, since, another 130 acres. There was not one tree chopped

on the land. We have now 73 acres cleared, and a clear deed of the property and not a cent against it, with sufficient stock to use all the feed we can grow. Besides all this we have raised twelve children, all living and healthy." Mr. McAuley describes himself as having been "a novice in farming who came here, with hardly any money at all."

"Lots of men in Algoma came here and started without any means at all. Those who were hard-working and persevering have got on well and are doing well now, and are in comfortable circumstances, even though they had very little money when they came here. I think that this is the experience of nearly every farmer in Algoma.

R. A. Lyon, Sault Ste. Marie: "I have seen clearing commenced in March, the land cleared and sown in May, and off the same land came thirty bushels of spring wheat to the acre harvested in September."

"Hog raising pays very well here. You can sell your young pigs from five to six weeks old at \$5 to \$6 per pair right here in my own township, and we have a good market for pork at Sault Ste. Marie all the year round.

"Have done well here. Made more property in one year than I ever made in my life before."

"I like the country well. It is the best I know for stock-raising as well as grain of all kinds."

"I have been running a grist mill for a number of years, and find farmers doing well in this part."

"Can grow good crops of grain and roots and garden stuff. Have made a good living from the first."

"I think this district second to none in the world for mixed farming."

"I think sheep raising would be very profitable. Sheep and cattle run wild through the woods and wild commons and beaver meadows. I have two orchards planted, both doing well."

"Came here with hardly any money at all. Now would not take less than \$1,000 for stock and property."

"After having travelled over all the Western States in search of a home, I came here with small means. I am now doing well, with a good stock of cattle, sheep and horses of my own, and, thank God, all paid for."

"Climate particularly adapted for stock."

"Have raised the best wheat here I ever did."

From a miller:—"All kinds of grain do well here. We can raise better grass-fed beef in Algoma than can be produced in any part of Ontario (or Canada). As for grain I never milled better wheat than I have done in Algoma."

"I came here (St. Joseph's Island) thirteen years ago with hardly any money, and did not know anything about the bush. Now I have fifty acres of cleared land and a good stock of cattle and team of horses."

"When I came here (St. Joseph's Island) I had one cow and about \$50 in cash. Now I am worth \$2,000 and I am only here fourteen years."

"I came here four years ago. Had \$700. Now I am worth \$2,000."

"Came here thirteen years ago. I did not have \$5. Now I have three hundred acres of good land, one horse, one yoke of oxen, and a good stock of sheep, cattle and pigs. I think St. Joseph's Island is the place to settle in."

"I came here ten years ago. I only had \$1 when I landed. Now have two hundred acres and am doing well. Algoma is the place for a poor man or a man with some capital."

"There is lots of money in stock-raising in Algoma. From early summer till late in the fall cattle run wild and do well. Hay is a good crop. I often have two to two and a half tons to the acre. The farmers now in Algoma came without money. I came here twelve years ago. I don't think I had \$12 when I landed at Sault Ste. Marie dock."

"I think Algoma is the healthiest climate in the world. The winters I consider very healthy for man and stock. The air is exhilarating and dry in winter. In summer it is never very hot, the nights are always cool and very heavy dews as a general thing. Industrious men have always succeeded here, and I can tell you dozens of them. As to fruit I have a good orchard, bearing for some years."

"I have been up here two years, and during that time have seen and raised as fine crops of peas and oats as ever I saw grown in Huron, and for roots of all descriptions it cannot be surpassed in any country."

"It is a good country for farmers."

"Good for roots, apples, grain, hay, stock, and one of the best markets in Ontario."

"I am getting along well for a man of small means. I don't know where I could go to get along better if I was going to farm."

"My expenses left me in debt when I came here with my wife and five children. Now I am well off. Thank God for it. I have a horse and buggy for my own use. Came from Warwickshire, England."

"After having travelled over all the Western States in search of a home, I came here with small means. I am now doing well with a good stock of cattle, sheep and horses of my own, and thank God all paid for. I prefer this place to any other."

"I got a free grant lot thirteen years ago, and then had only one horse, one cow and no money. Now I have three horses, five cows, and a good stock of young cattle, six sheep, three pigs, thirty hens, a mowing machine, waggon, harrow, plow, good house, a barn bank 36x60, thirty acres cleared and don't owe any man a dollar."

"I came to St. Joseph six years ago, \$300 in debt. By this spring I have cleared myself of debt and have in addition got stock and cattle around me of my own, and good land of my own. Am doing well, and am satisfied and contented."

"I would not want to live in a prairie country. In a prairie country you have to buy any timber you need. Here when one goes on a farm, you find valuable timber of all kinds. The timber is a great protection against the wind also. We have no blizzards in winter or hurricanes in summer, and we have excellent spring water for man and beast. I like the climate winter and summer and would not want to live anywhere else."

"Industrious men have always succeeded here, even if they had no capital, and I can tell you dozens of them in Algoma. As to fruit, I have a good orchard of apples (some are seedlings grafted by me and some are from nurseries), plums and cherries; they are all thrifty trees. My trees have been bearing for some years."

"I never saw better samples of roots anywhere than I see every fall at the District Fall Show at Sault Ste. Marie."

"A man coming here without money, if he works hard and has a knowledge of the business, can perhaps get on better in Algoma than in other countries where there is no work or employment in the winter months, as there is in Algoma in the woods and mines and on the public works; but the kind of farmers to come here, and the men who would make themselves independently well off in a very short time are tenant farmers and others with a little means or capital and a good practical knowledge of farming or stock-raising; men who understand it as a business and who have a little money to buy good stock and implements and get well started."

"I am satisfied with this place for farming and stock-raising. I grow as good fall wheat and crops of all kinds as in the County of York."

"No place a good man can do better in that I know of."

"Peas fifty-two, oats forty, wheat thirty, buckwheat twenty-five bushels per acre were grown on my place."

"Sixty bushels of oats, twenty wheat, fifty peas to the acre. I grow good apples and fruit. Am doing well."

Toronto Daily News: "Enormous advantages are offered in this new country. The climate is unsurpassed; the country is well watered; there is abundance of timber; the soil is particularly well adapted for the production of roots and hay; fruits of the hardier varieties yield abundantly; and there is, owing to the large lumbering and mining industries, always an unlimited demand for labor, and a home market at high prices for everything a farmer can produce."

Algoma Advocate correspondence: "Timothy and clover now (29th May), measuring from eight to ten inches in height. We can grow root crops and vegetables unequalled in any other part of Ontario, and wheat, peas and oats grow in abundance."

Sault Ste. Marie Express: "There is not a hundred acres that is not watered by living streams, nor is there a settler's farm that is not benefitted to the extent of at least \$100 per year by having the broken land lying near for pasturage."

Mr. Wm. Allard in *Farm and Fireside*: "For the last seven years I have drawn my wood as I cleared my land to the Sault, and I get \$3 per cord for green four foot wood. If I held it over to summer and could get it in I could get \$4 to \$5 per cord for it. In addition to the settler being able to sell his lumber and cordwood as he clears the land, it is expected that the water power canal at the Canadian Sault will be in operation this year, and then the settlers expect to find a ready sale for their birch and maple in the log for manufacturing purposes. I only started seven years ago. There was not an acre cleared on my farm then. I had so little money when I started that I might be said to have

none at all. But I worked hard and knew how to use an axe and to log up and clear land, and perhaps best of all I have a good wife, something every pioneer settler should have if he wants to succeed in Algoma. I now have fifty-five acres cleared and under cultivation, and half of it free from stumps and on which I can use machinery. My average crop has been per acre: Oats thirty-five to forty-five bushels; spring wheat about twenty bushels; fall wheat twenty-five bushels; peas, always free from worms, thirty to thirty-five bushels; barley about forty bushels; potatoes 150 to 200 bushels, and Swede turnips 400 to 500 bushels. And then grass and clover grows, as a rule, on the bluff, so the bluff on a man's land makes the best cattle and sheep 'runs' one could get. And for sheep raising I would not want any better 'run' than the high rocky bluffs covered with short grasses and clover. The clover is natural to the soil in Algoma, and seems to grow everywhere. If a man wants a 'soft' time he had better not come to Algoma; but if he is hard working and saving and can use an axe, and has any knowledge of farming, or really desires to learn it, and if he can bring with him just enough money to make a start in such a country as I have described, he will find many advantages in New Ontario, rough-looking though it may be. And he can rely on getting plenty of sweet, pure water for man and beast from springs and creeks all over the country, and the timber and rocky bluffs he will find will protect him from blizzards and the storms he would meet with on the lonely prairies."

Dominion Indian Lands.

From a late report of the Department of Indian affairs, (Ottawa), it is learned that on the 30th June, 1898, the Dominion Government held the following surrendered surveyed lands in the part of Ontario to which this pamphlet relates.

	Acres.
Goulais Bay and Batchawaning Bay, townships of Aweres, Archibald, Dennis, Fisher, Herrick, Haviland, Kars, Pennefather, Tilley, Tupper, Penwick, Vankoughnet	106,340
Missisauga Reserve	1,173
Thessalon	3,069
Laird	8,300
Macdonald	1,996
Meredith	7,238
Manitoulin District	221,399

The terms of sale of the above lands are 50 cents to \$1.00 per acre, two-fifths cash and balance in three annual instalments with six per cent. interest. Further particulars can be had from W. Van Abbot, Indian Agent, Sault Ste. Marie; B. W. Ross, Indian Agent, Manitowaning; Wm. H. Price, Gore Bay; S. Hagan, Thessalon.

Character of Algoma and Nipissing Townships.

Here follow particulars as to the soil and characteristics of the different townships mentioned in the foregoing lists, such particulars being taken mainly from the reports of the surveyors who laid out the said townships. The arrangement of the townships is alphabetical.

Baldwin.

A township on the Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific. The land in this township is for sale at \$2 an acre and settlement duties under the Railway Aid Act. The Spanish river runs easterly across the northern part. The surface is broken, but there are many patches of good land. The best parts are in the north and northwest. The southern part has been pretty generally burned over, and is grown up with poplar, birch, etc. The lots are 320 acres.

Balfour.

This township is on the C.P.R. main line, Chelmsford station being on the east border, and the Larchwood station outside its west limits. About one-half of it is good land, namely, that portion lying south of the railway, which is generally clay or sandy loam, with a few narrow ledges of rock. This part is covered with a dense second growth of poplar, birch, balsam and tamarac. North of the third concession, and for two miles west of the eastern boundary, the country is a mass of bare rocks. To the west of this, the country is well timbered with balsam, spruce, tamarac, cedar, birch and poplar, with occasionally pine. The Vermillion river is the only stream of any importance. The rock is principally gneiss. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Bonfield.

About 70 per cent. of this township is good agricultural land, the best being between concession lines three and four and the Kaibuskong river, the soil being clay loam. The greater portion of this tract is already taken up. Some very fine tracts of land lie north of Lake Nasbonsing and Kaibuskong river. Lots one to eight in concessions eight to twelve, form a good tract of land, the soil being clay and sandy loam. The northern point lying between Pine lake and the Mattawa river is also a fine tract of land, the soil being principally clay loam. About five thousand acres in the southeast part have been burned; over this a dense growth of poplar, cherry, etc., is growing up. To the north of this, and south of concession lines six and seven, the timber is birch, maple, hemlock and pine. The balance of the township, about two-thirds, has been several times overrun by fire, leaving only a few patches of green woods; the burned portion being covered with poplar, cherry, white birch, etc. The township is well watered by numerous springs and small streams, the Kaibuskong river, and the Mattawan river, forming the north boundary, being the principal streams. The principal lakes are Nasbonsing, Talon, Pine and Turtle lakes. The general face of the country is undulating. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The main line of the C.P.R. crosses the township, and the Rutherglen and Callander stations are within its limits.

Bright and Bright Additional.

The greater portion of the township is covered with cedar, pine, tamarac, spruce and balsam, mixed with birch, poplar and hemlock. The pine is very much scattered. In the northeast portion of Bright there is a district which has been burnt over some ten or twelve years ago. In Bright Additional there are several hardwood ridges, very heavily timbered with maple, birch and hemlock; in the valleys and flats considerable ash and elm. Nearly all of Bright is of clay loam, but rather wet and cold, with the exception of a portion of the burnt district which is more rolling, and consequently drier and more porous. In Bright Additional the soil is not so good, in many places nothing but blowing sand, and in the swamps quicksand bottom. Water is of good quality and abundant. In the lakes the water is clear and good, but soft.

Nearly all the rock in this township is argillaceous. In the northeast portion of Bright there are several ridges of this rock protruding in many places over fifty feet in height, but narrow. The soil between these ridges is of excellent quality. Red granite crops out here and there along the shore of Lake Huron. The greater portion of the township is level and fit for cultivation. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties. The Dayton station of the Sault branch of the C.P.R. is in this township.

Caldwell.

Caldwell is on the northwest shore of Lake Nipissing. Veuve river crosses it in a southeasterly direction, and the Canadian Pacific runs along the valley of the river, the Verner station being within the limits of the township. The soil of this valley is a heavy white clay, in some places coated with sandy loam, and well adapted for agriculture. The south part of the township is rough, rocky and swampy. The northern portion consists of a high range of Laurentian rocks. Lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Calvin.

Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires. With the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains. In its place has sprung up a dense second growth of birch, poplar, cherry, etc. The southern portion of the township and some of the northeast corner are good—the surface is either level or undulating in long and gradual slopes. The soil consists of clay, clay loam, and sandy loam. There is no doubt the fire has consumed much of the richness of the soil, but care and culture will restore it, while the ease with which the land can be cleared must be taken as an important offset. The country is admirably adapted for cattle raising, there being excellent pasturage through the wood, while the beaver meadows are both large and numerous.

The northern portion of this township, especially in the neighborhood of the lakes and Mattawan river, is utterly unfit for settlement, being mountainous, rugged, and sterile to a degree; the hillsides are covered with sharp broken boulders, while the more level portions are bald rock. The geological formation is chiefly gneiss and sandstone.

The country is abundantly supplied with springs and small spring creeks. The principal streams are the Pantois creek and Amable du Fond; the former flows into the latter. The Amable is much the larger, and within some miles of its mouth is alternate lake and river. On it are many costly dams and slides. Both these streams are the watery highways by which a large quantity of timber is floated to the Mattawan, thence to the Ottawa. It is estimated that 60 per cent. of Calvin is fitted for agricultural, and much more for grazing purposes. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The main line of the C.P.R. traverses the township, and the Eau Claire station is within its limits.

Coffin and Coffin Additional (now Aberdeen).

Coffin is much broken by rocks and mountains, rising frequently to 500 feet high. Along the Thessalon river flats of ten to twenty chains wide exist of good land. The timber is principally maple, with some birches, cedars, etc. No pine fit for lumbering. In Coffin additional the country is not so rocky and considerable good land can be found.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Day.

The township has more than a third of its surface covered with lakes, which all afford abundance of good fish. All that portion south of Lake Waquakobing is well adapted for settlement, excepting a narrow strip bordering that lake. No better agricultural land exists than a large portion of this described belt. North of that lake is much broken with rocks. Some five or six lots only, in the northeastern portion, near the Mississauga river, are of fair quality. The timber is generally composed principally of maple. Some considerable swamps are met within the southern part of the township.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Dowling.

A township on the Canadian Pacific main line west of Sudbury Junction, and having the Onaping and Larchwood stations within its limits. Windy lake is the only considerable body of water in it. The township is traversed from northeast to southwest by a broken chain of hills, leaving two valleys of fair agricultural land. The soil is general clay and sandy loam, and the prevailing rock formation is clay slate. The timber is mostly white birch, balsam, spruce, tamarac, maple, ash and ironwood. The Vermilion and Onaping rivers are the chief streams. On the latter there are good powers. On the banks of both rivers there are extensive tracts of arable land, the soil being a rich alluvial deposit.

The lots are 320 acres. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Ferris.

This township is situated on the east shore of Lake Nipissing. The Wistawasing river drains its southwestern part, and the La Vase the north, both flowing into Lake Nipissing. Lake Nasbonsing occupies the

southeast part—a fine sheet of water well stocked with fish and flowing into the Mattawan. The Canadian Pacific crosses it from southeast to northwest, Nasbonsing station being on the north of the lake. The Thorncliffe station, the junction of the Northern and Northwestern extension of the Grand Trunk system, is also in this township. To the north of and around Nasbonsing lake, the land is good clay loam. Some very fine clay flats exist in the southern part of the township. Toward Trout lake a rocky area comes in. The portion between Trout lake and Nipissing is an alternation of rocky ridges and tamarac swamps, with occasional patches of good land with mixed timber.

The lots are 100 acres. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Galbraith and Haughton.

These townships are situated about twelve miles back from Thessalon, on the north shore of Lake Huron. The surveyors' reports state that these townships present the appearance of low detached foothills to ranges of mountains, in some places gradually falling off into valleys covered with mixed timbers and a good deep soil, in other places abruptly falling off into valleys of hardwood timber with some very good deep, black soil, but most covered with boulders, again in other places rising perpendicularly into rocky ridges. In Haughton, one prairie table land of several thousand acres of red, sandy loam covered with balsam, spruce, etc., presents the appearance of having at one time been covered by a lake.

The township is surveyed into lots of 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Gladstone.

Situated immediately north of Bright on the north shore of Lake Huron. The prevailing timber is pine (which has been cut over), maple (chiefly bird's eye), black birch (very large, frequently forty inches across the butt), balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarac, alder and willow; swales frequent. Soil red, sandy loam, underlaid by heavy blue clay Formation, Huronian and Laurentian.

The township is abundantly watered, the Mississauga river traversing it from southeast to northwest. It is a fine river, varying in width from three to ten chains. The banks are high, in places immense cliffs, at others an exposure of the soil takes place. Here and there along the south and west banks, good flats of arable land are to be found. The river in places is very deep, at others quite shallow, with numerous sandy shoals. It is very rapid over all the shallow points. Quite a number of falls are within the limits of this township. The principal lakes are Pakawamengan or Mud lake, Wahquekobing or Basswood lake, and Clear lake, all well stocked with fish. A great many small springs are found. Very rich mineral deposits have been found in this township. About fifty per cent. of the township is fit for settlement.

The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Hallam.

The Spanish river traverses this township from east to west, and is navigable to the first falls in the township of Merritt. The Webbwood station of the Canadian Pacific, Sault branch, is in the township. There are no large lakes, and the only other considerable streams are the La Cloche and Birch creek. South of the Spanish river the land is covered with a thick second growth, following an extensive burn. South of the river there is a considerable quantity of pine, birch, maple, balsam, cedar, etc. The soil in the valleys is sandy, or sandy loam or clay. On the north side there is a fair percentage of arable land with a clay subsoil. About twenty per cent. of the total area is fit for agriculture.

The formation is Huronian. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Hardy.

Situated on the southwestern shore of Lake Nipissing. From fifty to seventy-five per cent. of this township consists of good rich clay. Rocky ridges abound, but the land between them is of extraordinary richness. The timber is large and healthy black birch, maple, spruce, hemlock, balsam and cedar, with a considerable quantity of large pine intermingled. Along the eastern boundary from concession three to concession ten, and extending westward to about lot ten, there is a tract of land which is generally hilly and rough, but through here the pine is tolerably plenty and generally of a good quality. Memesogamasing lake is a beautiful sheet of water, and the largest lake in the township. Pike, pickerel, bass and grey trout are very plentiful. The formation is gneiss and a kind of clay slate.

The township is laid out in 100 acre lots. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Himsworth.

This township is situated on the southeast shore of Lake Nipissing, and is drained partly by branches of the South river, on which many good mill sites are to be had. There are no large lakes in it. The northern portion has been burnt over, the remainder is timbered with maple, birch, beech, oak, ironwood, basswood, hemlock, cherry, and in the river valleys cedar, balsam and spruce. Along the rivers, good clay soil exists. On the uplands it is mostly sandy loam. In this township large tracts of good land are to be found. The only swamp of any extent is one in the third and fourth concessions, timbered with spruce and balsams.

One-half of the land in Himsworth is regarded as fit for settlement. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Johnson, Tarbutt and Tarbutt Additional.

Many excellent agricultural lots are to be found in these townships, but there are no extensive sections of unbroken good land. In the northern part of Johnson, where the surface is very broken and hilly, the soil is rich as is evidenced by the remarkable growth of the crops

raised by the settlers. North of Bear lake in Tarbutt Additional and in the southern part of Tarbutt, the land is more level, and a considerable area is found without rock or hills, besides there are here a number of excellent lots which would be very easily cleared and prepared for cultivation, as the most of the timber has been destroyed years ago, and grass has now taken its place. This is more particularly the case along the west side of these two townships. The lots in these townships are 320 acres. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties. The Sault branch of the C.P.R. crosses the township. Desbarats Station is centrally situated for the two townships. A daily mail goes from here to St. Joseph Island.

Korah.

Korah is on the north shore of the St. Mary river, immediately west of Sault Ste. Marie. Such an enormous volume of traffic now passes this point by water and by rail that an excellent local market for all kinds of produce can be confidently looked for.

Korah contains (with the little township of Awenge) 25,000 acres. The quality of the land is generally good. For a mile back from the river it is marshy, then gradually rising becomes dry, and is principally a good strong clay loam for two miles back. The surface then becomes rolling, the soil a fairly sandy loam, and the timber chiefly maple for three miles further. From thence to the northerly limit of the township the land is more or less broken with rocky ridges. The timber is principally hardwood. The lots are 320 acres. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the river at Sault Ste. Marie, close by. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Kirkwood.

Is situated immediately north of Thessalon. About sixty-five per cent of this township is fit for settlement. Soil, good sandy loam. It contains very fair hardwood timber, consisting of maple, birch, pine and hemlock. The formation is Huronian. The largest lake is Waquekobing on the east boundary. A branch of the Thessalon river flows through the centre of the township. Lots are 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Laurier.

This township is hilly, many of the elevations being from two to three hundred feet, timbered principally with hardwood. Several thousand acres in the southeast were burnt over about twenty years ago. Spruce and cedar swamps of considerable extent exist along the west boundary and in the northwestern quarter. The South river is the principal stream. The soil is sandy loam; the rock gneiss. The timber is principally mixed hardwood, spruce, balsam and pine.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The township is situated on the Northern and Northwestern extension of the Grand Trunk Railway.

Lefroy.

Lefroy is on the north shore of Lake Huron immediately east of Bruce Mines. The Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific crosses it along the front. The land along the front is rocky and broken, but about a mile or two back there is first-class soil capable of producing any kind of crop. Toward the eastern limit the land is broken and hilly and the soil light. The northeastern portion is generally good rolling land, broken occasionally by a ridge of rock. The timber is mixed. In this portion also are rich alluvial flats on the banks of the Thessalon river. Towards the northwestern portion the land becomes level. There are several good powers on the river. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Lorne.

The south half of this township is open for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 an acre and settlement duties. It is on the line of the proposed Manitoulin and Little Current Railway. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the northwest corner, and the station of Nelson is located therein. The surface of the township is much broken with hills and lakes. The Spanish River and the Vermilion river traverse it. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

McKim.

This township has been almost wholly burnt over. The greater part of it is rough and rugged, being cut up by high hills with swamps intervening. There are, however, some good flats along the line of the C. P. Railway, and a few patches of good sandy loam are scattered elsewhere. Most of the good land in the township is in the vicinity of the important town of Sudbury, which is the point of junction of the Canadian Pacific main line and the branch to Sault Ste. Marie. This township is very rich in minerals. Extensive mines of copper, nickel, etc., are already being worked. The good local market thus provided will render the arable lands in this neighborhood very valuable.

The lots are of 320 acres each. For sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Mattawan.

Mattawan—meaning “The Forks”—is situated at the junction of the Mattawa and Ottawa rivers. It is bounded northerly by the Ottawa and on the south by the Mattawa. It contains an area of 49,593 acres. The Canadian Pacific station, Mattawa, is at the village of that name on the south side of the river. The trade of the place being good and capable of very great increase, there is naturally a good local market for all produce, and this renders the adjacent land, though of poor quality, of greater value than it would otherwise be. The township consists of the usual rocky ridges of the Laurentian formation, alternating with valleys in which the land is capable of cultivation and sometimes rich. The

timber is mixed hardwood and pine, the best of the latter having been cut long ago. The lots are of 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

May.

The Spanish river flows through the township southwesterly, LaCloche westerly, and Sable river from the northwest to the Spanish river. There are a few small lakes on the north side of the Spanish river. A large proportion of the area of this township has been burnt over. The surface is broken with hills which rise occasionally to 200 feet. In the valleys, the soil is frequently good sandy loam and sometimes clay. In the southwest part there is a block of about 1,000 acres of good land entirely devoid of timber, which has been swept away by frequent fires. About 30 per cent. of the township is fit for cultivation. The lots are 320 acres each.

The Canadian Pacific Sault branch crosses the township near the line of the Spanish river, and the Massey station is on the line between May and Salter. Land in May is for sale at 50 cents an acre and settlement duties.

Merritt.

This township is open for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 per acre and settlement duties, it being on the line of the Manitoulin and North Shore Railway. The Canadian Pacific Sault branch goes through the centre of it.

This is a poor township, the land fit for agricultural purposes being only in two or three places in sufficient quantity to make it worth cultivation. The soil in the northerly part is a coarse red sand, and most of it has been burnt over. What good soil there is, is to be found in the south part of the township, but this is intersected with many rocky ridges and numerous lakes. The timber is principally birch, tamarac, spruce and an occasional pine. The rocks are trap and granite.

The Canadian Pacific Sault branch runs through the northwest corner of the township.

Nairn.

The southern half of this township is for sale under the Railway Aid Act at \$2 per acre and settlement duties. The Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific intersects the township and has a station in it, and will also be served by the projected Manitoulin and North Shore line. The Spanish and Vermilion rivers cross it from northeast and the latter expands into a considerable lake called Wabigizig. The part traversed by the C.P.R. is an extensive tract of level sandy land, lightly timbered with spruce and pine. The remainder of the township is broken and rocky. Railway station, Nairn.

Nipissing.

The southeastern portion in the vicinity of the South river is level, interspersed with a few swamps and ridges of sandy loam. The southwestern portion is broken by rocks. The central and westerly parts are

high table-land timbered chiefly with fine hardwood. In the northwest corner, in cons. 11 and 12, the land is poor and broken. Some years since a heavy fire swept over the entire country on the north side of the South river. There is a belt of choice land along the valley of Beatty's creek. There are beaver meadows of considerable extent, which yield a heavy growth of excellent wild hay, most of it fine *blue joint* grass.

The soil is chiefly a sandy loam on the elevated portions. Where not rocky, it is frequently a dark rich loam of the finest quality. In the more level portions—bottom land—it is mostly a clay loam of a whitish texture. On the north side of South river, after leaving its banks, the soil is principally sandy or sandy gravel. This township on the whole is well timbered. In the central and westerly portions there are large tracts of fine hardwood, consisting of very fine maple, birch, beech and ironwood, some basswood, with a mixture of hemlock, where the land becomes broken. Birch is the prevailing timber, and abounds in every section of the township, on high as well as low land. It is generally large, and frequently found from three to four feet in diameter. The township is well watered. The South river traverses a considerable portion of it, and is from one to four chains in width. It is navigable from its mouth on Lake Nipissing to the first chute on lot 13, 11th con. There are several fine waterpowers on the South river, also on the North creek. The rocks are principally gneiss. About 70 per cent. of the township is adapted for agriculture.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Papineau.

This township is well watered; on the north boundary by the Mattawan river. A range of rocky hills borders the river. Elsewhere the township presents no well-defined ridges except those forming the watershed of Boom creek and Little Pantor's creek. The only lake of any size is Sturgeon lake. Nearly all the township has been burnt over, and a thick growth of poplar and birch has come in. The soil generally is sandy loam, with tracks of whitish clay loam which is very productive.

The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. The Mattawa station of the Canadian Pacific is in the northeast corner of this township.

Parke.

Parke is a small township south of Prince, and abutting on Lake Superior and St. Mary's river. It contains 6,664 acres. The surveyor reports it to be nearly all swamp, cedar and tamarac, with sand ridges running through it. The south portion of the township is nearly all marsh. The beach is sandy and the water is shallow except at Pointe aux Pins, where the channel runs close to shore. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Parkinson.

The general character of this township is rocky and mountainous, broken up into an almost endless variety of bluffs. Near the south

boundary there are a few lots of good land. There is a good deal of hardwood, principally maple. The only stream of consequence is the Little White river. On the left bank there are a few miles of open prairie, but the soil is a very light sand.

About ten per cent. of this township is fit for settlement. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Patterson.

The township is on the south shore of Lake Nipissing. It is intersected northwesterly by a chain of lakes, communicating with French river. The land in the south half of the township is above average, a large portion of it being very good, presenting a deep fertile clay soil, occasionally mixed with loam; it rests generally on a subsoil of clay and coarse gravel. There is a considerable proportion of swamp land containing deep alluvial soil, which, in time, will, by clearing, draining, etc., become highly productive.

The prevailing upland timber is a mixed growth of maple, birch and hemlock, with a fair scattering of pine in places. The north half of the township, as a whole, is not so well adapted for farming, although it contains several blocks of good land. A rather extensive area of this part has been burnt over. Scattered over this half are isolated tracts of low lands, or "balsam flats," yielding a fat loamy soil, which, from the character of the timber, can be readily and easily cleared and cultivated. The lakes in the township are very beautiful and useful. Restoul lake, especially, is exceedingly fine. The water is clear and deep, and is abundantly stocked with maskinonge, bass, pickerel and white fish.

The rock formation is Laurentian. The lots are 100 acres each. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Patton.

This is a township immediately north of Thompson, which is on the north shore of Lake Huron. The soil and timber in this township are varied. In the north are several lakes. The township is traversed by the Blind river, which is navigable for canoes from Lake Huron to Canoe lake. The river presents a splendid spectacle before it enters Cataract lake, falling in a mass of snow-white foam from a height of nearly fifty feet in an inclined plane of about 200 feet in length, forming, with the grim rocks and dark forest, such a picture as would delight an artist. All the lakes on the course of this river teem with fish. In the neighborhood of Marsh river and Denman lake there is some good land. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Plummer and Plummer Additional.

The country north of Ottetail lake and east of Rock lake is rocky as a general thing. The prevailing lumber is maple, birch and hemlock. There is good hardwood on the west and southwest sides of Rock lake. The land on both sides of the Thessalon river is good; the timber is principally softwood, cedar, ash, etc. About two-thirds of the land lying

between the south boundary of Plummer and Lake Huron is fit for settlement. The lands along both sides of the Great Northern road, from the foot of Ottetail lake to Garden river, are good. The Bruce Mines station of the Sault branch of the C. P. R. is in Plummer Additional. The lots are 320 acres each. open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Prince.

Prince is situated on Lake Superior, at the entrance to St. Mary river. Most of the land in this township is good. The Gros Cap range of granite runs through it from east to west. South thereof, the land is swampy and broken. North, there is good loamy soil and heavy hardwood timber, birch and maple, intersected by cedar and black ash swamps. It is well watered and with small creeks and springs. These lots are 320 acres. Open for location under the Free Grants Act.

Rayside.

Rayside is on the main line of the Canadian Pacific, a little west of Sudbury Junction. The Rayside station is in its limits; Chelmsford station is just outside its western limits. The township is generally level, with only a few rocky ridges here and there, mostly in the southeast and northwest corners. The south half of the township is rather low, and in some places needs surface drainage. The soil in the 1st concession, which borders on White Water lake, is very rich, and the part of the township traversed by the Canadian Pacific is quite fit for cultivation. The sixth and part of the fifth concessions are rocky. A branch of the Spanish river runs through the township. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Rose.

A township about six miles northeast of Bruce Mines, on the north shore of Lake Huron. The southwestern portion is generally good rolling land, timber mixed, and hardwood generally of large growth. The soil is principally clay bottom and sandy loam. The southeastern portion is generally level with mixed timber; the soil light and sandy. In the centre portion are several tracts of low and level land; timber, tamarac and spruce; soil, light and sandy, marshy in some places. On both eastern and western limits the land is broken, and rocky ridges are frequent. The two northern ranges are rough and broken, with bare rock on the hills, and good but shallow soils in the valleys. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

St. Joseph's Island.

St. Joseph's Island is situated to the northwest of Lake Huron, at the entrance to St. Mary's River, the connecting link with Lake Superior, about thirty miles by water from Sault Ste. Marie. It is about twenty miles by twelve to fourteen, and contains 86,000 acres. Fully two-thirds of the island is fit for settlement, the remainder being swamps. The soil is mostly red sandy loam or clay and sand mixed with mould. The

Pie River

surface is stony in many parts, but this does not prevent the soil from being very productive. Nearly all crops of the temperate zone succeed well here. The interior of the island is a large hill rising abruptly on the west, north and east sides to a height of 400 or 500 feet. The top of the hill is a slightly undulating tableland of 5,000 acres of excellent land, timbered with fine hardwood. The island is well watered with creeks and small springs. Along the shores there are a number of small swamps, and in the interior there are large swampy tracts, some of which, however, can be easily drained, and will then be fine land. The island is densely wooded, principally with maple. A great deal of the maple is of the bird's-eye or curly variety. There are also beech, hemlock, cedar, spruce, basswood and elm; in the swamps, alder and tamarac. The snow is usually off early in April, and the lake freezes over about the middle of December. The climate is not very severe, the lowest range of the thermometer being 25° in February, the average for the coldest month being from 10° above to 10° below. The fisheries on and around the island are excellent. The rock is principally limestone of the Hudson River formation. It has been used for a number of years past as building stone and for burning. There is also a white sandstone in some places, and here and there a mass of granite. The lots are 100 acres. Being in the main steamship channel, the means of access are excellent. Open for location under the Free Grants Act. Crown lands agent: George Hamilton, Richard's Landing.

Mr. Duncan Anderson says: This island is situated at the entrance to Ste. Mary's river. It is about 20 by 14 miles, and contains about 90,000 acres. It is all located but 4,000 acres. The soil is very changeable, varying from a stiff red clay to a light loam; but most of the soil is a clay or sandy loam. In many parts the surface is covered with rolling stone, while other sections are entirely free. The rock is principally limestone. The island is well watered with springs and running creeks. The crops grown are the same as in the older sections of Ontario. The timber is hemlock, basswood, beech, maple, ironwood, spruce, cedar and elm. Here partly cleared farms can be bought from \$150 to \$1,000, according to soil and improvements. Persons with small capital could, for a few hundred dollars, purchase a partly cleared farm. Men who have had little experience in selecting a farm in the bush may make a mistake, but on a partly cleared farm, even if it is stumpy and rough, they have much better opportunities of judging the soil and surroundings than where it is an unbroken forest. But they should be very careful to see that the title is good and that the location is in all respects a suitable one. All along the main line, from Garden river to Massey, the pea crop looked well—the best I had seen anywhere this season. Here they have no trouble with the pea bug. Peas and pork are the two most profitable lines of production I know of, and make a combination that takes very little fertility from the soil, while hogs give a better return for the food consumed than any other animal we raise on the farm. St. Joseph Island receives a daily mail from Desbarats, the nearest C.P.R. R'y station.

Salter.

This township is similar in character to Victoria, which adjoins it on the west. ⁴For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Shedden.

This township has been nearly all burnt over, but there are a few belts where the original bush stands. These are mostly in the easterly portion, and northeasterly parts; in the low parts the soil is a whitish clay, or clay loam, and on the higher levels dark or sandy loam. The Serpent river traverses this township. The Canadian Pacific, Sault branch, runs along the front, and the Spanish river station is in the township. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Springer.

Springer is situated on the north shore of Lake Nipissing. McLeod's bay, an arm of the lake, runs back into the heart of the township. At the head of the bay the Canadian Pacific main line strikes the water, and the Cache Bay station is located there. The township is traversed by the Sturgeon river, and the Sturgeon Falls station is at the crossing thereof by the railway. The part southeast of the river is generally sandy loam, nearly all of it fit for cultivation, and timbered with small cedar, hemlock, birch and pine. That part west of the Sturgeon river is heavy clay loam, and timbered with maple, black and white birch, pine, cedar, balsam and hemlock. About eighty per cent. of this section is fit for cultivation. The north part of the township, being concessions four, five and six, is more broken and rocky, and about forty per cent. of it is fit for cultivation. The river is navigable for about four miles back, and that and the bay make the township very easy of access throughout. The lots are 320 acres. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Thompson.

A township on the north shore of Lake Huron, traversed a couple of miles back from the shore by the Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific, the Dean Lake station of which is in the township. The Mississagua river crosses the township from the northwest, navigable throughout the township for four-foot vessels in the summer. The river teems with fish; sturgeon of large size abound. Much of the land along the river is good, timbered with maple, black birch, ironwood, red oak and hemlock. The swamps are generally tamarac. The lots along the lake have poor light soil, and between this and the river the land is not first-class. Along the Blind river in the north of the township there is good land, also at the Lake of the Mountain. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Victoria.

The surface of this township is broken by rocky ridges, and ten lakes are embraced within its area. It contains much good arable land, but it was burnt over about twenty years ago. The area of arable land is estimated at one quarter of the whole. The township is crossed by the Sault branch of the C.P.R., and the Walford station is in its limits. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Wells.

The Mississagua river flows through the township, averaging from 200 to 250 feet in width, and generally shallow. There are large tracts of hardwood, and along the river are some excellent flats of good land. The southeast corner is light and gravelly. In the southwest corner there is a rocky, barren tract of 200 acres. North of this rocky belt there is a hardwood tract of some 12,000 acres of excellent sandy loam, but stony. Towards the north the timber is mixed. A most remarkable feature in this section of the township is a large open plain or prairie, embracing about 2,000 acres. On this plain there are occasional clumps of spruce, pitch pine and poplar, but in places it is like an open field. The soil on this plain is generally gravelly, but in some places it is a very good yellow loam. To the north of this plain the mountain ranges occur through which the Mississagua cleaves its course, and these ranges form a very marked feature in the northern portion of the township. There are some very high hills in this township. The rocks are of Huronian slate and quartzite and Laurentian gneiss. The lots are 320 acres each. For sale at fifty cents an acre and settlement duties.

Widdifield.

Land in this township is for sale at \$2 per acre and settlement duties under the Railway Aid Act. The greater part of this township is hardwood land, having a fair loamy soil. The northwesterly part is very level, with numerous swamps, and the easterly portion is hilly. The soil generally is a rich loam, but is in many places sandy and stony. The northeasterly part is high and rocky. The timber is maple, black birch, ironwood, basswood, balsam, hemlock, beech, cedar and tamarac, with a fair scattering of pine. The township is well watered. Trout lake, forming the southern boundary, is a fine sheet of clear water, famous for fish, and with many islands. The north shore of the lake is hilly. North Bay, an important station of the C. P. R., and the junction with the Northern and Northwestern Division of the Grand Trunk, is situated in this township on the shore of Lake Nipissing. The rock is granite. The lots are 320 acres. About two-thirds of the entire township are fit for settlement.

On Lake Nipissing.

In the immediate vicinity of North Bay, on Lake Nipissing, particularly in the township of Widdifield, there is a considerable area of arable land, much of which, convenient to the railway, is being taken up by squatters. A little farther west several townships along the railway are comprised in the agency of Mr. J. D. Cockburn, of Sturgeon Falls, the lands in which are open for sale to actual settlers at fifty cents an acre. The land in this neighborhood is good, and a fine farming district surrounds the village of Sturgeon Falls. All kinds of grain grow and do well, and I was informed by Father Ferron, parish priest, that both Indian corn and tobacco come to perfection. Father Ferron's garden is as fine and well-ordered a garden as one will find anywhere, and in it may be seen all manner of flowers and vegetables. Potatoes do excellently

well, and I was told that at the agricultural exhibitions held at Sturgeon Falls the display of farm products of nearly every kind is very fine. Wheat is little grown, not because it will not ripen, but because there is no mill in the district to grind it, and because of the low prices that have prevailed until recently.

Around the Sudbury Mines.

The lumber industry is here reinforced by mining to create a market for farm products and everything grown by the settlers finds quick sale at good prices. Hay grows naturally, that is to say, wherever the seed is thrown by chance on the ground, as along the "cadge" roads, over which supplies for the lumber camps are teamed, it takes root, thrives and extends itself. The townships of Rayside and Balfour are almost completely settled, mostly by French-Canadians, and there are some farms in an excellent state of cultivation. A considerable percentage of the land in Balfour is taken up, and in Waters the lands are also being quickly settled upon, English-speaking farmers being probably in the majority.

Thessalon and Bruce Mines

The settlements in the neighborhood of Thessalon and Bruce Mines are of longer standing than any in the districts already mentioned, and in consequence the country presents a more civilized and agreeable appearance. The soil in general is good and fertile, and a failure of crops is almost unknown. Hay, oats, peas and potatoes are here, as elsewhere, the principal crops. Well-cleared farms and comfortable houses are to be seen on every side. Towards the front the best lands have been taken up, but there is yet an almost unlimited area of equally good land lying untouched further back from the railway. There is also a good local market for agricultural produce at higher prices than can be had in older Ontario, and in the winter time ready money can be earned in the lumber shanties if the work on the farm is not pressing. The settlement here presents nearly every feature of that in Huron or Bruce twenty-five or thirty years ago, the English-speaking people largely preponderating.

The Sault Ste. Marie Section.

From report of Mr. Duncan Anderson to the Minister of Agriculture, August 10, 1898:

Around Sault Ste. Marie, at Goulais Bay, in the townships on the Sault Ste. Marie branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and on St. Joseph Island, the best of the land has been taken up, but at nearly all of these points, there are yet some lots fit for settlement, with from 30 to 60 per cent. of fairly good arable land. At Goulais Bay and in the township of Vankoughnet, part of the lands belong to the Dominion Government, but two-thirds of the township of Vankoughnet is Ontario Government land. This township is open for settlement; it is about twenty-six miles from Sault Ste. Marie and is reached by a wagon road. The land around Goulais Bay varies from a clay to a sandy yellow loam.

You will sometimes find several kinds of soil on the same lot. The country is somewhat broken and the land is generally in the valleys hemmed in by rocky ridges. The best soil is a sandy loam, which, when intelligently cultivated, gives very profitable results. Two-thirds of the timber on the uplands is hard sugar maple, iron wood, and black and yellow birch. The low lands have, in addition to maple and birch, balsam, spruce and a few tamarac. The maple land is not as difficult to clear, as the timber is more easily burned. The cost of clearing would be from \$12 to \$15 an acre.

Fine natural springs and splendid clear running streams abound and good well water can be obtained everywhere near the surface. Only the very low lands require draining. The soil being mostly a sandy loam with an open, porous sub-soil, the surplus moisture readily soaks through it.

Wheat, both fall and spring, does well, Oats in the early part of July were in many places two and one-half feet high and not beginning to shoot. The oat fields had a fine appearance and gave promise of a heavy crop. The loamy soil of this section seems to be especially well adapted for the growth of cereals, peas, barley and hay. Potatoes on the high dry land looked well, but on the low swampy lands they had a set back from summer frosts. There is not much corn raised as the season is too short for it to mature every year. Turnips are always a sure crop. Apples do well, especially the hardier standard varieties. I have formed the opinion based on careful observations that, where the sugar maple grows, apple trees will thrive. I saw a number of fine young orchards, with clean-barked, healthy-looking trees, just coming into bearing.

The market is the town of Sault Ste. Marie. It is good for all kinds of farm produce. When a new road that is in process of construction is finished, it will bring Goulais Bay within twenty miles of Sault Ste. Marie. The people here seem to be well satisfied with their farms for few want to sell them.

Town of Sault Ste. Marie.

Sault Ste. Marie is within twenty-four hours' ride from either Montreal or Toronto, and instead of the Indian's canoe on the St. Mary River there are several lines of steamers, many of which equal ocean vessels in both size and equipment. The number and tonnage of the vessels, both passenger and freight, going through the Ship Canals on the Canadian and American sides of the river St. Mary, is very large. Within the last few years the volume of business has so much increased as to necessitate the building of a second canal by the U.S. Government, which has lately been opened for traffic, and on the Canadian side the Dominion Government has lately completed a ship canal known as "The Sault Ste. Marie Canal." All these canals are splendid specimens of modern civil engineering.

On the Canadian side of the river there is without doubt one of the greatest water-powers in the world; it having, as one might say, Lake Superior—the largest body of fresh water in the world, an inland sea—for a mill-dam. Visitors to the Sault should see the water power canal and the two immense Pulp mills which have been erected near its outlet.

This great water power is situated right in the midst of the material for its use. Immense forests of pulp or paper-fibre wood can be found at different places in the District, and within convenient distance of the site of the water power canal. And then again it lies right along the highway of commerce. All the traffic of the Western and North-Western Provinces, States, and Territories has to pass within a comparatively short distance of this immense water power. The shipping facilities by water could not be greater, and it also has rail connection in the C.P.R.

Sault Ste. Marie is probably in about the centre of the mineral district between Michipicoten on the north-west and Wahnapiatae on the north-east and inclusive of those belts, but the town of Sudbury probably will always be the supply centre for the Wahnapiatae gold fields as they lie so close to the latter town.

The farmers of Eastern Algoma and Western Nipissing will doubtless find that as development work is commenced and carried on in these two districts, good markets will be found for the product which is raised and grown by the farmers.

As to churches in Sault Ste. Marie, the town is the See of the Anglican Missionary Diocese. The territory known as Eastern Algoma is part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough. Algoma is a District in the Methodist Church and the Rev. S. G. Stone, D.D., of Sault Ste. Marie, is the present chairman of the Algoma District. There are many adherents of the Presbyterian Church of Canada residing in Eastern Algoma, and this territory belongs to the Synod of Toronto and Kingston. The Baptists also have a church at Sault Ste. Marie.

Two excellently equipped public schools and a Separate school are to be found in Sault Ste. Marie, and a movement is now on foot for the establishment of an High School at that point for the accommodation of the pupils of that town and surrounding country who may desire higher education than that attainable in the public schools. This will give the scholars of Algoma an opportunity of going right up to the Universities without being required to leave the District for such preparation.

THE WATER POWERS OF THE DISTRICT.

Here and there through the District can be found water powers which only need developing to be made of considerable value. All along the North Shore there seems to be a succession of rivers and creeks, and doubtless in time several water powers will be developed here and there through the District. These water powers could be used for saw mills or for woollen or carding mills.

The recent developments in electrical science, and particularly in the transmission of electrical energy through long distances, has given an importance and value to water powers, especially to those not too remote from centres of population and manufacture, which they did not formerly possess. This Province is singularly well endowed by nature with the means of power in the numberless falls and cascades which abound on the rivers and streams of the newer parts of Ontario, capable of producing in the aggregate an enormous, almost incalculable, amount of energy. These water powers constitute, in fact, one of the great undeveloped

resources of the crown domain, and promise to form in the not distant future a highly important factor in the progress and prosperity of the Province, as well as to make a sensible contribution to the public revenue. Situated in the newer districts, and surrounded by raw material for a variety of industries, such as pulp and paper mills, saw-mills, sash and door factories and other wood-working establishments, and in the mining regions by bodies of gold, copper, nickel and iron ore, the cheap power which they will provide must greatly stimulate the development of manufacturing and mineral industries, which in turn will afford a remunerative home market for the products of the farm. Electric railways can be operated, too, by power from these falls, and thus means of transportation and communication provided in districts where an ordinary railway would be an expensive and premature undertaking. Light can also be supplied to the inhabitants of adjacent towns and villages, rendering life there more comfortable and attractive. It is evident that the public interest demands the speedy utilization of all such water powers where they can be profitably turned to account, and the above-mentioned regulations have been framed with a view to bring this about. A number of applications have been made for water powers under these regulations, and the policy of the Department, so far, has been to fix the annual rental at a moderate sum and thus secure the establishment of new industries, rather than to obtain the highest possible return which the privilege might be made to yield.—(Extract from Report of Crown Lands Department, 1898.)

Regulations for the disposal of water privileges, pursuant to the provisions of 61 Victoria, chap. 8, were adopted by Order-in-Council of 21st June, 1898. These regulations provide for leasing such powers and land adjacent, instead of alienating them absolutely, as was formerly done, and with such conditions attached as will secure their development within a specified time, in default of which they revert to the Crown.

A VALUABLE TESTIMONIAL.

Mr. D. McGregor, manager of the Bank of Commerce, Sault Ste. Marie, writes :

“The Canadian Bank of Commerce opened their Sault Ste. Marie Branch in the month of April, 1889, ten years ago, during which time I have been in continuous charge as manager and in close touch with the business interests, not only of this town, but of the whole of the eastern portion of the district, which embraces to a considerable extent the agricultural portion of the community. A glance at the position of this town ten years ago compared with its present position may not be uninteresting, but I will only refer to a few of the main points relating to the growth of the town and its greatly improved condition as a place of residence, or a temporary resort for summer visitors. Since 1889 the population of the town has risen from about 1,500 to over 4,000.

The ship canal has been built at the cost of some \$4,000,000. It is one of the largest locks in the world and has the greatest capacity for length and depth of any lock in America, if not in the world. The water power canal has been developed and utilized. This is beyond any question the most easily controlled water power in America and is destined

in the near future, to be taxed to its utmost capacity which is in the neighborhood of 50,000 h.p. Already several large industries are furnished with power by this great canal, viz.: The Sault Ste. Marie Pulp and Paper Company; The Algoma Iron Works Co.; The Lake Superior Carbide Works and other minor industries. The extensive and beautiful buildings of the Sault Ste. Marie Pulp and Paper Company, charmingly situated at the rapids, in close proximity to the Ship Canal, are worth travelling miles to see. Summer visitors find the neighborhood of the rapids a most interesting and delightful spot to spend a hot afternoon watching the great lake steamers pass up and down through the lock, or if they wish a short trip up the river to Pointe Aux Pins, a staunch little steamer is at their service every two or three hours in the day.

The splendid water and light services of The Tagona Water and Light Company are now largely availed of by the residents of the town, many homes being lighted by electricity and supplied with water direct from the rapids which has been pronounced by analysts to be absolutely pure. This company has also the contracts for lighting the streets and supplying the town with water for fire protection, etc.

The District of Algoma possesses remarkably rich resources in timber, minerals, fisheries, and the products of the farm. A great injustice has been done to this district by casual visitors and travellers depicting it as a land of forbidding aspect and barren, simply because it appears so to them from a car window or the deck of a steamer, while ignorant of the fact that thousands of smiling farms and comfortable homes lie in the fertile valleys and uplands beyond the rocky and frowning barriers that mark Algoma's front. I am firmly of the opinion that this district offers better inducements to the intending settler of small or moderate means, than any other portion of the continent. To enumerate all the advantages, however, in detail would occupy altogether too much space, but I cannot refrain from briefly referring to a few of them, foremost of which stand those due to the climate. I venture to say that people in this district enjoy better health and are more rugged than in any other part of Canada, and that is saying a good deal. I have never heard of even a partial failure of crops due to climatic conditions and at times when lower Ontario and Quebec have been parched brown by the hot sun during a season of drought, the Algoma meadows remained green and luxuriant, with sheep, cattle, etc., contented, fat and happy in the enjoyment of good pasturage and an abundance of water flowing in the numerous streams, many of which proceed from springs in the rocks and never fail. What more favorable conditions could be imagined or desired for the production of butter and cheese? There is not a section of the whole of North America possessing equal advantages with Algoma in this respect. I have known one acre of land to produce four tons of hay and a large field to average over three tons to the acre, which establishes the claim of Algoma to be one of the best grass growing sections in America, if not in the world; and yet with these great advantages in her favor thousands of tons of hay are imported every season, much of which comes from the United States. This fact indicates one of the needs of the district, which is immigration; thousands of acres of fertile lands remain in an uncleared and uncultivated condition while farm products

of every description are brought in from lower Ontario and the United States. We import immense quantities of bacon, butter, cheese, eggs, beef, fruit and vegetables. All these articles could be and should be produced by our own farmers. If they were to do this, the large sums of money which we send annually to other parts of the country and to the United States would circulate in the district and we would not hear so much about the scarcity of cash. How can money be plentiful if we send it out of the district to buy commodities we ought to produce ourselves? The farmers of Algoma have the best home market for what they have to sell, and receive better prices than are paid in any other section of Canada, but the majority of them do not seem to realize it and many of our so called farmers are not farmers at all, but simply make a pretence of farming, in order to take up some land containing pine or pulp wood, which they sell at good prices but which seldom enriches them. What the district needs most is a class of farmers who will devote their time and energies strictly to the industry of agriculture and this kind of a farmer may be sure of success. Several farmers have gone from here to Manitoba, remained there a few years and returned with somewhat changed ideas as to the relative merits of the two places. In this district it may be said that what a farmer has he can hold. His profits in any one year may not be as large as they are in some other sections, but they are certain to be good every year, so he does not run the risk of being set back four or five years by a failure of crops.

Duncan.

The township of Duncan, lying immediately north of the Indian reserve, contains over 17,000 acres, of which 14,000 are available for farming purposes, and allowing 160 acres for each family would sustain about ninety families; this is exclusive of 3,000 acres already sold for mining purposes. The land is generally a rich vegetable or sandy loam soil, overlying gravel and clay and is easily drained. The timber is principally hard wood, maple, birch, etc., most of the pine having been taken off years ago. It is easy of access by what is called the Victoria road, running north of Garden River Station to the Victoria Mine, which is situate on the north boundary of the township.

Kehoe.

The township of Kehoe is beautifully situated, lying north of the township of Meredith and McDonald, with the Indian lands and the township of Duncan on the west. The Echo River and Lake passes through it from a central point on the Eastern boundary to the south-west corner, emptying into Echo Bay on Lake George, Echo Lake being on the level with Lake George. There is already a fairly good road from the Government road at Echo Bridge along the east bank of Echo River and Lake to the centre of the township where the best land is situate. This township contains about 27,000 acres, about 17,000 acres of which are available for farming purposes, the balance being water and mining locations. The development of the mineral resources of both these townships will greatly assist the development of the farming lands. The soil is similar to that of Duncan but deeper, with more clay surface, and is well adapted for farming.

Temagami Lake, Nipissing District.

There is very little agricultural land on the shores of this lake, and it is unlikely that the district comprising it will be opened for settlement. Nevertheless this work would be incomplete without some mention of Temagami lake, which some explorers have declared to be, from a picturesque point of view, the finest lake in America. It is situated on the height of land or watershed between the waters that flow into Lake Huron and those that go to the Ottawa. It has two outlets, one flowing north to the Montreal river, thence into the Ottawa; the other at the south end by the Sturgeon and French rivers into Georgian bay. It formerly had another outlet on the east toward the Ottawa river, and yet another on the west to Lake Huron, and if anything should occur to raise the waters of the lake a few feet these two outlets would again flow.

Temagami lake lies northwesterly about forty-five miles from North Bay station on the C. P. R. It is about thirty miles long and thirty in breadth. Its waters are translucent as crystal. Its shores in most places bold and precipitous, with many bays and arms running off for miles in all directions. Its surface is studded with most beautiful islands to the number of thirteen hundred, or as some estimate, sixteen hundred. Its waters are filled with all kinds of game fish. Altogether with its elevation, bracing air and romantic scenery, it appears to have the makings of an ideal summer resort in it. On Bear Island, a large island about the centre of the lake, is a Hudson Bay post, which has been established some sixty or seventy years. The rocks around its shores are felsites, holding pebbles of syenite, quartzites, clay slates, massive diorites and crystalline schists. The timber around its shores is small, following a burn, and consists of poplar, jack pine, small red pine and white birch. The shores are nearly all rocky.

The country between Temagami lake and North bay is, says Mr. J. C. Bailey, chief engineer of the Toronto and James Bay railway, rolling land with a good depth of soil and very little rock. "We could see the soil along the streams, and in nearly every case there was about three feet of thick black loam with a clay subsoil. We could tell we were in a good country by the timber."

Between North Bay and Temiscaming.

The Provincial Government has cut out a road on the way to Lake Temiscaming from North Bay for a distance of twenty miles. This road passes through Widdifield, thence into Merrick, and on the line between that township and Mulock; thence through Stewart when, owing to lakes intervening, a course of N. 9° W. was taken and followed to the waters of the Metabetchouan. Thence a course due north was followed till the road struck Lake Temiscaming, opposite the Hudson Bay post. This road passes through a very fair country until the Otter Tail river is passed, whence to the Montreal river the country is very rough and broken. Says Mr. J. C. Bailey, before mentioned: "Coming down by the Government road from Lake Temiscaming to North Bay the land is excellent, but five miles south of the Montreal river it is very rough.

After that, however, there was a reach of seventy or eighty miles of splendid land. The timber in that region is mainly white pine, black and yellow birch, and there is a large extent of spruce and tamarac. The largest birch trees I saw were from three to three and a half feet through. They grow to a height of seventy or eighty feet. Out of some of these trees you could get on an average three good logs of say twelve feet in length. The tamarac is sometimes found twenty-four inches in diameter, but a good average would be fifteen or twenty inches. The smaller size, ten or twelve inches through, is used for ties. There are also patches of good young second growth poplar growing on land that had been burnt. We also found lots of maple, the trees running from ten to twenty inches through. We saw considerable white ash growing up to fifty or sixty feet and about twelve inches in diameter, and it commanded admiration. We noticed some whitewood, too, such as formerly grew in the Lake Erie counties; it grows from twenty-four to thirty inches in diameter and is very handsome. I am satisfied that as regards soil and climate that country is well suited for agricultural purposes. The country is full of moose. They are there by thousands. They used to tread the roads so heavily that it made travelling by snowshoes very difficult for us. We often saw them playing on the ice and sometimes came across their stamping grounds. We also tracked the caribou, and the Indians say there are plenty of them. There are red deer too, and we often came across wolves. There is an abundance of fur-bearing animals, such as the beaver, marten, fox, mink, and others."

PART II.

THE TEMISCAMING SETTLEMENT, NORTH-EASTERN ONTARIO.

Commencing at Mattawa and going northward up the Ottawa, the course of the river is through a rough and precipitous country of gneiss and syenite rocks. In the first fourteen miles of the journey there are four rapids, called the Demicharge, the Caves, the Erables and the Mountain rapids. The total fall is twenty-eight feet. Then commences a stretch of about twenty miles of deep water navigation, through what is called Seven League Lake. Soundings show that the water here is sometimes 400 feet deep. At the head of Seven League Lake, a formidable rapid, the Long Sault commences. Through it the river makes a long and violent leap of seven and a quarter miles, during which it descends fifty-three and a half feet.

At the head of the Long Sault commences Lake Temiscaming ("deep waters"—it is said to be several hundred feet deep in some parts). The lower end of the lake is distant from North Bay station about forty miles northeastwardly. This lake is sixty-eight miles long, has an area of about 113 square miles, and is 612 feet above sea level. The shores of its southern parts are bold and rocky, and the tributaries in that part have rapid descents, thus furnishing a great number of water powers which will be invaluable for saw milling and pulp grinding purposes. The difference between high water mark in the end of May and the lowest, which occurs in October, averages twelve and a half feet. The lake forms a boundary between Ontario and Quebec.

Near the head of the lake the character of the country entirely changes. The bluffs and precipices fade out, a very fine quality of limestone, similar in composition to the Niagara limestone, sets in. The land becomes level and rich. Three rivers flow in here, the Blanche from the north, a river with a width of about 400 feet and a depth of fifteen to twenty feet, and flowing through so level a land that there is hardly any perceptible current. Otter creek discharging into it is of a similar character.

The Blanche is navigable at low water for vessels drawing about three feet for a distance of twenty-four miles. Then a fall of about ten feet occurs, followed by another stretch of smooth deep water for six or seven miles. At high water the river is navigable for thirty miles, forming with Lake Temiscaming the longest continuous stretch of navigation on the Ottawa waters.

The Quinze, so called because it has fifteen rapids, enters from the east. It is a much larger stream than the others, and is, in fact, the Ottawa river under an *alias*. The lake receives several other large tributaries—the Montreal river, Metabetchouan and Wahbe's creek on the west, and the Kippewa on the east. The average date of the entire disappearance of ice during the last thirty years has been from the 10th to the 14th of May. In connection, it may be mentioned that at Montreal since 1870 the earliest opening of navigation has been on April 8th, and the latest on May 5th.

As has been said, the country around the head of Lake Temiscaming is of a totally different character geologically and otherwise from the lower parts of the lake. The land at the head consists of a level tract of many thousands of acres of the richest calcareous clay, some lighter and some heavier, with a plentiful covering or admixture of vegetable mould. The soil is described by experts as equal in fertility and staying quality to any in the world. Such land will grow anything, and will stand cropping for year after year without showing signs of exhaustion. The timber is small, owing to the whole district having been swept by fire about sixty years ago. The labor of clearing is therefore light. First-class local markets are furnished by the lumber camps, working in the country tributary to this lake. The supply of pulp wood is practically inexhaustible. A great industry in the making of that article is sure to be soon established. Cedar grows to a large size here. Perfectly straight, sound poles of forty to fifty feet, or even longer, can be obtained in quantities. Of railway ties and fence posts the supply is ample. In short, there will be for many years to come plenty of forest and allied industries to bring money and work into the country, while the settler is subduing the land to its proper and more profitable agricultural purposes.

Mr. C. C. Farr, of Haileybury, gives the following as a list of vegetables, cereals and fruits that succeed to perfection in his neighborhood: *Vegetables*: Beans, beets, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, celery, cucumbers, corn, lettuce, melons, onions, parsnips, peas, pumpkins, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, squash, tomatoes, tobacco, turnips. *Cereals*: Barley, oats, peas, wheat. *Fruits*: Apples, plums, grapes, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, strawberries.

Mr. Farr also says: Seeding time commences about the first week in May and ends, so far as oats are concerned, about the 4th of June, though oats have been sown as late as the 20th of June, and have done fairly well. Potatoes can be planted as late as the 20th of June, and it does not profit much to put them in before the 24th of May. Corn, cucumbers and melons can be sown about that date. The snow begins to melt about the 12th of April, and is all gone by the first week in May, sometimes earlier. Navigation opens not later than the 10th of May. Haying commences about the 14th of July, harvest the 15th of August. The fall is open, and the large lake is seldom frozen before the second week in December. The steamers ran last fall until 12th of December. . . . Temiscaming is less afflicted by summer frosts than were many parts of Southern Ontario when they were first open for settlement.

TEMISCAMING TOWNSHIPS OPEN FOR LOCATION.

Bucke.

The following are extracts from the reports of the surveyors: The greater part of this township is adapted for agricultural purposes—being a good clay soil, comparatively free of stone or rock. Roads could easily be made to nearly any lot. It is well watered with beautiful spring creeks. There are no large streams, the main creeks being Little Wahbe's creek and Mill creek. The Little Wahbe is about thirty links wide. There are only two small lakes in the township. The timber generally along Lake Temiscaming, on concessions two, three and four, is cedar of excellent quality; the balance of the township is timbered principally with poplar, whitewood, tamarac, spruce and balsam, with in places a thick maple undergrowth. No indications of the presence of any minerals were observed. The geological formation is principally Huronian.

Hudson.

This township is divided by a series of rocky ridges, running north-westerly from the southeast corner. The ridges rise to a height of from 150 to 200 feet, and often afford very fine views. Excellent Huronian slate is found in vast quantities in this hilly region, and the broken fragments are strewn over all the adjacent valleys. Another remarkable feature is the presence of limestone and freestone, bearing a striking resemblance to the Niagara formation, and apparently the origin of the extensive white clay deposits of this and adjoining townships. In the southwestern portion of the township are several beautiful lakes, with an abundant supply of fish. Here the soil is a sandy loam, and the country is attractive as a point for new settlements.

North of the ridges, the soil is white clay, the surface generally level, and the general appearance of the country rather flat and swampy. The timbers are not large, being a second growth, probably about seventy-five years old. The remains of an older and heavier forest are often seen, and in a few localities the fires have left it untouched. The most valuable timber is the cypress or pitch pine, which grows thickly and is smooth and tall, and averages from six to eighteen inches.

Harris.

With the exception of the low lands at the mouth of the Blanche river and the lowest portions of the lands on the creek emptying into the head of the lake about two miles northwest of the mouth of the Blanche river, the township of Harris is composed of first-class farming lands, being timbered with spruce, tamarac, birch, balsam, excellent cedar, a great many of the latter being three feet in diameter and of very fine quality, some hard maple and red and white pine. Wahbe's point, which runs out into the lake between Wahbe's bay and the bay at the mouth of the Blanche river, is very high and steep on the east side, 175 feet in some places, and falls gradually to the west, where the hill on the east side of Wahbe's bay is not more than thirty feet in average height. The

soil is clay loam and a clay sub-soil, Huronian rock underlying, sand loam overlying. Clay sub-soil is found in the northwest portion. Numerous springs are found along the shores of the lake, and some creeks run westward into Wahbe's bay.

The township is admirably adapted for agriculture and timbered with such woods as render the lands easily cleared; and although in southern Ontario land on which tamarac, spruce, balsam and cedar grow is not considered of much value, in this district the reverse holds good. The lakes and rivers abound with fish, and the forests are full of game; at present this portion of the country is a sportsman's paradise.

Dymond.

This township is admirably adapted to agricultural purposes, the soil being chiefly good clay, and in places sandy loam with clay sub-soil. Fully ninety per cent. of the land in the whole township is of excellent quality. All that part lying to the northeast of Wahbe's creek, with the exception of one stony ridge, may be considered superior farming land—it being fairly level. The portion of the township lying southwest of Wahbe's creek is somewhat rolling, with a wet tamarac and spruce swamp in the northwest portion thereof, and a few small stony tracts in the vicinity of the south boundary. With these two exceptions all this part may also be considered excellent for farming purposes.

Wahbe's creek, which enters the township near the northwest angle, and crossing it in a southeasterly direction, enters into Lake Temiscaming, has banks varying from ten to twenty feet in height, thus affording a fine channel for carrying off the water from the numerous smaller streams which drain the township. Chief among its tributaries is a stream of about equal volume, though not more than one-third its width, entering Wahbe's creek about three miles from the lake. This stream has a good water power on lot number four, concession three. The timber throughout this township is small, and consists principally of spruce, tamarac, poplar, whitewood, cedar and balsam, with some black birch, white oak, black ash, elm and soft maple. The northerly portion was burnt over many years ago, and has now very little merchantable timber. A dense growth of underbrush covers nearly the whole township.

Casey.

The south boundary of this township is about three miles up the Blanche river from its mouth at the head of Lake Temiscaming. The river traverses it in a southeasterly direction, entering at the northwest angle and leaving about three-quarters of a mile west of the southeast angle.

With the exception of a few hundred acres of high land in the southeasterly portion of the township, the land is a level flat, mostly spruce and tamarac swamp, in some places very wet and in others nearly dry; but all excellent agricultural land, none that could not be easily cleared and drained. In fact, it seems that most of the swamps are caused by the extra height of the land on either side of the present drainage outlets—the Blanche river and its tributaries—into which the whole township could be easily drained.

The subsoil is clay with good clay loam and black muck overlying. The hills in the first and second concessions are very stony, with a slightly sandy soil, the top of the hill in the second concession being almost bare rock. The township is well adapted for agricultural pursuits, and with the facilities afforded by the Blanche river, one of easy access to intending settlers.

REPORT OF JOHN ARMSTRONG

Crown Lands Agent, Thornloe, P.O., Lake Temiscaming.

Having now had five years' experience in Temiscaming, and during that time having cleared and cultivated fifty acres of land at Liskeard (now Thornloe P.O.), in the Township of Dymond, I claim to be in a position to give reliable information to intending settlers respecting the district.

In my official capacity as Crown Lands Agent, I have answered thousands of letters of inquiry, and almost every letter contained the following questions: Where is Temiscaming? How is it reached? What is the extent of good land? What kinds of timber? What kind of soil? How is the climate? Farm produce and prices? Is the country suitable for stock raising and dairying? What has been the progress of the settlement? etc., etc. In order to save the intending settler the trouble and delay in obtaining the above information by letter, these questions are here answered:

Where is Temiscaming?

Lake Temiscaming district is situated one hundred miles northwest of the town of Mattawa, a station on the main line of the C.P.R., and seventy-five miles north of North Bay, the latter being the judicial county town for the district. The lake is merely an expansion of the Ottawa River, commencing at what was once called Gordon Creek, but now Temiscaming Station (the C.P.R. branch line having now reached this point), and running in a northwesterly direction for a distance of seventy miles, reaching this fertile valley of good lands, and forming a part of the boundary line between the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

How to Reach Temiscaming.

At present there is only one way of reaching here, viz., via Mattawa. Thence by C.P.R. branch line to the foot of the lake, to what is now known as Temiscaming Station. Thence by two lines of first-class steamers, owned respectively by Mr. Lumsden and the Temiscaming Navigation Company. Passenger's single ticket from Mattawa to Haileybury or Liskeard, C.P.R. and steamer combined, is \$2.75. A little extra is charged any who desire cabin passage on steamer. Freight rates from Mattawa here cost thirty cents per one hundred pounds.

Area of Good Lands.

What is now known as Temiscaming district is a large valley of exceedingly rich and fertile lands, lying northwest of Lake Temiscaming, containing about one million five hundred thousand acres of choice arable lands, half of which have been surveyed into townships. With so large

an area of good lands, Temiscaming should have no rival in any of the northern districts of Ontario as a place for settlement and agriculture. In extent, it has a capacity of settling and maintaining twenty-five thousand families, or a population of one hundred and fifty thousand engaged in agricultural pursuits. The land rises almost abruptly from the lake shore to about a height of fifty feet, and again gradually rises toward the height of land, which is about fifty miles distant from the lake. The lands are drained by the Blanche, the Wahbe and Montreal rivers and their tributaries.

The Timber.

Most of the timber is a second growth, and in many places too small for any purpose except railway ties or pulp wood. The most valuable timber is cedar, but it is only found in certain localities. There is no pine on the good lands, but plenty of good spruce can be found on each lot for lumber and building material. There is a good market here for the following timber: Cedar telegraph poles, $2\frac{1}{4}$ cents per lineal foot; railway ties in the round timber, in two or more lengths, cedar or tamarack, ten cents per eight feet long. Spruce and poplar are the most abundant, which will in time make the pulp wood industry profitable to the settler while clearing his land; but until a railway reaches here none but what is conveniently situated near the lake or rivers can be sold. At present the only means for getting it to market is by towing on the lake and floating down the Ottawa river. The projected railway from North Bay will, when completed, open up the country back from the lake to settlement.

Analysis of Temiscaming Clay or Undersoil.

The following is the result of the analysis of two specimens of the clay undersoil of the Temiscaming district, made in October, 1894, by Prof. Shuttleworth, Professor of Chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph:

	1	2	Average.
Moisture	1 700	1 710	1 705
Insoluble matter.....	74 660	74 880	74 770
Organic	3 650	3 690	3 670
Soluble silica.....	0 312	0 255	0 283
Alumina.....	5 820	5 619	5 719
Peroxide of iron	4 000	4 000	4 000
Phosphoric acid	0 292	0 203	0 247
Sulphuric acid	0 192	0 213	0 202
Br. Ox. of manganese.....	0 583	0 544	0 563
Lime.....	0 977	1 732	0 854
Magnesia.....	2 180	1 850	2 010
Potash.....	1 980	.....	1 980
Soda.....	0 331	.....	0 331
Undetermined .....	.....	.....	3 666
			100.

Nitrogen in clay=0.160 per cent.

"The above analysis shows that the clay is very rich in phosphoric acid and potash; and, for a subsoil, is unusually rich in nitrogen. Such a soil might be cropped for many years before its richness was seriously trenched upon."

The above analysis was obtained from under-soil which I took out of a cellar three feet below the surface, and is a fair sample of Temiscaming clay. The whole district, so far as I have noticed, is composed of rich clay, with about four inches of black vegetable mould on the surface, and seems to have been deposited in layers of about half an inch in thickness, gray and brown alternately. It is solid in its natural state, but when dug or ploughed up becomes pulverized when exposed to the air, and does not bake as I have seen other clay land do. The lands are mostly free of rolling stone; in fact, whole townships are free of rock or stone of any kind. Any stone or rock visible are mostly limestone.

The Climate.

The Temiscaming District is undoubtedly blessed with a healthy climate. Out of a population of about six hundred, we have only had four deaths in four years, two were old persons and two were young children. The summers are moderately warm, giving at least half an hour more of sunshine each day than at Toronto, which accounts for the rapid progress made in the ripening crops. If our springs are a week or so late it is made up to the ripening crop in the length of days in summer time. For example, in 1895 I sowed oats on the 5th June and barley on the 25th of the same month. On the 20th September of the same season I exhibited at Toronto Exhibition samples of both crops fully matured. The winters are cold, but not as cold as Muskoka or Parry Sound. According to the bulletins sent out from the meteorological station here, the coldest day was 39° below zero. The snow is never deep, generally covering the ground by first of December and leaves about the first of April.

Farm Produce.

It can hardly be claimed that any country will profitably grow all kinds of produce in the agricultural line. In order to do so, it would require a diversity of soil and climate, but this fertile valley of Temiscaming will grow to perfection as great a number of grains, grasses, roots and other farm produce as can be grown in any part of Ontario. For two successive years the Government paid my expenses to the Toronto Exhibition with an exhibit from Temiscaming, consisting of fall and spring wheat, oats, barley, peas, timothy and clover hay, potatoes, beets, carrots, onions, cucumbers, tomatoes and other garden produce. The straw was remarkable for its brightness and stiffness, the grain was fully matured and nothing could exceed the timothy and clover for length and quality. The exhibit was not for competition but to show the capabilities of Temiscaming soil. The exhibits were highly recommended and awarded a Diploma. When it is taken into consideration that the exhibition was held in the early part of September, and that in most cases the lands on which the exhibit were grown were a part of the virgin forest the previous April, what would be the result under a proper cultivation of the soil?

Stock and Dairying.

Every intelligent farmer knows that in order to be successful in the stock and dairying branch of agriculture six things at least are essential: cheap lands, cheap building material, cheap food, pure water, a healthy climate and cheap transportation to market. Temiscaming can fill the bill except the latter, but we hope ere long we will have the James Bay Railway in our midst, when all the good qualities of our district can be developed, and all the best lines of agriculture can be produced. It is a known fact that that our northern districts, owing to their pure waters and juicy and fragrant grasses, and where cattle are almost free from disease, produce the choicest meat to be found in Ontario markets. And with the aid of railway transportation, there is no reason why the farmers of Temiscaming should not be able to supply Toronto and other cities south with the choicest meat and excellent cheese and butter. The long stretches of navigable waters that wind their way uninterrupted by falls or rapids for distances of thirty miles on the "Blanche," fifteen on the "Wahbe" and thirty miles of lake front, make it easy and practicable for the farmer to send milk to the creamery and cheese factory.

Progress of the Settlement.

In 1894 there were only eight families settled in the district, on the Ontario side of the Lake, notwithstanding the inconvenience in reaching here before the C. P. R. branch line was built to the foot of the lake. In view of the fact that the lands are not free grant but are sold at fifty cents per acre, and performance of settlement duties, substantial progress has been made. Over sixty thousand acres of lands have been sold, and hundreds of people have settled here and are inducing their friends to follow them. The Government have cut out and partly graded forty-five miles of roads, built three good substantial bridges in the Townships of Bucke, Dymond, Harris, Hudson, Harley and Casey, and have erected a good frame colonization house at Liskeard for the use of new settlers where they may leave their families until they get a house on their own lands. It will accomodate several families at the same time, and is furnished with a cook stove. Three churches, two frame and one of stone, have been erected. Four public school sections have been organized, and school houses erected. Schools are kept open the whole year. There are two villages, Haileybury, in the Township of Bucke, and Liskeard, in the Township of Dymond. The name of the latter place has been changed to Thornloe. Persons writing here should address "Liskeard, Thornloe," P. O.

Liskeard is the larger of the two villages owing to its being situated at the head of navigation on the Ontario side of the lake. It is surrounded by excellent lands and is the distributing point for the Townships of Dymond, Hudson, Kerns, Harley and the north part of Harris.

Haileybury consists of one general store, an hotel, post office, black, smith shop, lumber and shingle mill with planer attached, two churches, one school house and a number of private dwellings. Liskeard consists of about fifty good substantial frame buildings, including three good general stores, milliner and dressmaking shop, tailor shop, boot and shoe

shop, blacksmith shop, two carpenter shops, one paint shop, post office, crown lands office, government colonization house, temperance hotel, Presbyterian church, public school with seventy-five names on register, one lumber and shingle mill and brick yard.

In reviewing what has been accomplished it is indeed very gratifying to me and I am sure it must be to others who have noticed the great progress made under the existing difficulties. Four years ago last July I landed my family and moved to what is now the Village of Liskeard. Then it only consisted of about two acres of clearing, occupied by Mr. William Murray and his sister. That night the population of Liskeard slept in a shanty 10x12. However, I was prepared for almost any emergency and had brought a large tent with me, the next day we moved into it and occupied it for two months, during which time I erected the first frame building in the locality. During this time settlers were constantly coming in, and on Sundays our tent was turned into a tabernacle in which the first public religious worship was conducted by the Rev. D. Johnston, English church minister. Now as I write these lines and look through my office window over our little town and see so many good substantial frame buildings, it causes a thrill of satisfaction to see what the white man can do in civilizing and developing the wilds of Temiscaming.

Testimonials Regarding the Temiscaming District.

WM. MURRAY, THORNLOE: In reference to the Temiscaming country, I would say that since my arrival here in the month of June, 1891 (being the first settler in the Township of Dymond, where I have since resided continuously), I am thoroughly satisfied with the capabilities of the district. I have travelled over the greater part of the surveyed part and found the quality and kind of soil to be very uniform throughout, that is, a strong clay. All kinds of grain and vegetables grown in other parts of the Province successfully ripen here and the climate is equal to and better than places two hundred miles south.

REV. F. A. MAGEE, METHODIST MISSIONARY, THORNLOE: Having travelled hundreds of miles through the Temiscaming settlement, I am impressed with the possibilities of this section of the Province. In my capacity as missionary I have visited most of the people at their homes. General satisfaction prevails amongst them, and hopefulness as to the future is manifested by all. I believe this is destined to be one of the most prosperous districts of Ontario.

REV. F. E. PITTS, PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONARY, THORNLOE: Temiscaming, from the point of view of the sportsman and tourist, is an ideal country. And it also has that in it that will make it a wealthy and permanent section of the Province. It affords a home for the settler equal to that offered by more distant and more lauded fields. The most sure word of prophesy of a country's future is to be found in the impression the people who inhabit the country have formed of it, and in their loyalty to it. If such is a criterion of Temiscaming, there can be no doubt of its future for nowhere could a more hopeful, a more satisfied or energetic people be found than those who have settled here. In my capacity as missionary I have visited a great many of the homes, and

general satisfaction prevails and an inspiring hope possesses all the people. They affirm that both the soil and climate are suitable to grow anything that can be grown in the eastern portions of Ontario. I confidently believe that no other new district offers so many advantages to the settler. Schools and churches are already doing good work in looking after the intellectual and spiritual interests of the settlers. There is abundance of good water. The extensive timber affords wood for fuel and building, and the lumbering brings the market and money to the country and affords employment to a great number of men.

REV. F. J. BRITAIN-STORER, CHURCH OF ENGLAND MISSIONARY, HAILEYBURY: I have now been resident here for some time and have travelled through a very large extent of the country in connection with my duties as a Church of England Missionary. I can vouch most emphatically for the land around here being most suitable for all farming purposes, while the climate is good. Many settlers who came out here a few years ago with little or nothing to call their own, are now doing well and are prosperous and substantial settlers and farmers. I have read the whole of the matter Mr. Armstrong, Crown Land Agent, has written for the pamphlet now to be published and can vouch for all he says, nor has he given too high a colour to any of his statements as to the good features of the country.

A. MCKELVIE, THORNLOE: I have now spent three years in Temiscaming district, having come here from Durham, Ontario. I believe this district possesses as enjoyable a climate as any of the older parts of our Province. In winter the thermometer may fall from five to ten degrees lower than in Durham, but the dryness of the air, almost uninterrupted sunshiny weather, and the comparative absence of wind storms, makes almost every day one for pleasure or for work. The summers here are much the same as from where I came and we can raise every kind of grain, vegetable or grass, as good in quality, in greater abundance and with less toil here than can be done there. The country is increasing in population and material advancement at a fair rate and I have yet to know the man living here who has not every confidence in the future. The mosquitoes, blackflies and sandflies annoy the farmers, but this trouble is becoming, and will become, less each succeeding year. A pleasant climate, first-class clay soil, gently undulating land, timber for fuel, building and fencing, and nearness to Montreal, the great grain market of Canada, are some of our advantages. Men in easy circumstances and well situated are foolish to emigrate anywhere. Those without money will have hard times anywhere. But men with small capital such as is required on a rented farm in old Ontario could come here and in a short time have better homes of their own than those they had previously rented.

W. H. COWLES, MATTAWA: I came to the Temiscaming Country as a settler from Warren Co., N.Y. State, with my wife and children in October of 1898, and am very much pleased with my new home. I was induced to come through reading pamphlets describing the northern districts of Ontario. About three years ago I came up here and secured a knowledge of the country by clearing land and raising crops. I also worked as a farm laborer and remained here until the following January. During that time I saw a large amount of land that is better suited for

farms than the best soil in the section of New York State that I came from. I have also learned by observation and inquiry that summer frosts are no more troublesome here than there. In short I am thoroughly satisfied that this is a better agricultural country than a large portion of New York, Vermont and New Hampshire, and as I have worked as a farm laborer in various parts of the above named states, I know that what I state is a fact, and as I feel sure that I have bettered my position by coming here, I am also anxious to induce others to come and as a step in that direction I would be pleased if you would send me a quantity of reading matter describing this country, and giving information to intending settlers, which I will mail to those of my friends and acquaintances who would be likely to come here, if they knew of the advantages offered by this portion of the Dominion. I could also arrange to have some of it placed in public libraries and reading rooms. There are a large number of farmers in the Eastern States who would better their condition by coming to this country if they knew as much concerning it as I do. The more I learn of Canada's vast resources, the greater is my surprise at the slowness of its settlement, but I believe that the principal cause that has kept immigration away is the grossly erroneous opinions that the majority of people outside of Canada hold concerning it. It is represented in the geographies of the United States as being a very cold and sterile country, and only a small portion in the vicinity of the great lakes as at all suitable for agriculture. Very little is known of it as it actually is.

PART III.

THE THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.

Extract from report of Mr Duncan Anderson to Minister of Agriculture, August 10, 1898.

The Port Arthur section of the Thunder Bay District was first brought before the public a good many years ago. It was then the overland route to the western prairies. The soil varies from a clay to a sandy loam. There are some gravelly ridges, and in sections some stony land. In some parts the soil is red clay.

The timber is principally poplar, spruce, pine, jack pine, birch, cedar, and tamarac. In some places a second growth covers the land, while in others the clearing is easily done, especially in the Slate River valley. From one to four days' work of a man is sufficient to clear an acre and make it ready for the plow, but where it is heavy timber land the clearing is more difficult.

The crops grown are hay, wheat, barley, oats, spring wheat, potatoes, turnips, and all kinds of vegetables and small fruits. Pasture is good; there are hundreds of acres of thin bush land, grown up with native grass. It affords fine grazing facilities for droves of young cattle. This ought to be a first-class section, especially for the raising of young stock and dairy products. Some of the lower lands will require draining, but as the country is generally rolling, and the bulk of the land has a porous sub-soil, surface water will not give the farmers much trouble.

This section is well watered by natural springs and running creeks, with plenty of good well water for the digging, which is generally found at a depth of from 5 to 25 feet.

The local markets are good. Port Arthur is quite an important town. It is situated on Thunder Bay, at the western end of Lake Superior, and on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Within three or four miles of Port Arthur is Fort William. These towns are connected by an electric railway. The town is situated on the banks of the Kaministiquia river. Here are a large number of grain elevators; one in particular is of most modern design, consisting of six or eight tanks built of steel plates. At a distance they resemble two rows of round silos. The wheat from the west is unloaded from the cars into the elevator, from which it is transhipped into lake barges. This is the terminal point of the Canadian Pacific Railway lake traffic. Not far up the river from Fort William is the Kakabeka falls. The river (immediately above the falls) is 130 feet wide, and the water has a straight drop of 110 feet. The estimated capacity of it is between 30,000 and 35,000 horse power. For ease of access and convenience in being utilized this splendid natural water power at Kakabeka can hardly be excelled on the American continent. These two towns have a population of 7,000 and have a farming area of 1,500,000 acres of land within a radius of forty miles.

Port Arthur and Fort William are both good local markets. The prices for farm products are high, and beef, pork, butter, eggs, poultry, potatoes, small fruits and vegetables, always find a ready sale at good prices. There are some rich silver mines in the near vicinity, some of which are now being worked, causing a still larger demand for all kinds of farm products."

Some of the Attractions of Thunder Bay District.

Western Ontario to-day offers as good inducements to the actual settler with small means, the man who wants to better his condition and that of his children, than any farming region in America.

It contains about 44,000,000 acres of farming, mineral, timber, and water areas—there being about ten million acres of each and as the wooded lands will in time become farm lands, we may say that there are 20 million acres of farms waiting for farmers. The Provincial or local Government gives to each head of a family 160 acres of land free. We have 750 miles of completed railway and work is progressing on 300 miles of the Ontario and Rainy River R.R. Special attention is being drawn to the arable lands and farming capabilities of this section of Canada, but there is a field here for the capitalist, mechanic, laborer, artisan, explorer, trapper, railroader, hewer, broadaxe man, engineer, etc. The four towns of this section, Port Arthur, Fort William, Rat Portage and Keewatin have 40 churches, 15 schools, 1 high school, 3 court houses, 4 jails, 3 hospitals, 100 stores, 30 hotels, electric light, water works, electric railways, sewers, docks by the mile, elevators that will hold 7,000,000 bushels of grain, foundries, sawmills cutting 75,000,000 feet of lumber, skating and curling rinks, town halls, firehalls, etc., while the farming sections and villages have about 100 schools, which receive special extra aid from the government to enable the free grant farmer's children to get a good common school education, so that while you go out on a new farm in a new country, you are within easy reach of all the conveniences of civilization. In the Port Arthur-Fort William section there are 400 miles of waggon roads, so that no man, of necessity, will require to go more than a few miles from a main road or railway.

You can have your choice of white, grey or red clay, sandy loam, clay loam, loam, sand, black muck or a blend of two or three. You can have heavily timbered lands, second growth or burnt over lands, where nature has done the burning and where there are great fields of wild hay and big patches of vetches; or, you can pick out quarter sections that have light clearing and good timber. The whole district is well watered with creeks, lakes and rivers, all of which have in them an abundant supply of fish, and the woods are full of partridges in the fall and rabbits in the winter.

Plowing and seeding commences in April and May. We have snow for four months and sometimes longer, with good, bracing, frosty weather; seldom any of your slushy, sloppy break-ups. The lumbermen and farmer can safely count on a good winter's work. Summer frosts visit this district, as they do all new settlements. We get a good deal of rain in June, enough always to make the grain, grasses and roots grow quickly. July and August are glorious, warm, comfortable months, with cool nights, so that if you sweat by day you can sleep soundly by night. In the new parts there will be for some time mosquitos and black flies, but you can net your doors and windows or smoke them out.

Wheat, peas, oats, barley, buckwheat, hay, clover, timothy, rye; potatoes, the finest in the world, with no potato bug; turnips, carrots, beets, mangolds, parsnips, onions, etc., some apples and crab apples, the red raspberry, strawberries, cranberries, gooseberries. Black and red currants

grow all over the country. Rhubarb is always cooked with the skin, it is so tender, and for years takes the place of the old apple orchard. Tobacco, asparagus, pumpkins and squash—one man showed a wagon load of these at last fall's fair in Port Arthur. In celery we can equal anything in America; in fact it grows too large. Everything that grows in the northern temperate zone grows here bountifully. We adjoin the wheat fields of Manitoba and are south and east of them.

Those who settle on the lands around Port Arthur and Fort William will enjoy exceptional facilities. Back of them is almost unlimited quantities of good land, rich minerals, 60 miles of iron ore, valuable pulp and timber areas, with a railway outlet to the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and having a fourteen foot canal, lake and river uninterrupted waterway to the Atlantic seaboard and Europe. An immense water power canal project is under way, by which the waters of the Kaministiquia River are being turned into 20,000 electric horse power, for power use on the shores of Lake Superior. The estimated expenditure in its construction will exceed one million dollars.

Some Phenomenal Crop Yields.

The following indicates some samples of grain and roots :

Piper, Slate River.—Ten acres of oats, 1,100 bushels. Martin, Oliver.—847 bushels potatoes per acre. Wilson and Schwigler, McIntyre.—1,500 bushels turnips to the acre. Arthur, McIntyre.—80 bushels of peas to the acre. McKenzie, Oliver.—45 bushels of wheat per acre. Marks, Fort William.—Six tons of oats in straw per acre. McFarlane, Pigeon River.—Five and a half tons of timothy to the acre. Farm Station, Port Arthur.—Red table carrots, 647 bushels per acre. Boulter, Port Arthur.—Celery, 45½ tons per acre.

DORION TOWNSHIP offers a site where three men and a team of horses can in one season put 100 acres into crop for winter fodder, while there is summer grass back from the railway for 20,000 cattle. The settler can come to market either by waggon road, by train or by water—distance 40 miles.

DOG LAKE SECTION.—Great wild pea and grass plains; waggon road—distance 20 miles.

WARE TOWNSHIP.—Limited area, waggon road—distance 12 miles.

BROWN'S LANE (Dawson road).—Right on construction of the Rainy River Railway, plenty of grass, thousands of acres nearly ready for plow, waggon road and two railways.

McINTYRE TOWNSHIP.—Private lands, one dollar per acre for actual, pushing settlers, two waggon roads—distance six miles.

CONMEE TOWNSHIP.—Great areas of open plains, plenty of creeks and wood—25 miles, waggon road and railway.

WHITEFISH VALLEY.—Well wooded, grand land—30 miles, railway and waggon road.

GREAT PLAINS.—Silver Mountain to Thunder Bay—30 miles, waggon road.

SLATE RIVER AND BLAKE TOWNSHIP.—Good land, plenty wood, easily cleared, plenty grass—15 miles, waggon road.

Xavier Laplante's Experience.

I am 55 years of age. I went from St. Martin, near Montreal, in the Province of Quebec, to Pembroke, and from Pembroke to Port Arthur six years ago. I bought 160 acres of land on the Oliver Road, seven miles from Port Arthur, for which I agreed to pay \$720 in annual payments. At that time I had \$50 and a team of horses. I have three boys. I have met all my payments as they came due. I have now on the farm a good house, 22 x 26, with a 16 x 22 kitchen; a horse stable 22 x 26; cow stable 28 x 30; barn 30 x 50, root house, chicken house and pig house. I have since purchased 320 acres adjoining, and 160 acres in the Township of Oliver, on which there is a house and stable. I have now a farm for myself and one for each of the boys. I have 68 acres cleared, six horses, fourteen milch cows, eight other cattle, twelve pigs, chickens and all the necessary farming utensils. With two teams and one hired man I am making \$12 per day. My property, real and personal, is worth \$6,750. I have \$200 in the bank ready for my next payment, and I owe \$800. This country is good enough for me.

Settlers' Testimony.

W. Piper.—I have a good dairy farm; a comfortable farm house; a big barn, 40 x 80, with a full sized basement full of cattle. Any man who is willing to work can do well at farming in this district. I have grown 1,100 bushels of oats on ten acres.

Isaac Ryde.—I came to this district a poor man; I have a good farm in Oliver Township, with good out buildings and as good a house as any farmer needs. I make a comfortable living and I owe no man a cent.

Wm. Reese.—I have a good farm which I have cleared up myself. I am willing to furnish the milk of twenty cows to the first dairy that will start within a reasonable distance from my farm.

Jno. McKay Hunt.—I have a farm in Paipoonge; have 70 acres cleared; my crops are good. I have good health; make a good living; lay up something every year in the way of improvements, implements and clearing and find plenty of work in connection with the farm the whole year round.

Craig Greer.—I came here with a team of horses; I have 120 acres cleared up on the homestead. I sometimes grow two or three thousand bushels of potatoes. We can grow almost anything. My boys are all getting farms for themselves.

Roly Martin.—I generally get the first prize for wheat. I grow from 25 to 40 bushels of it to the acre. I have now about 100 acres cleared up. This is the greatest country for roots I have ever seen.

Agricultural Resources of Thunder Bay District.

(From a pamphlet issued by the Corporation of Fort William.)

There are in the District of Algoma millions of acres of valuable agricultural and stock-raising lands, awaiting only to be subdued and cultivated. While to the casual observer or passenger by C.P.R., a large proportion of the country may appear comparatively worthless for agri-

cultural purposes, there are here notwithstanding, lying alongside these, great mineral areas, and rich stretches of agricultural lands.

While immigration has been chiefly directed to the Northwest, and little effort made to colonize this district, nevertheless, there are quite a number of prosperous farm settlements; and with the building of the Rainy River Railway, and lumbering and mining operations, a large and immediate influx of settlers is assured. With a fertile soil and an abundance of good water and timber everywhere, and the absence of drought, blizzards in winter and hurricanes in summer, we believe this district offers inducements equal to the lands of the Northwest, and in fact, possesses advantages over the west. And while great inducements are offered in the pursuit of general agriculture, greater still are the inducements offered for cattle and sheep raising. There are thousands of acres of magnificent lands along the different rivers suitable for ranching and pasturing cattle, diversified by rocky ridge and bluff well adapted for sheep raising. The grass and herbage grows luxuriantly and does not wither and become parched through the summer as in other countries.

There is to the west of us the Rainy River District, a grand agricultural country, and within easy driving distance of Fort William, the Township of Oliver and the Slate River section, gradually filling up with industrious and contented settlers. These latter places have in the neighborhood of 200 families, and some splendidly improved farms are here to be seen, that will compare favorably with the older settlements of the east. One farmer, that the writer has in mind, purchased 200 acres and started breaking in 1895. His enthusiasm for the farm and its bounteous returns has resulted in his acquiring more land, till he has now 1,000 acres. He has now cleared 160 acres, and a splendid bank barn 60 x 90 with an addition thereto of 50 feet. He has 97 head of cattle, seven horses, and harvested this year 75 acres of oats, 15 of barley, together with 60 acres of good timothy and clover.

There are in the valley of the Kaministiquia, alone, adjoining the town, over 10,000 acres of rich loam land well adapted for gardening purposes or grazing stock. This alluvial plateau through which flow the three rivers—Kam., Neebing and McIntyre, is destined to become the truck garden for a populous city. Only a small portion of this land has been brought under cultivation yet, and the greater part is still wild land, stripped of its timber, and now grown up with rank grass which furnishes free grazing for the horses and cattle of the town. These lands, and for that part, the lands of the surrounding district, cannot be excelled,—we believe we are warranted in saying,—for growing root crops and timothy and clover. These do exceedingly well, and market gardening and dairying is bound to be a profitable employment here, and is so at the present time. It is noteworthy, notwithstanding the good prices here for the produce of farm and garden, the amount grown does not yet nearly supply home consumption. The good wages paid for all classes of labor, the C.P.R. service, together with the attraction of the mines, has contributed no doubt to this indifference toward the farm. This condition of things is now happily changing, though, and our agricultural resources and possibilities are beginning to receive the attention they merit.

Letters of inquiry addressed to the Board of Trade of Port Arthur or Fort William will have special attention.

PART IV.

THE WABIGOON COUNTRY, IN RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

This agricultural section is midway between Fort William on Lake Superior to the east, and the city of Winnipeg to the west. The Canadian Pacific Railway passes through the district. The fertile land extends for forty miles along the railway line from Dinorwic to Eagle River.

It is estimated that the area of good agricultural land in this district is about 170,000 acres, enough to form a fair sized county, comprising the townships of Wainwright, Van Horne, Eton, Rugby, Sandford, Aubrey, and Zealand, with another yet unsurveyed around Dinorwic. The area now located is about 30,000 acres.

The Government Pioneer Farm.

The Ontario Government was the pioneer of the Wabigoon country. In the spring of 1895 the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. John Dryden, personally selected the site for the house and barn, and commenced farming operations with the view of testing the agricultural capabilities of the section. A small crop was put in that summer, consisting of wheat, oats, barley, grass and a few roots. In the early summer a warm, comfortable house was built, such as any settler of moderate means might erect. Later, a basement barn with the necessary accommodation was added. At the present time there are 130 acres cleared and stumped, so that all kinds of labor-saving machinery can be used to the best advantage. The farm is surrounded by a substantial cedar post and wire fence. The farm buildings are across the railroad track and almost opposite the railway station at Dryden. A young orchard has been planted, but the standard apples have not done well. Crab apples and cherries made a fairly promising growth, and small fruits do well.

Mr. D. Anderson, who visited the farm in 1898, says: "As I stood at the back of the farm and looked to the railway station, a pleasing rural scene filled the eye,—a fifty-acre field of oats just beginning to shoot, another field of heavy spring wheat and barley waving in the wind, and just beyond, the dark green of a healthy field of Swede turnips; a flock of Shropshire sheep were nibbling in the home field next the barn, while half a dozen useful milch cows were industriously grazing the young tender grass which recent rains had caused to cover the pasture fields, while the farm team was just finishing the plowing of a ten acre fallow field that had been grubbed, stumped and burned this summer. The Pioneer Farm has demonstrated very clearly the excellent agricultural advantages of this section by changing it in four short years from wild, waste land to clean fields and a well cultivated farm.

The Country.

Many people are incredulous when told that good land, sufficient in extent to comprise a good sized county or more, exists in this region.

After miles of tedious journeying through the desolate rocky waste through which the line of the C. P. R. passes on the northern shore of Lake Superior, it is perhaps not surprising that many find it hard to believe that good land, sufficient for a fair sized country, exists in this section. "There is nothing here but rock," they assert, "we must go on to Manitoba's fertile plains." The farther west they can locate, the better some settlers like it, and many are content to live lives of solitude and isolation, far from markets and far from railroad communication, while regions near at hand possessing these advantages and others as well, are passed over. They too often lose sight of the fact that there is a distance limit from one's market beyond which the raising of agricultural products ceases to be profitable.

Now, the first question the interested reader will naturally ask is: What is the Wabigoon country like? What are its advantages?

The casual traveller, not especially interested perhaps in the products of the soil may not remark from the car window that the region differs very materially from the country he has recently been passing through. The light growth of poplar, spruce, jack pine, and tamarac interspersed with blackened stumps, presents nothing new. But if he be a close observer, he will certainly see that the railroad cuttings, instead of running through sandy, gravelly soil, or the solid rock as heretofore, now pass through a clay deposit, indicating that the surface formation of the country has undergone a complete change. Then let him leave the train, and, wading through the underbrush, climb to the top of the nearest elevation; let him look to the north, the south and the east and the west, and he will see a vast extent of unbroken, rolling country, dotted here and there with clumps of small timber with a light growth of underbrush between, so light, in fact, that hundreds of acres lie there *almost ready for the plow*. But more than this, there is not a rock, not a stone even, to be seen anywhere.

The Soil.

Generally speaking, the soil consists of a strong clay of greyish color, changing in lower lying sections to a clay loam, or occasionally even lighter soil. It is wonderfully free from stone, and pulverizes readily when turned to the sun and air. On the creek bottoms the soil is very rich, and heavier timbered, making the clearing more difficult. On the rolling upland the clay seems to be of a drier nature, and will require much more rain or moisture than the loamier soil in the same neighborhood, and perhaps either manure or green crops plowed in to put life into and quicken it before it will give the best results.

The Water Supply.

The country is well watered and the water is pure and good. Water can be had for the digging on almost every farm at from ten to twenty-five feet. Wabigoon lake, a beautiful sheet of water about thirty miles long by five or six miles wide, lies at this point not quite a mile south of the railroad track. It is dotted with picturesque islands, its shores are well wooded, and it contains a plentiful supply of fish, including white-

fish, maskinonge, herring, pike, and pickerel. From the lake, the Wabigoon river, a broad, navigable stream, with abundant water power, flows north and west through the townships of Wainwright, Eton and Sandford. The Pelican river flows from Pelican lake, in the township of Rugby, through that township and four or five miles into the township of Eton, when it joins the Wabigoon. The township of Aubrey is bounded on one side by Eagle lake.

Clearing the Land.

As the timber is small and much of it dead, it is easily burned and the land made ready for the plow. A man and strong boy can in some places clear up and stump as fast as a team can plow. Five dollars an acre will clear up and stump most of the land in this settlement, with the exception of land along the creek bottoms, which is heavier timbered. To get the best results the land should be plowed twice, and thoroughly cultivated previous to sowing the first crop.

The Climate.

The Wabigoon country is undoubtedly as healthful a one as could be found in the whole of Ontario, both for man and beast. No malaria or fever exists, nor is the water alkaline, to cause dysentery and other troubles. The summers are moderately warm, and the autumn months, with their fine bracing atmosphere and bright sunlight, are simply perfection. In winter the cold is steady, but the snowfall is usually light.

The Timber.

The timber consists of a growth of small poplars, a few spruce, with here and there a tamarac, but the greater bulk of the timber is jack pine—a resinous fir that predominates throughout the whole country. The settler can make very good wages cutting jack pine into cord-wood, for which there is always a ready cash sale, at from \$1.65 to \$1.80 per cord delivered at railroad. It is shipped to Winnipeg in box cars, where it is used as fuel. It is handled at all seasons of the year. In three months 240 car-loads were shipped from Dryden to Winnipeg. A large portion of the timber is dead, recent fires having killed it. Tamarac ties, eight feet long, sell at twenty-five cents each, while ties of the same material twelve feet, are worth forty cents. For the first few years the settlers will have remunerative winter work chopping and hauling cord-wood and making ties. The country has not all been burned over, and to the south, east and north-east there is a thick forest growth of small green timber which is easily cleared. The bulk of the timber throughout the whole country is small, ranging from three to ten inches in thickness, and in some places there is no timber whatever, with here and there a small poplar scrub. In fact there are large areas at the present time almost fit for the plow. Where the timber has been burned off nearly clean, the land is growing up with native grass and wild peas.

The results obtained at the Pioneer Farm have proved that the soil and climate are particularly well adapted to the growing of fall and spring wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, turnips, and all kinds of vegetables and small fruits.

A. Dairying and Stock-raising Section.

It is as a dairying section rather than a grain-growing country that the Department desires to bring it to the attention of the intending settler. It is not anticipated that he could well compete with the western prairie farmer in the production of wheat, whereas for dairying and stock raising the conditions are all in his favor. Clover and grasses grow most prolifically, the former producing two crops a year. Fine natural pasture is supplied in the prairie grass and wild peas, while cattle thrive on the wild hay to be obtained in all the creek bottoms. Moreover, the scrub growth also found there protects cattle from flies in the summer, and the valleys themselves form a very desirable shelter in stormy weather.

Although crops have been grown for three or four seasons, summer frosts are unknown. Plowing usually begins about the last week in April and finishes about the second week in November. Generally the seeding is done about the first week in May.

Roads

For a new country, the roads are good. The soil is naturally suitable, for once graded, except in a very wet time, it is quite comfortable travelling. Twenty-three miles of colonization roads have been built by the Government, and twenty-five more miles have been cut out by settlers. Bicycles are running on the roads for five or six miles from the town of Dryden. By this it will be seen that it is comparatively an easy matter for a new settler to get his household and farm effects in to his location.

Markets.

Next comes the important question of markets. One of the foremost advantages of this region is that a good market is brought to the very door of the settler by the ready means that exist of railroad and water communication. Rat Portage, a growing milling town, with a population of between five and six thousand, including the suburbs of Norman and Keewatin, not being in an agricultural district, has to obtain nearly all its food supplies from Manitoba, and offers a good market for dairy products, fresh meat, etc.

The local markets of Dryden and Wabigoon will consume all that can be raised for some time in the district. Dryden has a population of six-hundred, while Wabigoon is a rapidly growing town, which is likely to become a mining centre of some importance, for the region between the Canadian Pacific Railway and the American border is rich, not only in timber but in deposits of gold, iron, and other minerals.

In summer these mining camps afford the settlers an excellent home market for their produce, while in winter the lumber and railway tie camps afford a market equally good.

For sheep raising, dairying, stock raising and vegetable growing, the country is exceedingly well adapted, and the market for such products is excellent. During the summer of 1897 butter brought from twenty cents to twenty-five cents per pound, and eggs about the same price per dozen. Timothy and clover grow very luxuriantly. Sheep do well owing to the rolling character of the land and the rich natural pasture.

The Crops.

Mr. Annis reports the crops on the pioneer farm in 1896 as follows: Fall wheat, Dawson's Golden Chaff, twenty to twenty-five bushels per acre; Colorado spring wheat about twenty; Herrison's bearded about twelve; barley, a fair crop; oats, poor. The clover in fall wheat, sown 8th May, at time of cutting wheat was in full bloom, a lot of it two to two and one-half feet high. The timothy in wheat was also headed out. The clover was cut twice this season, the first crop about two tons and the second one ton per acre. Potatoes yielded 213 bushels per acre. Turnips and carrots will do well, but cannot say as much for mangels. The first frost that injured tomatoes and other tender vegetables occurred on the 14th of September.

Sheep will do well owing to the rolling character of the land and rich natural pasture. One man had six lambs from very common ewes, two of which on October last weighed 131 lbs. each. They were weaned April 15th.

The weather during the winter of 1896-7 was not so favorable as last, the season closing up earlier and the snow fall being deeper than usual. Still, a great deal of pleasant weather was enjoyed. In 1895 the plow stopped running on November 5th, and in 1896 on October 17th. For 1897 the yields were as follows: Potatoes, 400 bushels per acre; barley, thirty bushels; wheat, fifteen bushels.

Mr. Duncan Anderson a practical farmer sent out by the government to inspect these districts came to the following conclusion respecting the Wabigoon Country:—

"From what I have seen in the Wabigoon country, I know from my own experience in clearing land that a working farmer of moderate means with an industrious family (if not afraid of flies for a few weeks in the heat of summer for the first few years, and other drawbacks incident to pioneer life), can in five or six years have 100 acres cleared and free from both stumps and stones. Thus many men who are now forced to work for others, if they were to put forth an effort and deny themselves some of the luxuries of life, could in a few years become independent, by having a very comfortable farm home of their own in the Wabigoon country."

Cost of Getting to Wabigoon.

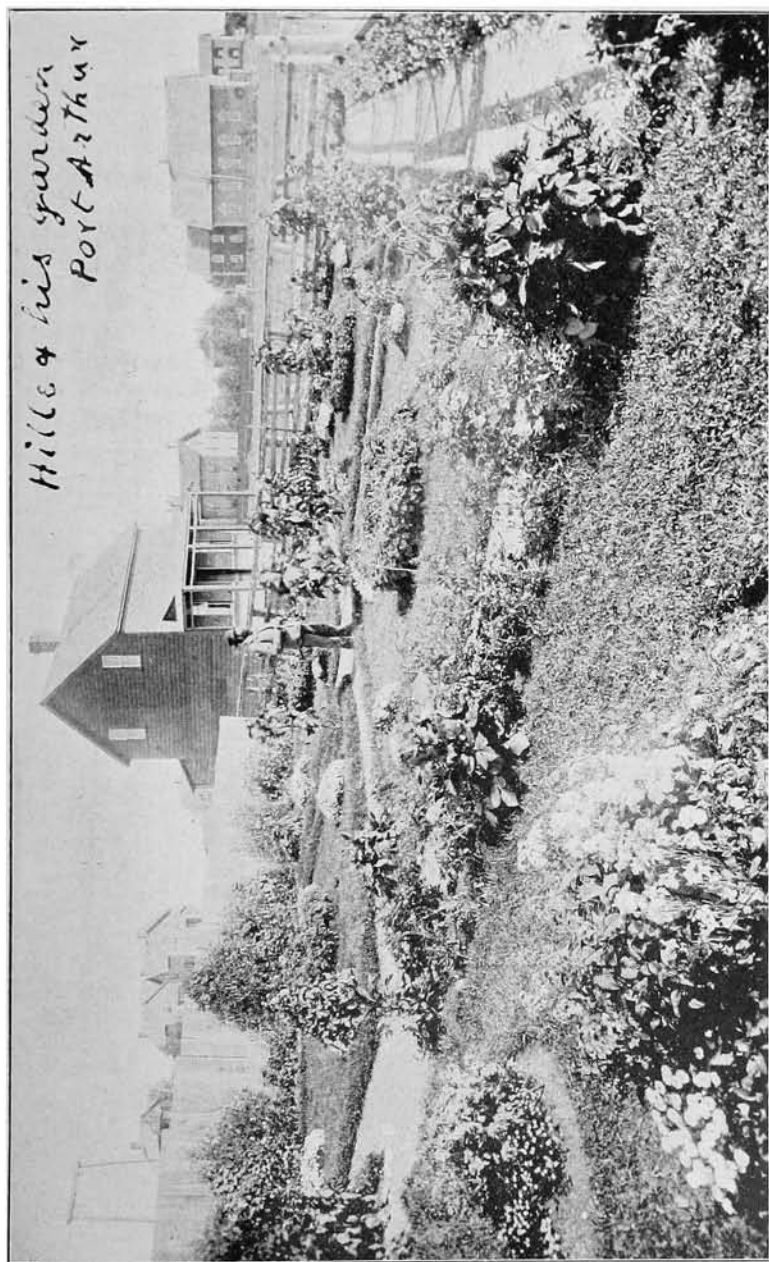
By the all-rail route on the Canadian Pacific Railway, from any station west of Ottawa or Kingston, the single fare is \$21; children half rate. For boat and rail by way of Owen Sound and Fort William, the fare is seventeen dollars. Car of 20,000 pounds of settlers' effects from same points, sixty dollars (one man with each car free); thirty and a half cents per 100 pounds for all over weight. For settlers' effects, shipped in less than car lots, the rate is sixty-one cents per 100 pounds.

It should be understood that the Ontario Government cannot undertake to give financial assistance to persons who contemplate changing their location from one part of the Province to another, as such an expenditure would benefit merely the individual and not the Province as a whole, and is, therefore, not in accordance with the Government's policy in such matters.

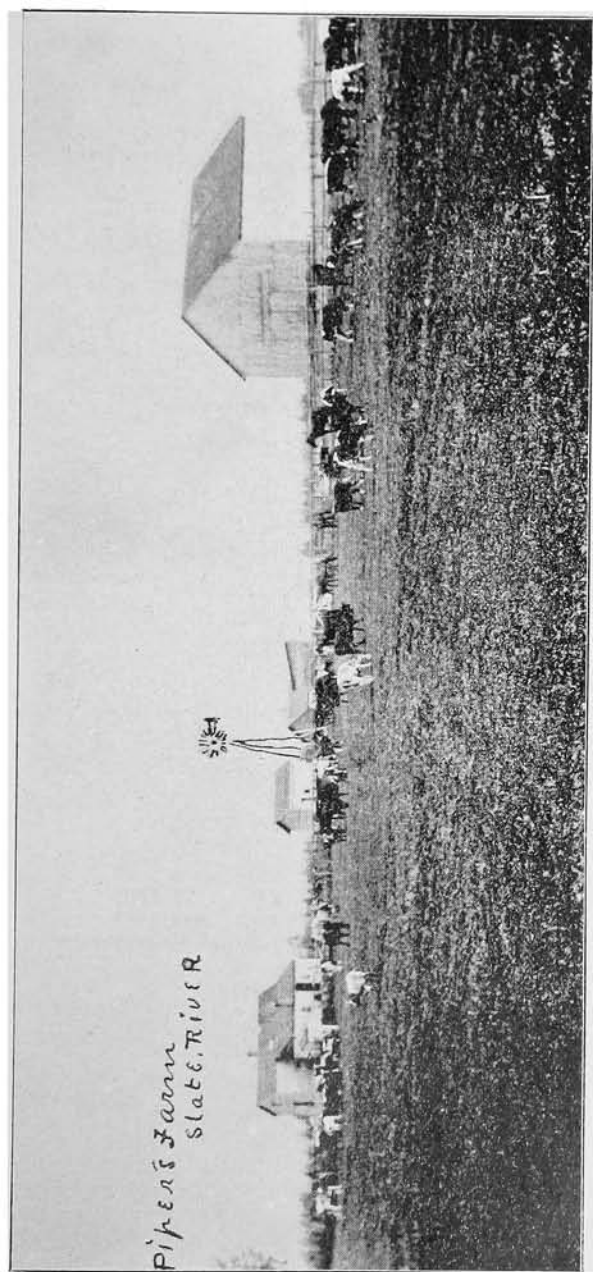


*Root & Flower Section
Fall Show. Port. Arthur*

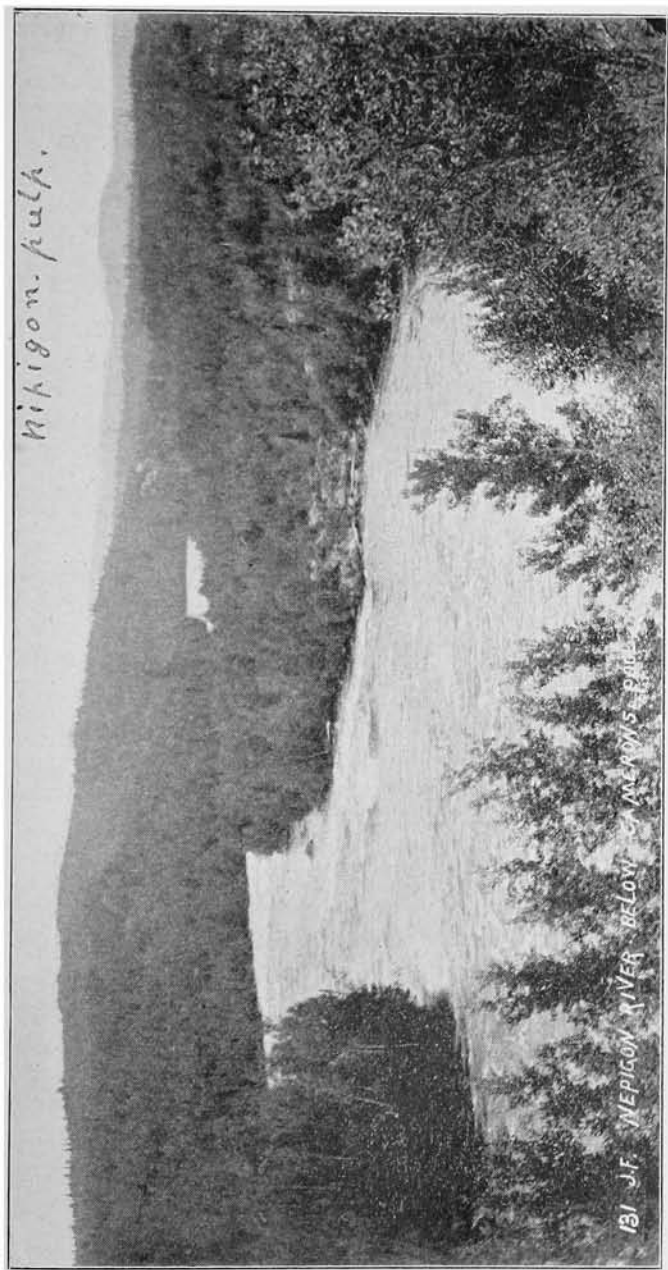
EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS AT PORT ARTHUR.



A SPECIMEN GARDEN IN PORT ARTHUR.



A TYPICAL FARM IN THE SLATE RIVER VALLEY.



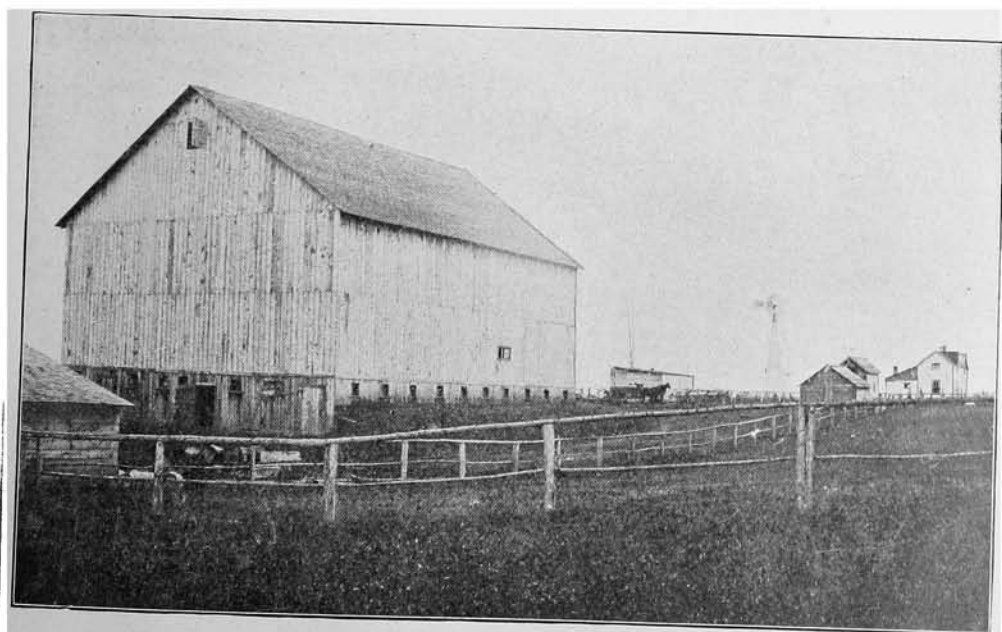
Nipigon. pulp.

131 J.F. NEPIGON RIVER BELOW S.M. KAPIS 316

SCENE ON NEPIGON RIVER, SHOWING SPRUCE FORESTS.



AN ONTARIO ROAD.



PIPER'S FARM, PAIPOONGE TP., NEAR FORT WILLIAM.



M. SULLIVAN'S GARDEN, PORT ARTHUR.



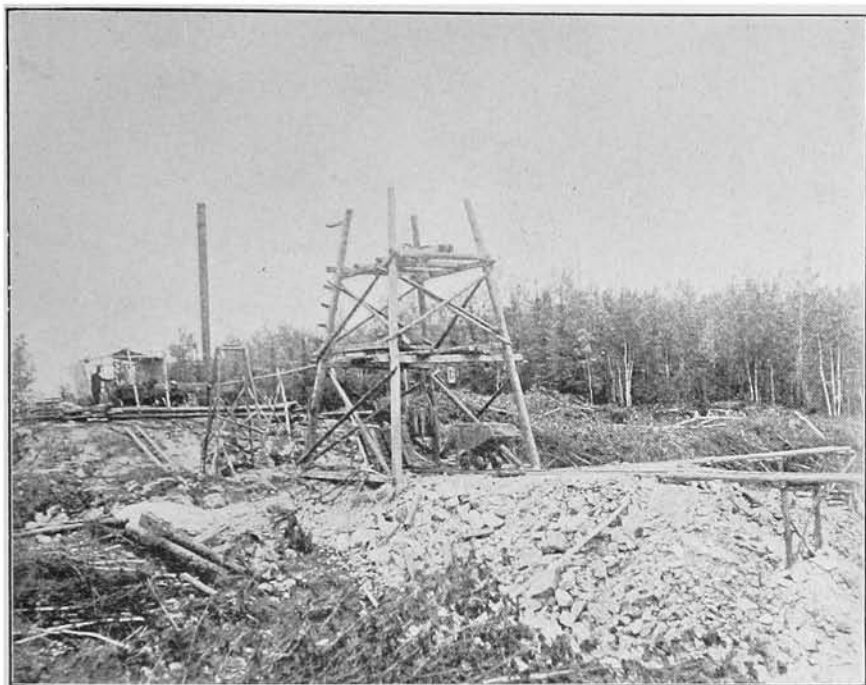
GOVERNMENT PIONEER FARM BUILDINGS AT WABIGOON, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



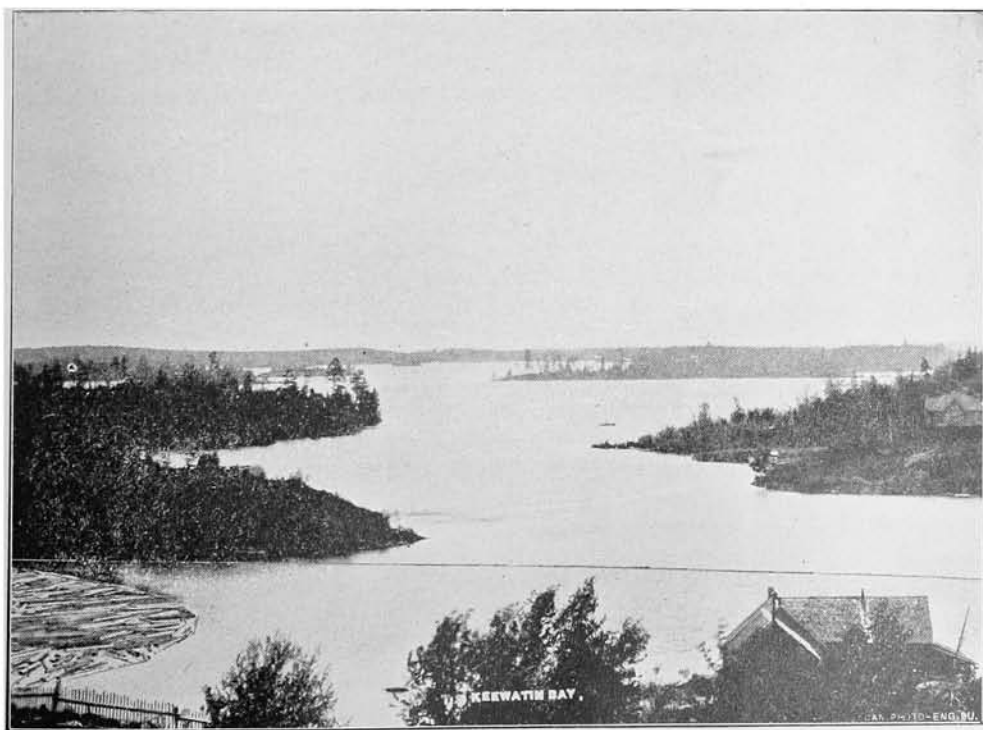
SCENE ON RAINY RIVER, ONTARIO, SHOWING BOOM OF LOGS.



SCENE ON RAINY RIVER, ONTARIO.



MINING SCENE, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



KEEWATIN BAY, LAKE OF THE WOODS.

The chief advantages of the Wabigoon country may be summed up as follows :

1. Cheap land and easily cleared.
2. The main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway passes right through the agricultural belt.
3. The best of local markets.
4. Sufficient timber for building, fencing and fuel.
5. Good soil, an abundant supply of pure water and a healthful climate.
6. Plenty of fish and game to supply the need of the settler.
7. Winter employment in the lumber camps ; also hauling and chopping cordwood.

The Class of Settlers Wanted.

There are in Ontario to-day many capable and industrious young men, the sons of farmers, whose parents are unable to purchase farms for them : or it may be that they have a little capital at their disposal, yet find it impossible in the older settled districts to procure land cheap enough to suit their pockets, and see but little prospect of obtaining farms and homes of their own. Others there are who, owing to the depressed state of agriculture, find it well nigh impossible on rented farms to make ends meet. Good, solid Ontario farmers and farmers' sons, with a little capital at their command, and anxious to secure unencumbered homes for themselves—these are the settlers the Department would like to see located at Wabigoon. Settlers totally without means are bound to meet obstacles well-nigh impossible to overcome. Such are not only helpless themselves, but stand in the way of the progress and prosperity of the district.

How Land May be Secured.

The Government, being anxious to reserve the land for the bona fide settler, and to prevent it falling into the hands of speculators, where it might remain unproductive to the detriment of settlement, have decided upon the following conditions: That the amount of land each applicant may purchase shall not exceed 160 acres, but if a head of a family he is allowed to increase his purchase to 240 acres ; that the price paid shall be fifty cents an acre, one-fourth down, and the balance in three equal annual instalments with interest at six per cent. The settler will be required to clear and put under cultivation at least ten per cent. of the land purchased, and to erect a habitable house of not less than 16x20 feet. When this has been done, and the purchaser has resided on the land for at least six months in each of the three years, or for two years continuously, and has fully paid for the same, he may obtain his patent.

The Superintendent at the Pioneer Farm, Mr. A. E. Annis, whose post-office is Dryden, Ont., is also the Crown Lands agent, and will be found prepared to give information and assistance to those requiring it, and intending purchasers should communicate with him.

The Town of Dryden.

The Town of Dryden, which is the centre of this settlement, is 80 miles east of Rat Portage and 217 miles west of Port Arthur. It and the Town of Wabigoon, 12 miles east of Dryden, are the two most important centres of population between Port Arthur and Rat Portage.

The development of Dryden has been rapid. The town has now two hotels, three boarding houses, a railway station, telegraph office, express office, post office, a public library and reading room, and a good school house. Two saw mills are in operation, and there is a probability of a brick yard being started, the clay in the vicinity making excellent brick. The town also has a doctor, a land surveyor, a magistrate and a constable.

The price of provisions is very reasonable. Among the businesses established there are four general stores, four flour and feed stores, three butchers, three wood dealers, two blacksmiths, a hardware, a furniture and undertaking, a boot and shoe, and a drug store. Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian services are held every Sunday. A bridge and a dam have been built by the Government across the Wabigoon river at Dryden. The Government has also built about twenty miles of colonization road, which the settlers have supplemented by as much more. Park and cemetery lots have also been laid out adjacent to the town.

The situation of Dryden, at the angle formed where the C.P.R. crosses the Wabigoon river, is very advantageous and attractive. The town has a large amount of farm land at its back, besides having the additional advantage of having steamboat navigation with the gold fields now being developed in the vicinity. The river is from a few rods to an eighth of a mile in width, with a depth of about twenty feet, and is the only outlet from Lake Wabigoon.

The price of town lots varies from \$10 to \$25 according to location and they may be secured under the following conditions:

1. Not more than two lots can be sold to any one individual.
2. Purchaser must erect a habitable house not less than 16x20 feet.
3. Parties shall become actual residents within six months from time of taking possession.

The terms of purchase are cash, and there are no fees of any description.

Applications for the purchase of land should be made to A. E. Annis, Crown Lands Agent, Dryden, Ont.

The fine water power available at Dryden should make the town an excellent site for a customs stamp mill for gold ores, provided the mines in the vicinity continue to develop well, or for a flour mill and other industries.

As regards gold mining, a large number of locations have been taken up within four or five miles of Dryden, and the development work hitherto done has been accompanied with gratifying results. A large number of locations have also been taken up at Wabigoon, at the eastern end of the lake. Mining development on the Manitous, believed to be one of the richest sections of the Rainy River District, is also making progress, and the field is likely to advance more rapidly now that road and steam boat communication is being supplied.

Extracts From Surveyors' Reports of Wabigoon Townships.

Wainwright Township.

The soil is mainly composed of clay and clay loam of excellent quality. The Wabigoon river, a fine stream about two chains in width, flows in a devious course for about thirteen miles through the township which is well drained and watered by numerous small creeks and springs, in addition to which there are three lakes. Fully 75 per cent. of the whole township is well adapted for agricultural purposes and the greater part being covered only by open *brulé* the necessary clearing would be easily accomplished. Patches of open prairie of considerable extent also occur in many places, thus further reducing the usual labors of the future pioneers in preparing farms for cultivation. Owing to the comparatively level character of the surface of the land and the absence of heavy timber, the roads in the township would generally be easily constructed.

Van Horne Township.

This township is in general rolling, with very few hills of over 100 feet high; frequent fires have overrun so that all the timber of value has been destroyed, except two small patches of spruce and tamarac in the south-west quarter, leaving parts of the township completely bare, but the larger portion is covered with a thick growth of small poplar, jack pine and birch. The soil consists of a fine white or grey clay, with areas of sandy loam. This clay and loam is mostly in the northern and central parts and occupy about one-third of the township. They will, I think, make valuable farms, easy to make ready for the plough, as the ground is almost completely clear of timber. The balance of the township consists chiefly of rolling hills of rock with swamps intervening.

The township is well watered, several large bays of lake Wabigoon reach well into the centre and the river Wabigoon runs north through the fourth, fifth and sixth concessions, besides there are several small streams of good water. On the river Wabigoon, near the crossing of the Canadian Pacific Railway, there is an excellent mill site with a fall of about fifteen feet. This is less than a quarter of a mile south from the Pioneer Farm.

Eton Township.

This township is bounded on the east by the township of Wainwright, on the north by the township of Rugby, and on the south and west by lands of the Crown, at present unsurveyed. With the exception of a few rocky elevations in concessions V. and VI., nearly the whole surface is undulating and rolling, thus affording good facilities for drainage. The soil is mainly composed of clay and clay loam of excellent quality, and there is scarcely a lot which does not contain enough good land to make a fair sized farm. Fully 75 per cent. of the total area is well adapted for farm purposes. The township is well watered by the Wabigoon, Pelican, Gull and Beaver rivers with their numerous tributaries. The Wabigoon is a fine stream about two chains in width, with

an average depth of from six to eight feet. Being free from rapids, it affords uninterrupted navigation down to the confluence with Eagle river. With the exception of a few clumps, scattered here and there, no timber of any commercial value remains, but in many places sufficient second growth tamarac, spruce, Jack pine and poplar, for the purposes of the settler can be obtained. Fire having overrun the district in 1894, the second growth timber has nearly all been killed, and the greater part of concessions V. and VI., lying north of Wabigoon river, has been almost entirely denuded, thereby rendering the clearing of that part a comparatively easy task. The Canadian Pacific Railway, which crosses the south part of the township, from side to side, affords easy access, Oxdrift station being located on lot 4 in concession 1. Large game is very scarce, but rabbits, partridges and prairie fowl are numerous. Blueberries, raspberries and wild currants were found in great abundance.

Rugby Township.

The south and southeast portion of the township is in general gently rolling with a few hills of rocks; in the north and northwest it is in the greater part very rough, consisting chiefly of high hills of rock, with muskeg and small patches of clay. The soil consists of a fine white clay covering most of the southeast portion. This is almost clear of timber and in most places can be easily made ready for the plow.

The township is well watered; there are six lakes, chiefly in the northern part; the largest, Pelican lake, occupies about four miles long in the northeast corner, and extends a long way out of the township; the outlet of this lake is Pelican river, a sluggish stream about one chain wide by three feet deep with clay banks by which the water is much discolored, finally emptying into Wabigoon river. There is no timber of any value in the township, the south part has been completely burnt and the rest is covered by small, dead, second growth Jack pine, poplar, spruce and in general from one to five inches thick, very much decayed, so that a large number are blown down by every storm; the only exception to this is in a few swamps and muskegs, covered by green second growth and scrub. Game was rather plentiful, a number of moose was seen and large numbers of partridges and pin-tailed grouse.

Townships of Sandford and Aubrey.

The characteristics of the townships of Sandford and Aubrey are precisely similar to those already settled. The land is rather rolling throughout, and the soil, for the most part, a clay or clay loam of very good quality. The timber being small, and recently burnt over, the land is easily cleared, in fact there are large areas almost fit for the plow at the present time, as the timber has been burned off almost clean and the land is growing up with wild peas, wild buckwheat, grass and some small bushes. The Wabigoon river runs through Sanford from east to west, while a part of Eagle lake and river is included in the township of Aubrey. In these two townships rock outcrops very seldom, and taken altogether they may be considered as very desirable for settlement. The Canadian Pacific Railway runs along the line dividing the townships, Sandford being in the north and Aubrey to the south of the track.

Zealand Township.

The township of Zealand embraces the whole of the north shore of lake Wabigoon, except that portion included in Van Horne. The soil is clay with rock outcropping in places, and it is inclined to be sandy in the northerly concessions. The rank growth of alders and berry bushes in the clearings speaks well for its fertility. The township is timbered with small growing timber, which is not difficult to clear. The C. P. R. runs through the township, skirting the north shore of the lake.

Railway Rates to Dryden.

The Canadian Pacific Railway excursion tickets to points in the North-west will be good to stop over at Dryden, on the occasion of their special excursions, good from any part of eastern Ontario for the greatly reduced rate of \$28.

Cordwood and Ties.

One advantage of wooded over prairie lands is seen in the fact that between 7,000 and 8,000 cords of wood were shipped from the Wabigoon district last winter, in addition to 10,000 ties. This means a substantial source of income to the settlers. The same remarks apply in even greater degree to the lands along the Rainy River.

PART V.

THE RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.

This name is applied to that part of Western Algoma, bounded on the south by Minnesota, west by Manitoba, and east by the height of land west of Lake Superior. It gets its name from the Rainy river, which forms the boundary between Ontario and the United States. The area of the district is almost 22,500 square miles, and it is estimated to contain about 600,000 acres of good agricultural land, principally in the valley of the Rainy river. The river runs for about eighty miles through a rich alluvial tract. Nearly all the land fronting on the river on the Canadian side is suitable for settlement. The arable area runs back from the river some ten to twenty miles, the soil being clay and clay loam with a little gravel and sand. There are occasional swamps timbered with tamarac, spruce and cedar, that require some surface draining before they are fit for agriculture. The whole of this tract is remarkably free from stones and rocks.

Climate and Crops.

The climate is similar to that which has before been described, the thermometer registering a few degrees of greater cold than is experienced in the older settled districts of Ontario, but there being no practical difference in the winters as far as healthfulness and pleasantness are concerned. The snowfall is not deep and the sleighing can be counted upon as good from December to March.

Vegetation is extremely luxuriant in the Rainy River Valley. All the cereal and grass crops common to Ontario are grown here, and all the garden crops flourish exceedingly. There is also a great abundance of wild fruits.

Forests.

There is a great deal of red and white pine between Saginaga, Seine and Maligne rivers, with occasional large pine in the Rainy river valley, and much on the innumerable islands of the Lake of the Woods. The other common woods are poplar, birch, basswood, oak, elm, ash, soft maple, balm of Gilead, balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarac. Lumbering operations are being carried on on a very large scale, and there are well-equipped sawmills on Rainy river and Rainy lake; also at Rat Portage, Norman and Keewatin. As the Province of Manitoba must draw its principal supplies of pine from this quarter, an extensive business will doubtless be carried on, and employment will be easily had for many years to come.

Soil.

As has been stated, Rainy river takes its course through a rich alluvial valley for over eighty miles. This valley is eminently adapted to

support a large and populous agricultural population. As to the extent of the cultivatable land in the district, it is stated on good authority that all the land fronting on the river is suitable for settlement, while the arable area reaches back to a distance of sixteen miles, where the soil is found to be even superior to that at the water's edge, being mostly clay and clay loam with very little gravel or sand.

The greater part of the arable land requires no drainage whatever; even the occasional swamps of spruce, cedar and tamarac are all dry in summer and can be made most excellent land by a little systematic drainage, and as they are all at a considerable height above the river level, proper ditching would remove the surface water in the spring. The beds of the small creeks and streams are deep enough to provide adequate outlets, ditches and drains. The area of good land along Rainy river, which is about eighty miles long by from ten to twelve miles wide, is remarkably free from stones and rocks.

Products.

The richness of the soil and the equable climate combine to produce a wide range of cereals and fruits. Hay, oats and spring and fall wheat are successfully grown; the products of the garden include potatoes, onions, corn, carrots, turnips, tomatoes and cabbage, while the smaller fruits, such as raspberries, strawberries and plums, grow in abundance.

As an instance of the length of the season, oats sown as late as the middle of June have fully ripened. The settler who makes the above statement has lived on the bank of Rainy river for thirteen years and has never had a failure of crops. During one summer his farm yielded seventy bushels of potatoes from one bushel of seed. A practical experience such as this illustrates most forcibly the fertility of the soil. The market for all a farmer can raise is at his door, the large number of lumbermen and miners in the district being the purchasers.

Fish and Game

To the sportsman this part of Ontario is indeed a "happy hunting ground." The waters abound in fish and wild fowl are very plentiful. The moose are unfortunately becoming very scarce in the district, but black bears are very numerous, while wolves are also scarce. Buffalo were seen by early settlers near Rainy river but have since disappeared. The common brown bear and the more rare and beautiful silver fox are among the denizens of Northwestern Ontario. Beaver abound in the streams and creeks, while the otter, ermine and mink are plentiful. Partridge, grouse and water fowl of all kinds are also extremely plentiful.

Settlement.

The great advantage of this district, especially with regard to water and wood, over a prairie country, have attracted a number of settlers from Northern Dakota. Many of the settlers have been on their lands since 1874, and have good houses and barns, large clearances, good fences and well-bred stock.

Rainy River Lands at 50 Cents an Acre.

Under an Order in Council, dated May 18, 1899, the Order in Council of October 12, 1889, appropriating the Rainy River lands as free grants, was revoked, (except in regard to lots heretofore located, the locatees of which shall be entitled to complete settlement duties and obtain patents under the Rainy River Free Grants and Homesteads Act,) that the lots in the townships which have not heretofore been located, and the lots located, the locations of which have been or shall hereafter be cancelled, be opened for sale at 50 cents an acre, half cash, and the balance in two years, with interest at six per cent. per annum, subject to the conditions of actual residence upon the lands purchased for three years from the date of purchase, clearing and putting under cultivation ten acres in every hundred, and building a habitable house of the dimensions of 16x20 feet; also subject to the pine timber regulations, and that the quantity of land to be sold to any one person shall be limited to 160 acres.

The surveys made in 1876 by the Dominion Government (on the one mile square section plan, the same as has been followed in the North-West), have been adopted by the Ontario Legislature, which legalized these surveys by the Act of 1886, and provided that any lands in the Rainy River District considered suitable for settlement and cultivation may, by Order in Council, be appropriated as Free Grants upon the terms specified.

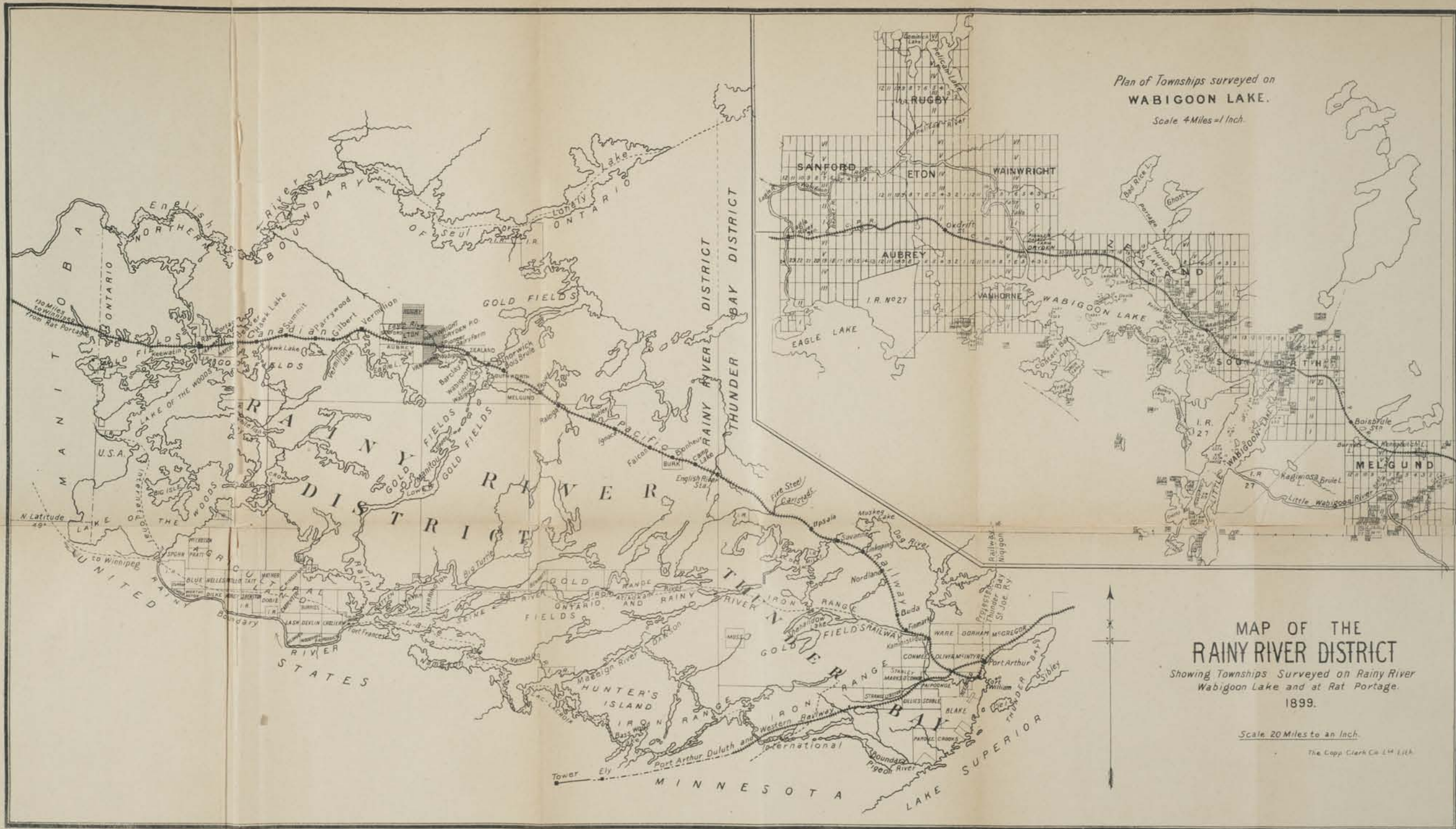
Colonization Roads and Bridges.

Since the settlement of the boundary question, the Ontario Government has adopted a liberal policy regarding the construction of Colonization roads and bridges in the district. About \$70,000 has been expended during the last seven years on leading highways of the district, viz.: the Rat Portage and Keewatin Road, the Rabbit Mountain and White Fish Lake Road, the Rainy River and other Roads. The first is about five miles in length, and serves the towns of Rat Portage, Keewatin and neighboring localities; the second is about thirty miles long and leads to the great silver mining district in the neighborhood of and beyond Rabbit Mountain; while the third is some seventy miles in length and follows the course of Rainy river on the Canadian bank from Fort Frances to the Lake of the Woods.

As to bridges, the Rat Portage and Keewatin Road necessitated the building of three large bridges across the main outlets of the Winnipeg River. Two large bridges have also been built across the Kaministiquia River to develop both the mining and farming interests and, during the sessions of 1897-98, the Legislature voted over \$50,000 for new mining roads, in addition to \$6,500 for the extension and repair of roads in the Wabigoon and Rainy River agricultural districts. In the estimates of 1899 about \$16,500 was voted for colonization roads, and \$7,400 for mining roads in the same district.

Centres of Population.

Rat Portage is the principal town of the district. It has a population of about 7,000, including Norman, and having a pushing spirit, is sure to grow.



It is a divisional point of the C. P. R., the principal port on the Lake of the Woods, has a large lumbering and fish exporting industry, and is the centre of a large mining industry as well. The prodigious water power at the northern outlet of the Lake of the Woods, which has been developed by arrangement between the Keewatin Milling and Manufacturing Company and the Ontario Government, will add to the prosperity of Rat Portage, as well as of Keewatin and Norman. The two last named places are situated near at hand. At the town of Keewatin is the establishment of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, the largest flour mill in Canada, with a capacity of 2,000 barrels a day. A barrel factory, with an output of a thousand barrels a day, and elevators, one of which will hold 400,000 bushels, are some of the allied industries. Keewatin's population is about 1,500. Norman is situated midway between Keewatin and Rat Portage. The water power available here is enormous, and there are excellent openings for factories of all kinds. The population is about 800. All of these places are becoming favorably known as summer resorts.

Rat Portage.

**From Report of Mr. Duncan Anderson to the Minister of Agriculture,
August 10th, 1898.**

"I visited the town of Rat Portage, which is about eighty miles west from Dryden and 130 miles east of the city of Winnipeg. Rat Portage is the principal town between Lake Superior and Winnipeg. It has a population of between five and six thousand. Its citizens are a pushing, enterprising, public-spirited people. The town is growing rapidly. The buildings of later years are durably built and of modern design. The town is situated at the northern end of Lake of the Woods, and is a divisional point on the Canadian Pacific Railway; it is also the commercial and judicial centre for that part of Western Algoma. It is the shipping port of Lake of the Woods. All the telegraph poles, railway ties, fence posts, and in fact all the timber from the Rainy River country, including sawn lumber, passes through this point on its way west to Manitoba. The Lake of the Woods and its tributary lakes, rivers and streams abound in fish. The fishing industry here has become one of considerable importance, so that Rat Portage, with its suburbs of Norman and Keewatin, is destined to become a very populous centre. These two villages are only a few miles from the town, with which they are connected by a good road, and in the summer steam ferry boats make hourly trips between these villages and Rat Portage. At Keewatin there is an immense water power, partly developed. Here is situated the Lake of the Woods mill, which is the largest flour mill in the Dominion, having a capacity of two thousand barrels a day, and elevators that will hold nearly five hundred thousand bushels of wheat. The manufacturing of flour and its bye-products, bran and shorts, has become an industry on which Rat Portage can permanently rely. In connection with the flour mill there is a barrel and siding factory which turns out about one thousand flour barrels per day; also house siding, planed, matched and all ready to put on in four feet lengths, large quantities of which are

shipped to the Southern States. A few rods from the flour mill is situated the customs reduction works, where gold and silver is separated from the rock. A mill of this kind must materially tend to develop the mineral resources of this mining region, for they crush as low as ten ton lots. With a fishing, mining, lumbering and manufacturing industry, Rat Portage will be a centre of wealth and population that will always afford a first-class market for the products of the farm.

The Town of Fort Frances.

Fort Frances is the principal settlement on Rainy River, and is the market from which the mining sections of Rainy Lake and Seine River are supplied with agricultural products. It is an ancient fort or post of the Hudson's Bay Company, and is delightfully situated at the head of navigation on Rainy River. The town plot, which is officially known as the town plot of Alberton, was surveyed by the Dominion Government in 1875, during the construction of the Fort Frances locks and canal. The appearance of the woods on either bank of the River at Pither's Rapids just above the fort, where Rainy Lake empties into the River, is described as quite park-like. There is a magnificent grove of oaks, soft maples and ash at the Indian Agency at this point.

The village of Fort Frances has made considerable growth during the past few years, and has ten stores and three hotels. A handsome new school building with four class rooms was erected in 1898 to accomodate the increasing juvenile population. The Roman Catholic, Church of England, Methodist and Presbyterian bodies have each a mission with ordained ministers in charge. Several new stores, as well as a number of new residences, are likely to be built this year.

Owing to the proposed construction of the Ontario and Rainy River to Fort Frances during the summer of 1899, there is considerable enquiry for real estate in the vicinity of the town, and but few town lots remain in the hands of the Government. There are about 2,500 acres of agricultural lands in the township of McIrvine adjoining the town, still for sale at \$2 per acre.

Owing to the increasing demand for agricultural products by the mining and lumbering camps, the prices for all kinds of produce are exceptionally high; at the time of writing (March of 1899) hay is selling for \$25 per ton, oats \$1.10 per bushel, potatoes \$1, butter 30c. and eggs 35c. per doz. A small flour mill with a capacity of 50 barrels per day has been built at Big Forks, a settlement on the Rainy River about 16 miles below Fort Frances.

Hon. A. S. Hardy's Opinion.

Hon. A. S. Hardy, Premier and Attorney-General of Ontario, said in an interview printed in the *Globe* concerning the Rainy River stretch: "It is of unparalleled fertility. I know of no stretch of eighty miles in Ontario that can compare with it in richness of fertility of soil. It is easily cleared, the timber upon it being of second growth, and the stumps are easily removed, indeed come out readily in about three years from the clearing. It is capable of sustaining 500,000 people, perhaps more. The crops are

uniformly of the best quality, wheat running from 30 to 35 and 40 bushels per acre and other grains in proportion. I have never seen early settlers more comfortable." Concerning the country traversed by the Port Arthur and Western Railway, Hon. Mr. Hardy said: "I was delighted to find that the railway ran through some very rich farming lands. The valley of the Kaministiquia and further west and south of the Whitefish valley show some as fine soil as is to be found in many of the finest counties of the province. We saw here and there crops growing indicating great fertility and productive capacity. As the road proceeds it reaches and runs through some of the richest iron producing districts in the Dominion, and it is thought it will ultimately prove a great mineral road."

Hon. John Dryden.

In the same paper, Hon. Mr. Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, said: "As I told the people of Port Arthur and Fort Francis, there are some things they can grow up there that we cannot grow in the older parts of Ontario, and in which they can beat us. The clover does not seem to heave in the winter as ours does and is as good the third year, I was told, as the first. The advantage of this will be understood by practical farmers, because we think if we can raise a good crop of clover we can grow anything. Corn grows up there much better than in Ontario county. I saw some eight feet high which had been sown on 7th June. They have fine roots, and I saw a field of turnips as good as I saw anywhere in my travels. In addition to that several settlers told me that they can grow two crops of timothy in one season. White clover grows wild on the roadside like our June grass and has bits of red clover in it, an unheard of thing down here. They can also grow good barley and spring wheat and vegetables of all kinds. These things being established, I come to the conclusion that there is the opportunity there for the production of live stock as profitably as anywhere in the Dominion. It means that it is a good dairying country, and if I were a farmer in that district I would devote myself to that branch of farming."

Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P.

Mr. James Conmee, M.P.P. for West Algoma, says: "The belt of good land is not confined to the valley of the river, but extends northeasterly along the shore of the Lake of the Woods, and for a considerable distance along the northern shore of Rainy Lake. I estimate the agricultural belt as equal to an area of 140 miles in length by 40 miles in width, or 4,084,000 acres. There are other valleys of excellent land, but none so large as the Rainy River valley. The valleys of the Kawawagamog and Seine rivers emptying in Rainy Lake both contain large areas of agricultural land. The same is true of Grassy and other rivers emptying into Lake of the Woods."

Mr. Wm. Margach.

Mr. William Margach, Crown Timber Agent at Rat Portage, in a recent interview, says:—

"A great change has come over the Rainy River District during the past few years, not only by a natural increase in population, but a large

increase of practical farmers. The recent immigration to the River has been largely from Ontario of experienced farmers, and as a result there have been more improvements during the last five years than during the ten years before. A grist mill is running at Big Forks. Emo is a thriving village with a hotel, two general stores and two saw mills. Another village is growing at Pine River, where there are also hotels and stores, and other settlements are forming at convenient points.

Regarding labor, Mr. Margach asserts that there is no part of Ontario where higher wages are paid for labor than along the Rainy River. The lumber camps employ from 500 to 700 men every winter, and there is labor for the horses in the camps in hauling logs and ties.

There is no part of the River that is not fairly well supplied with schools and the schoolhouses have been built sufficiently large to enable them to be used as churches. The Government has for years spent large sums for colonization roads as fast as settlement has warranted, and the work upon these has been performed by the settlers after their spring farm work is completed. During the summer of 1899, over \$24,000 is to be expended on colonization and mining roads, which will furnish well remunerated labor for a large number of men and teams.

As to the crops, Mr. Margach asserts that there has been no failure for the past seven years. The ground is easily cleared, being lightly timbered, and although portions of the land is wet, the fact that the river is so much lower than its banks makes drainage comparatively easy. Stumps are removed without difficulty. An evidence of the prosperity of the farmers on the Canadian side of the river is had in the fact that they use the most improved farm machinery. And there is lots of good land left, added Mr. Margach. The agricultural lands of the Rainy River District are not only as fertile as any to be found in Ontario, and they will yet be the homes of a large and prosperous community, especially when the railway taps Rainy lake and river from the south and east.

I know of no other part of the Province of Ontario in which there is 80 miles in length and 10 miles in width of good fertile land, free from stone and easily drained as the Rainy River section. The land on the valley of the river is what might be termed flat land, the river and streams of which are so much below the general formation of the land that there is no trouble in draining it. The land here is well timbered, rendering employment to the farmers during the winter in the making of ties and cedar posts. These are low priced lands, and the fact of a railway now being in course of construction through the country should make them eagerly sought after, as it will doubtless increase the value of both land and timber.

The home market has been good by reason of the close proximity of the lumber camps, which give employment both to man and beast in the winter at high wages. The camps are within a day's drive from the river so that no time is lost going to and fro from them.

The climate is good for the production of all kinds of grain and roots. The water is excellent, there being neither lime nor alkali found therein. The lakes and rivers abound in fish, the fishing industry giving employment to quite a number of men. The country is well supplied with schools and churches, and doctors are to be found in a number of villages.

Means of Access.

Rat Portage on the Canadian Pacific at the northern extremity of the Lake of the Woods is the point to aim for. It is distant by rail from Toronto 1,154 miles. From Rat Portage to Rainy Lake is 180 miles. The Rainy river is 80 miles long and the length of the Lake of the Woods from north to south is 100 miles. The steamboat fare for an adult from Rat Portage to Rainy Lake is low. A fine new steamer has recently been placed on this route.

Report From William Stephenson, Crown Lands Agent, Big Forks.

Mr. William Stephenson, Crown Lands Agent, at Big Forks, for the townships of Aylesworth, Crozier, Carpenter, Devlin, Dobie Lash, Roddick and Woodyatt, writes, under date of March 4, 1899, the following report regarding settlement, market quotations, list of schools, shops, etc.:

MARKETS.

In respect to this part of the Rainy River district, there has been a large number of settlers located on these lands, some two hundred and thirty in all this past year (1898). There is good reason to believe that a large number will be in as soon as navigation opens, as a number of those who have located land are sending for their friends. This has been a good winter for employment, making railway ties, logging and cutting cordwood. There has been employment for all who wished to work. Prices for all products of the farm has been and are exceptionally good. Oats are 75 cents to 85 cents per bushel. Wheat \$1. Potatoes 75 cents per bushel, and going up. Timothy hay \$12 per ton at the farmer's barn, in fact there is a ready market and good prices for all products of the farm. Hogs dressed are worth from \$10 to \$12 per 100 pounds. Beef dressed \$10 per 100 pounds. Fresh eggs 30 cents per dozen. I have traveled considerably and know of no place on the continent of America where a man with small capital and a large amount of energy can more easily make a comfortable home and an independent living. There is no question of the fertility of the land. It only wants working, and our markets are right at home with every prospect of an increasing demand for all farm products as the gold mines develop in the Rainy Lake District. The Government are spending thousands of dollars every summer in making roads through the district, and as the work is done by the settlers, it gives them employment during part of the summer. Mechanics are well represented in all branches. They combine their trade with farming. The Rainy River Railway, now being built, will be another source of profit to the farmer, in addition to the farm products. It will be a market for railway ties, bridge timber, piles and other building timber, and will open up the country to the settlers.

SCHOOLS.

We have schools where there are sufficient children to warrant, as follows: School house at Crozier Mills, township of Crozier; school house on the south-east quarter of section 9, township of Devlin; school house at junction of Rainy River Road and Devlin Road, Woodyatt; school house on lot 24, River Range (Big Forks), Aylsworth; school house

on north-west quarter of section 3, also one in the Village of Emo, both in Lash; school house in course of erection on the town line between Shenston and Dobie. All the school houses are used for religious purposes.

STORES, MILLS, ETC.

Barwick has two general stores, also a post office. The Village of Emo is a stirring, busy place, containing two saw mills, two well-stocked general stores, a large hotel, post office, blacksmith shop, hardware, tin-smith, shoemaker and carpenter shops, besides the school house and church. Big Fork has a grist and saw mill, a general store, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, post office, harness maker and Crown Land office and school house. We have a post office at Isherwood and a saw mill at Crozier.

UNLOCATED LANDS.

There is unlocated land in Aylsworth, 1,468 acres; Crozier, 7,604 acres; Carpenter, 12,623 acres; Devlin, 5,826 acres; Dobie, 10,562 acres; Lash, 5,990 acres; Roddick, 644 acres; Woodyatt, 677 acres.

I have no returns of the areas of lands in the township of Burriss. There are at time of writing forty-five applications. Allowing each applicant 160 acres it will make 7,200 acres applied for. The balance of the township is unlocated.

Mechanics are plentiful. I know of no branch where an artisan could make a living unless he combined his trade with farming.

Letters From Bona-Fide Settlers in Rainy River District

AUGUST AUERBACH, Big Forks: Concerning my opinion of the Rainy River District I would say that I have lived on a river lot for over eleven years, and am here to stay. The soil is good and the climate, although pretty cold in winter, very healthy. A man can readily find sale, at good prices, for all he raises. With proper cultivation the soil will produce good, paying crops. There are good schools all through this district. The new settlers are invariably pleased with their new home. The old settlers, having ten or fifteen years ago no means to speak of, are getting along well, nearly all of them having good barns, dwellings, stock, etc. I have no hesitation in saying that any experienced farmer, with even moderate means, coming to this country in order to make a new home for himself, will have good success.

OTTO HEHRMAN, Big Forks: After a residence of thirteen years on the banks of Rainy River, I can say that I am well satisfied with this part of Ontario. The land is very fertile, producing good crops when well worked. The markets are good for all a farmer can produce. One remarkable fact is that anyone leaving the district invariably returns to it again.

C. R. LANGSTAFF, Emo, P.O.: I would say that my experience, and what I have observed in others, is that any man who has good health and is not afraid to put his shoulder to the wheel, can make a success

here, either as farmer, mechanic, laborer or merchant. Of course he has got to keep right at his occupation and attend to the same, whatever it may be, and if he does he is bound to make a success. I came here in the month of October, 1891, and opened up a small store at this place in connection with my partner, Mr. E. J. Boucher. At that time there was no other building in sight besides the one we occupied. I enclose you a photograph of Emo, taken last summer, which shows the advancement this place has made since my arrival here. The settlement has increased over seventy-five per cent. : roads have been built, churches erected, and school is taught the full term, and the large majority of the settlers are prosperous and happy. Of course, as is to be found in all communities, some are dissatisfied.

I have done considerable at farming since coming here, and I find grain of all kinds do well. I have grown for a first crop seventy-four bushel of oats to the acre. Timothy and clover grow in abundance, two ton of hay per acre being an average yield. Vegetables of all kinds do well and are of good quality. Watermelons and tomatoes ripen in the open garden. Now that the Ontario and Rainy River Railway is in sight, and no doubt that it will be built in the near future, I think any man who is thinking of moving to a new country cannot do better than visit Rainy River and examine the soil, and learn the advantages for himself.

D. D. McLEAN, Big Forks : I came into Rainy River District four years ago last May, and took up a claim three years ago. I have found the soil easily cleared and very fertile. I have grown wheat, oats and corn and find the soil admirably adapted for all three. This is one of the best, if not the best, countries in the world for growing potatoes. I had last summer a late crop sown on the fourth of July and they turned out splendid. This shows that, although our season is short, the rapid growth more than balances things in our favor. To any young man who is not afraid of work and is desirous of making a home, I would say that I do not think he can do better than give this district a trial.

ROBERT WATSON, Isherwood P.O. : I came to Rainy River in the spring of 1896 with wife and family of five, two sons grown up. We had a small stock of horses, cattle, pigs and poultry to begin pioneer life in the bush. Located on river front seven and a half miles from Fort Francis. Homestead all bush. One son, located in Devlin township, is very comfortable and independent. I have never regretted coming here; both places are now sufficiently improved to get our deed, having good frame buildings thereon. No tract of land in "Old Ontario" of the area of this valley can compare with it for depth of soil and all-round productiveness, this is almost invariably admitted. Our winter work for men or horses is remunerative, in fact almost too much so, as chopping on the homestead is often neglected in winter to obtain the ready dollar a day and board for man, or \$2.50 and found for team.

The industrious man with a slight knack of that trade of trades, land clearing, need have no fear of success. Rainy River is no Utopia. The man who will be chased by a mosquito should never come, but the stout of heart ignore so puny an adversary, and prevail. The O. & R. R. railroad about to be constructed will give an impetus to immigration sufficient to occupy the best and most desirable locations during the forth-

coming season. The prices for clearing land are variable, according to weight and nature of bush, running all the way from \$3.00 to \$25.00 per acre. Once cleared and seeded with timothy and clover, twelve successive cuttings is not unusual. Stones are at a premium here.

Our markets are the highest in America for farm produce, outside of the Klondyke. At date of writing the prices are as under: Potatoes, \$1.00 per bushel; oats, 90c. per bushel; beef, by the quarter, 8c. per lb. pork, 10c. per lb.; hay, \$15.00 a ton.

Lumber camps and gold mines consume far more than we can produce. We look for lower prices on completion of the railway, but will continue to have freight rates and shippers profits to add to prices at outside points, east or west.

F. W. STUART, Fort Francis, Ont.: Referring to the agricultural section of Rainy River, would say that I have been a resident thereof for the past three summers and almost two winters. The climate is all that any reasonable man could desire. I have expended now over ten thousand dollars of my hard earnings in purchasing and improving land here, and if I wished to invest more there is no other place in Canada in which I have seen better prospects for good returns. The land is especially adapted for farming and lies convenient to roller flour mills, saw mills and other advantages in Emo and Fort Francis, rarely found in new sections. I am not a tenderfoot but know what life in new sections means and must say in few words, that considering everything, this is the best I have ever seen.

J. C. McLOOR, Fort Francis, Ont.: I will give you my views as to what I know of this Rainy River District. I have been over a great part of Canada and other places, and I venture to say that in none of them can be found the same advantages. We have a good climate and a soil that cannot be surpassed in any country, well watered and good timber of medium size, wheat, oats and other cereals, as well as potatoes and vegetables, and all things will compare favorably with any other place that I know of. I have no hesitation in saying that in no other place that I have visited is there the same opportunity for an industrious person to make a good comfortable living as there is here. Crops have never been known to fail, there is a good market, the gold mining camps buy everything that the settlers can grow at good prices. I am very certain that in two years from date there will be no free land to be had in this part of the district, as settlers are coming in very fast from all parts.

S. ROGERS, Emo, Ont.: I have been here for about one year, but have seen considerable of the country, and previous to coming here I have travelled considerably through other places, but have no hesitation in saying that for a person who wishes to farm and make a home there is no place which I have seen which offers better advantages. The soil is unsurpassed in any country, with a good market for all kinds of grain and vegetables at excellent prices. The country is well watered, and has sufficient timber for all purposes. The people here have never had a surplus of anything in the way of grain, hay, vegetables or meats, and will not be able to supply the demand for years, on account of the rapid development of the gold mining industries on the Lake of the Woods, Seine River and other places in the district.



TOWN OF RAT PORTAGE, RAINY RIVER DISTRICT.



VILLAGE OF FORT FRANCES, ON RAINY RIVER.



HARVESTING ON WAL WATSON'S FARM NEAR FORT FRANCES, RAINY RIVER.



FARMS OF JAMES LUTTRELL AND R. REID ON RAINY RIVER.



FARM OF A. CARMICHAEL, BIG FORKS, RAINY RIVER.



VILLAGE OF EMO, ON RAINY RIVER.



GEO. SLEEMAN'S FARM ON RAINY RIVER.



WILFRED LOW'S FARM ON RAINY RIVER, NEAR FORT FRANCES.

JOHN LOCKHART & SON, Emo, Ont.: I came to this country three years ago last March with the intention of erecting a small saw and shingle mill to supply lumber and shingles for the Seine River gold fields. But becoming acquainted with the wants of the people we erected a four story flour mill, the very best merchant mill, complete in its system, capacity 50 bbls. Our saw mill is capable of turning out twenty thousand feet, board measure, in ten hours. Custom sawing, \$3.00; narrow matched, \$4.00; lumber in the rough, \$7.00 to \$10.00; lumber, fine dressing, \$16.00 to \$20.00. One million feet of custom logs in the yard, and the firm is taking out half million white pine. Cost of milling plant, \$20,000. This is the finest agricultural land I have ever seen. This country will produce more wheat and clover than any country in the east of Ontario, even the celebrated county of Bruce.

(Judge) JAMES ROBINSON, Rat Portage, stipendiary magistrate, District of Rainy River: In reply to your question of what I thought of the Rainy River valley as a field for settlement, I beg to state:

That having a residence of fifteen years in the district, a large portion of which my duties have necessitated trips up the Rainy River two or three times a year, I have had an opportunity of judging the capabilities of the district as a field for settlement, and I unhesitatingly say that I consider this district affords a better field for settlers than any other portion of Canada that I know of. The district has such varied industries—fishing, lumbering, mining—involving an ever increasing trade on the lake, that all agricultural produce raised finds a ready and profitable market at the farmer's door. The district, owing to the water stretches, is easily accessible. In no country under the sun is life and property so safe as in Canada, and our school system is the best in the world. *The settlers coming in are the very best, for the reason that they are Canadians and Americans.*

D. BIDDISON: "Cabbage 12 to 14 lbs., started from seed, not sets. 230 bush. of potatoes on one quarter acre."

WM. PHAIR, Merchant and Farmer: "Produced last year 49 bush. of Fife wheat per acre; 270 bush. of oats on four acres. Clover seeded down, 12 years cutting, two crops every year. Last year it was exceptionally good. Between two and three tons of timothy per acre; first crop cut early in June, second crop early in September, equally as good."

THOS. S. LUNDY, Emo, Ont.: "The soil on Rainy River cannot be surpassed. You can sow barley on new ground, harrow it as late as the middle of July and get a good crop. Duncan Reed, my neighbor, sowed two bags of wheat, about 4 bushels, result 96 bushels. Where the ground is properly cultivated, I don't care what you plant you will get a crop. Fall and spring wheat does immense. Plenty of pasture in the bush."

Mr. WILLIAM KENNEDY, a Rainy River Farmer, says: "He raised last year, on one acre of ground, 350 bushels of potatoes of marketable size, all of which were picked over in the field and sacked for weighing. All were fine and large. On a neighboring farm a man got a half bushel of potatoes out of one hill, of which six weighed twenty-one pounds. On an eighth of an acre 75 bushels were grown which is at the rate of 600 bushels per acre. Onions were grown on a patch of ground that yielded at the rate of 400 bushels to the acre. Peas, beans, cabbage and all vegetables grow in profusion, while fine ripe tomatoes and small fruits are

also grown. Wheat and oats of an excellent quality are grown at the rate of about 50 to 60 bushels per acre. Standing oats have been measured and found to be 6 feet 4 inches in height. Timothy sown in the spring and cut in the fall grow to a height of 4 feet 6 inches and at about 3 tons to the acre. Everything grows in fine style."

Freight Rates.

Freight rates on car loads, 20,000 lbs. of settler's effects to Rat Portage are quoted as follows :

From Gretna	\$10 00
" Montreal, Toronto and Windsor.....	65 00
" S. S. Marie	52 00
" Chicago	67 50
" Duluth via Gretna	27 50
" Port Arthur.....	14 90
" Fort William	14 65

For less than 20,000 lbs. 65c. per 100 lbs. Less than car loads will be understood to mean only household goods, farm machinery, implements and tools (second hand).

Rat Portage is the chief town in the Rainy River District and is the most accessible point of entrance. It is 300 miles northwest of Port Arthur. The Navigation Co's, of which there are three or four lines, will take passengers and settler's effects to Emo or any point on the river at the following rates: Passengers, \$2.65; in companies of ten, \$2. Children under ten, free. Freight, \$5 per ton, including transportation from car to boat and everything. Car load rates, per 20,000 pounds, about one-third off.

The following from Hon. Wm. Patterson, Minister of Customs, Ottawa, respecting the importation of cattle and hogs by settlers:

"Section 23.—Settler's cattle when accompanied by certificate of health, admitted without detention; when not accompanied by certificate they must be inspected. Section 25.—Any cattle found tuberculous, to be returned to the United States, or killed without indemnity." The same law applies to swine.

The Route of the Rainy River Railway.

Surveyors have for some time past been at work definitely locating the proposed Rainy River Railroad. If the present survey be followed, the line will cross from the American side into the township of Atwood on lot 24, a short distance below Hughes & Atkinson's saw mill. The road is not yet located to Rainy Lake, but a line running east and west, north of the township of Crozier, and running westward from two to four miles north of Rainy River, will probably be the route chosen. It is thought that this portion of the road will not be constructed during the season of 1899, as the heavy work east of Rainy Lake will probably take two years. This latter portion of the proposed line will open a section of country to settlement equally as good if not better than the lands bordering the River itself.

The completion of the railway will also afford a better opportunity of delivering timber of all kinds along the Rainy River. Settlers who hereafter take up timbered land will have a chance of a remunerative short haul for their products. The Crown Timber Agent at Rat Portage reports that there were about 153,000 ties taken out by farmers along the Rainy River in 1898, besides a large quantity of cedar posts and telegraph poles (which were all clear of dues). Pulpwood is steadily increasing in value, and this fact alone will be an inducement for settlers to select these timbered lands in preference to prairie country. He estimates that two-thirds of the timber on Rainy River is suitable for pulp. The larger sized poplar is also used in the manufacture of stave bolts, which find a ready market.

It is estimated that 200,000 ties, 5,000 telegraph poles, 3,000 piles and 5,000 cords of wood will be cut on lands occupied by actual settlers in the Rainy River District during 1899.

There are large sections of good agricultural lands east of Fort Frances, especially along the river valleys, which will no doubt be taken up, with the advent of the new railway, the timber here being similar to that on Rainy River, though not in such large quantities.

The mining industry has assumed such proportions in the vicinity of the Seine River as to make a gradually increasing market for skilled and unskilled labor. As to the fish industry, the railway will open up a district of lakes and rivers hitherto inaccessible, where merchantable fish abound. The eastern portion of the road will pass through the rich iron range, commencing at Atik-Okan and running east to Shebandawan through immense deposits of iron.

PART VI.
REGULATIONS
UNDER THE
FREE GRANTS AND HOMESTEADS ACT.

Persons desiring to take the benefit of the Free Grants Act must apply to the Crown Lands Agent for the district in which they intend to settle. The agent will give them information as to what land is open for settlement, and will furnish them with printed forms of affidavits which are necessary to be made by the applicants.

On being properly located by a Crown Lands Agent and on performance of settlement duties, a single man over eighteen, or a married man, without children under eighteen residing with him, or the female head of a family having children under eighteen residing with her, is entitled to a free grant of 100 acres. If the 100 acres selected consists of a considerable portion of rock, swamp or waste land, the Commissioner of Crown Lands may make an allowance for such waste land, and may increase the quantity of land located to any number of acres not exceeding 200 acres. The male head of a family having a child or children under eighteen residing with him or her may be located for 200 acres as a free grant. And such male head of a family is permitted to purchase another 100 acres at fifty cents per acre cash, at the time of location.

In the townships which are laid out in sections or lots of 320 acres or 160 acres, the locatee will be entitled only to 160 acres, and he or she may purchase another 160 acres for fifty cents an acre cash.

Upon being located, the locatee may enter and improve his land, and he is required to do so within one month.

Settlement duties as follows must be performed by all locatees and purchasers.

(1) *At least fifteen acres to be cleared and had under cultivation, of which two acres at least are to be cleared and cultivated annually during the five years.*

(2) *To have built a habitable house, at least 16 by 20 feet in size.*

(3) *And to have resided actually and continuously upon and cultivated the land for five years after location and thence to the issue of the patent.*

The locatee, however, may be absent from the land on business or at work for not more than six months in any one year.

Where the locatee owns two lots the improvement may be made on either or both.

A locatee purchasing an additional 100 acres must within five years clear fifteen acres and cultivate the same. If the lot is adjacent to the

lot on which he resides the patent may issue for the purchased lot at the expiration of the the time required by law, provided he has thirty acres cleared upon his homestead.

The pine trees and minerals are not sold to the free grant settler, but the settler has the privilege of cutting pine in the course of clearing, also for building purposes and fencing upon this lot. If he sells any of the pine cut in the course of clearing he must pay timber dues upon it. On the issue of the patent, the title to the pine remains in the Crown but the patentee is entitled to receive one-third of the timber dues paid by the licensee on pine cut on the patentee's lot after the 30th of April next following the issue of the patent.

On the 30th of April next following the location of any lot, the right of the timber licensee to cut any timber other than pine on the settler's lot ceases.

Holders of timber licenses have the right to haul timber over the uncleared portion of any land located or sold, to make roads for that purpose, to use all slides, portages and roads and to have free access to all streams and lakes.

The Crown reserves the right to construct on any land located or sold, any colonization road or any deviation from the Government allowance for road; and to take without compensation any timber, gravel or material required for such road.

Before the issue of the patent, any assignment or mortgage of a homestead is invalid. This does not apply to devise by will nor to transfer of land for church, cemetery, or school purposes or the right of way of railroads.

After the issue of the patent and within twenty years from location, any conveyance, mortgage or alienation by a locatee will be invalid unless it be by deed in which his wife is one of the grantors. But if the wife is a lunatic, or living apart from her husband for two years, under such circumstances as disentitle her to alimony, or if the wife has not been heard of for seven years, a Judge of the High Court may order that her concurrence be dispensed with.

The land is not liable for debts created before the issue of the patent.

The land while owned by the locatee, his widows, heirs, or devisees is exempt, for twenty years after location, from liability for debts, except debts secured by mortgage made after the issue of the patent, and except from sale for taxes.

When a locatee dies, whether before or after issue of patent, leaving a widow, she is entitled to take the land during her widowhood unless she prefers to take her dower instead.

Townships in Algoma open for Location under the Act.

The following townships have been opened for location as free grants:

POWASSAN AGENCY.—Hardy, Himsworth, Nipissing, Laurier, Patterson, Chisholm. Agent, J. S. Scarlett, Powassan, Ont.

The route from Toronto is by Grand Trunk Railway ; from eastern points by Canadian Pacific to North Bay, thence by Grand Trunk Railway to Powassan.

MATTAWA AGENCY.—Bonfield, Calvin, Ferris, Mattawan, Papineau. Agent, ——— Mattawa, Ont.

The route from Toronto to Mattawa is by the Grand Trunk Railway to North Bay, thence by Canadian Pacific.

THESSALON AGENCY.—Plummer. Agent, W. L. Nichols, Thessalon.

The route is from Toronto to Collingwood or Owen Sound by railway, thence by steamer ; or from Toronto by Grand Trunk Railway to North Bay, thence by Canadian Pacific.

ST. JOSEPH ISLAND AGENCY.—St. Joseph Island. Agent, George Hamilton, Richard's Landing, Ont.

SAULT STE. MARIE AGENCY.—Korah, Parke, Prince. Agent, Wm. Turner, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Lands in Algoma and Nipissing open for Sale.

Under an Order in Council, dated May 18, 1899, the price of lands in Algoma, heretofore sold at 20 cents an acre, was increased to 50 cents an acre cash, or 60 cents on time, viz. : One-third cash, balance in two years with interest at 6 per cent. per year, subject to the usual conditions of actual settlement and cultivation, and as to all the regulations in force affecting pine or other timber, and subject also to the condition that no greater quantity of land than 160 acres shall be sold to any one person unless the Commissioner of Crown Lands shall deem it in the public interest to increase the area in any particular case to an area not exceeding 320 acres.

THESSALON AGENCY.—Bright and Bright Additional, Coffin and Coffin Additional, Day, Galbraith, Gladstone, Houghton, Johnson, Kirkwood, Lefroy, Parkinson, Patton, Rose, Tarbutt and Tarbutt Additional, Thompson, Wells. Agent, Wm. L. Nichols, Thessalon, Ont.

SPANISH RIVER AGENCY.—Victoria, Hallam, Salter, May, Sheddon. Agent, David M. Brodie, Massey Station, Ont.

Massey Station is on the Sault Ste. Marie Branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The lands in the following townships in the Districts of Nipissing and Algoma are open for sale at 50 cents per acre, one-half cash and the balance in two years with interest at six per cent., subject to the conditions of (1) actual residence on the land purchased for four years from date of purchase ; (2) clearing and putting under cultivation ten acres for every 100 purchased ; (3) building a habitable house 16x20 ft. at least. Pine trees are reserved from such sales until the 30th April next following the issue of the patents :

STURGEON FALLS AGENCY.—Caldwell, Springer, McKim. Agent, J. D. Cockburn, Sturgeon Falls, Ont.

Sturgeon Falls is a station on the Canadian Pacific west of the Northern and Pacific Junction.

SUDBURY AGENCY.—Balfour, Dowling, Rayside. Agent, Thos. J. Ryan, Sudbury, Ont.

Sudbury is a station on the C. P. R., at the junction of the main line with the Sault branch.

Railway Lands for Sale.

Under the Railway Aid Act, 1889, the undermentioned townships have been withdrawn from the Free Grants Act and set aside to be sold, the proceeds to be applied to forming a fund to recoup the Province in respect of moneys expended in aiding railways.

The terms of sale are: When such lands possess a mineral value they will be sold as the prices set forth in the Mines Act, which see. When suited for agricultural purposes the lands will be sold at \$2 per acre, payable one-third in cash and the balance in two equal annual instalments with interest at six per cent. The purchaser will be entitled to a patent at the expiration of two years from the date of sale upon completion of settlement duties, viz: two years' actual occupation; clearing and having under crop ten acres for every 100 acres; and the erection of a habitable house 16x20 ft. at least. The pine and minerals are reserved except what pine may be necessary to the purchaser for building and fencing.

SPANISH RIVER AGENCY.—Baldwin, South half of Nairn, Foster, South half of Lorne, Merritt. Agent, David M. Brodie, Massey Station, Ont.

STURGEON FALLS AGENCY.—Widdifield. Agent, J. D. Cockburn, Sturgeon Falls, Ont.

Rainy River Lands for Sale.

Under an Order in Council, dated May 18, 1889, the Order of Council of October 12, 1889, appropriating the Rainy River lands as free grants, was revoked (except in regard to lots heretofore located, the locatees of which shall be entitled to complete settlement duties and obtain patents under the Rainy River and Free Grants and Homesteads Act); that the lots in the townships which have not heretofore been located, and the lots located, the locations of which have been or shall hereafter be cancelled, be opened for sale at 50 cents an acre, half cash, and the balance in two years, with interest at six per cent. per annum, subject to the conditions of actual residence upon the lands purchased for three years from the date of purchase, clearing and putting under cultivation ten acres in every hundred, and building a habitable house of the dimensions of 16x20 feet; also subject to the pine timber regulations, and that the quantity of land to be sold to any one person shall be limited to 160 acres.

The following townships are now open for location upon the above terms: Curran, Atwood, Blue, Worthington, Nelles, Carpenter, Dilke, Pattullo, Morley, S. of Morley, Tait, Shenton, Rosebery, Barwick, Lash, Aylsworth, Devlin, Woodyatt, Crozier, Roddick, Dobie.

Agents for Sale and Location of Lands.

Wm. Campbell, Rainy River, P. O., agent for the townships of Rosebery, Shenston, Tait, Pattullo, Morley, Dilke, Nelles, Blue, Worthington, Curran and Atwood.

William Stephenson, Big Forks P. O., agent for the townships of Barwick, Lash, Aylsworth, Devlin, Woodyatt, Crozier, Roddick, Carpenter and Dobie.

E. A. Chapman, Rat Portage, who will furnish intending settlers with the number of lots open for location.

C. J. Hollands, Fort Frances P. O., agent for sale of lands in township of McIrvine and government town plot of Alberton (Fort Frances.)

Wabigoon Lands.

The land in the Wabigoon country is open for sale at 50 cents per acre, half cash down, and the balance in three equal annual instalments at 6 per cent., subject to the following conditions :—

(1) Actual residence on the land purchased for at least six months in each of the three years, or for two years continuously.

(2) Clearing and putting under cultivation 10 per cent. of the land purchased.

(3) Building a habitable house of not less than 16x20 feet.

The amount of land each applicant may purchase shall not exceed 160 acres; but if the head of a family, the applicant may purchase 240 acres. As soon as the land has been fully paid for and all the conditions of settlement have been fulfilled, the purchaser may obtain his patent.

The Crown Lands Agent for this section is A. E. Annis, Dryden, Ont.

Temiscamingue Lands.

At the head of Lake Temiscamingue townships have been surveyed and laid out as follows :

TOWNSHIPS SURVEYED.—Lorraine, Bucke, Hudson, Dymond, Harris, Casey, Harley, Kerns, Henwood, Bryce, Beauchamp, Armstrong, Hilliard, Brethour, Ingram, Evanturel, Dack, Robillard, Sharp, Savard, Chamberlain, Marter, Pacaud, Marquis, Blair.

OPEN FOR SETTLEMENT.—Bucke, Dymond, Hudson, Casey, Harris. Agent : John Armstrong, Thornloe, Ont.

Terms of Purchase.

The land in the five last-named townships is open to purchase by *bona fide* settlers at the price of fifty cents per acre, one-half cash and the balance in two yearly instalments with interest, subject to the following conditions :

Actual residence upon the land purchased for four years from the date of purchase, clearing and having under cultivation and crop at least ten acres for every hundred acres, and building a habitable house at least sixteen feet by twenty feet, such condition to be fulfilled before issue of patent ; also subject to the following regulations respecting pine timber : All pine trees growing or being upon the said land so sold shall be considered as reserved from such sale, and such land shall be subject to any timber license covering or including such land in force at the time of such sale, or granted or renewed within four years from the date of such sale, or granted or renewed prior to the filing of the proof of the completion of the settlement duties in the Department of Crown Lands and such trees may be cut and removed from such land under the authority of any such timber licenses, while lawfully in force ; but the purchaser at such sale, or those claiming under him, may cut and use such trees as may be necessary for the purpose of building and fencing on the land so purchased, and may also cut and dispose of all trees required to be removed in actually clearing said land for cultivation ; but no pine trees, except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid, shall be cut beyond the limit of such actual clearing, before the issuing of the patent for such lands, and all pine trees so cut and disposed of (except for the necessary building and fencing as aforesaid), shall be subject to the payment of the same dues as are at the time payable by the holders of licenses to cut timber or sawlogs. Provided, however, that this order shall not apply to any land to be sold as mining land under "The General Mining Act of 1869," and amendments thereto.

Preservation of Forests from fire.

The Provincial Legislature has taken steps to prevent for the future the waste of our forest resources by fire. No one must set fire in the woods between 1st April and 1st November except for the purpose of

clearing land, cooking, obtaining warmth or some industrial purpose. Everyone setting a fire between those days for the purpose of clearing land is to take every reasonable care that the fire shall not extend into the bush. Everyone setting a fire for any other purpose is to select a place in the neighborhood in which there is the smallest quantity of vegetable matter, or of resinous trees; to clear the place of all loose vegetable matter for a radius of ten feet from the fire; and to exercise due care to prevent a fire from spreading. Any person who drops any lighted match, or burning tobacco ashes, or discharges any firearm, must extinguish the fire caused by these substances before he leaves the spot. All locomotive engines must be equipped with spark arresters. Any infringement of the above provisions subjects the offender to a penalty of \$50 and costs or three months' imprisonment. The Crown Lands Agents, forest agents, free grant agents and bushrangers are to prosecute in every case of infringement of the Act that comes to their knowledge.

Mineral Lands.

Mines and minerals are not included in grants or sales under the Free Grant Act, or sales under the Public Lands Act for cultural purposes after May 4th, 1891.

The grantees of such land are, however, entitled to compensation for all injury to their surface rights caused by mining operations.

Mining lands may be acquired from the Crown either by purchase or lease.

PART VII.

ONTARIO'S MINERAL RESOURCES.

The mineral wealth of Ontario is very great, and by far the larger part of it is situated in the unsettled districts of the Province. The annual reports of the Bureau of Mines deal with the progress and development of the mining industry, and those who are specially interested in mining affairs are referred to these and other sources of information for fuller details as to the vast underground wealth which exploration year by year shows the Province to be possessed of. A few paragraphs, however, may be here devoted to the subject, since there is a close connection between the agricultural and mining industries, the latter furnishing a ready and profitable market both for farm labor and farm produce.

The great mineral-bearing formation of Ontario is the Huronian, which attains a large development in various parts of the Province. One of the principal occurrences of this formation is the belt which stretches from the southeastern shore of Lake Superior eastward along the north shore of Lake Huron, and continuing northeasterly crosses into the Province of Quebec at Lake Temiscaming. Within this belt are situated the copper and nickel ores of the Sudbury district, the gold deposits of Lake Wahnapiatae and the country north of Thessalon, and the copper beds of Bruce Mines and elsewhere. The famous nickel ores of Sudbury and surrounding region constitute one of the two sources of the world's supply of this metal, and the mines are at the present time (1899) being worked on a larger scale than ever. On the eastern shore of Lake Superior an extensive area has been set apart as the Michipicoton Mining Division, where many gold-bearing quartz veins have been found, as well as deposits of iron and copper. Further west, in the neighborhood of Jackfish Bay gold has also been discovered, and a zinc mine near Schreiber on the C. P. R. is being actively worked. The silver mines of the Port Arthur district have suffered from the general depression of the silver mining industry brought about by the fall in the price of that metal, but several of them have again been opened, and a quantity of very rich ore has been taken out.

In Northwestern Ontario gold has been discovered over a very large area, and a great number of locations have been made for this metal. The several districts may be spoken of as the Lake of the Woods, Upper Seine, Lower Seine and Manitou. The first-named section was the first to be developed, the principal working and producing mines being the Sultana, Regina and Mikado. The first is working 30 stamps and the last named 20. The Regina operates a Tremaine mill with a capacity equal to 30 stamps. The Upper Seine river region is characterized by a considerable number of very large bodies of low grade ore. One of the chief of these is the Hammond dike, a zone of shattered schist, holding bands of quartz, the whole in some parts not less than 700 feet wide, and having a total length of three miles. A 10-stamp experimental mill on the Hammond Reef property is being replaced by a 40-stamp plant. The

ease with which the ore can be quarried from these beds and treated by the stamping process makes it likely that they can be worked with a good profit. In the Lower Seine country the ore is of higher grade, the chief working mines being the Foley, Golden Star, Olive and Alice A. Very many other properties here and in the other districts are undergoing development, and will probably enter the list of producers ere long. The Manitou region contains much rich ore, but developments have not reached so high a point as in some other parts.

The gold of Northwestern Ontario occurs in quartz veins, from two or three feet wide up to masses of the magnitude already described. Some of the veins are gash or bedded veins, while others are true fissures. For the most part the ore is free milling, and can be treated by the stamping and amalgamation processes. The only feature presenting any difficulty is the fineness of the gold in some of the deposits.

Iron ores in great abundance are found on the Mattawin and Atikokan rivers, and also near Gunflint lake and in the neighborhood of Port Arthur. There are deposits of both magnetite and hematite, and the quality is excellent.

The recent rise in the price of copper has greatly stimulated the search for that metal, and several promising deposits are being opened up in the townships north of Lake Huron, chiefly in Gould and Coffin, not far from the once-famed Bruce Mines, which property itself is not unlikely to come under operation again.

A feature of Northern and Northwestern Ontario which greatly facilitates exploration is the abundance of water in the shape of rivers, streams and lakes, forming a network of communication over which a canoe can travel in almost any desired direction. The water is of good quality, fit not only for milling, but also for drinking. In the main, the country is well wooded, affording ample supplies of timber for fuel and use in the mine. The climate is healthy, though cold in winter, and good labor can be procured at the settlements. The Canadian Pacific Railway affords first-class communication from Mattawa to Rat Portage, and a fleet of steamers on Lake of the Woods gives regular access to all points on the shores of that lake and as far as Fort Frances, the head of navigation on the Rainy River. Steamers also ply on Rainy lake. Ingress is had to the Upper and Lower Seine regions by way of a Colonization road from Bonheur station on the C. P. R. There is navigation for steamers from Wabigoon on the C. P. R. over the whole of Wabigoon and Manitou lakes. The Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway extends from Port Arthur to Gunflint lake on the boundary between Canada and the United States, and the Ontario and Rainy River Railway, when completed, will run through the heart of the gold and iron regions.

In Eastern Ontario the minerals which are found in paying quantities are gold, iron, copper, lead, mica, apatite, corundum, actinolite and talc. Gold occurs both in free milling quartz and arsenical pyrites in the Hastings district, and is at present being won from both of these classes of ore. Iron mining in the east has also received a great impetus lately, the demand for magnetic and hematite ores of good quality for smelting in the blast furnaces at Hamilton and Deseronto being large and active.

The latest addition to Ontario's mineral wealth is corundum, very large deposits of which have been located in Hastings and Renfrew counties. Corundum is mainly used for abrasive purposes, but if, as is thought, it can be utilized as an ore of aluminum, the prospects are that a large industry may be built up for the production of this new and useful metal.

The production of gold bullion in the Province during 1898 was 16,075 ounces, worth \$271,906.48, not including the output of one mine from which no returns were received. Compared with 1897 it is by weight 4,663 ounces and by value \$81,662.48 more than in that year, and there appears to be no doubt that 1899 will see a much larger increase.

The mines in the Sudbury district produced during the year in the form of matte the equivalent of 8,373,560 pounds of fine copper and 5,567,690 pounds of fine nickel, which, valued at the selling prices at the works, represents \$268,080 worth of the former metal and \$514,220 of the latter.

The pig iron product of the Province for the same year was 48,253½ tons of 2,000 pounds, valued at the smelting works at \$530,789.

Ontario's Mining Laws.

The mining laws of the Province are fair and liberal. Following is a summary:—

Price of Mining Lands.

The price of mining lands is:

a. If in surveyed territory and within six miles of any railway	\$3 50
b. If in surveyed territory within twelve miles of any railway	3 00
c. If situate elsewhere in surveyed territory . . .	2 50
d. If in unsurveyed territory and within six miles of any railway	3 00
e. If in unsurveyed territory within twelve miles of any railway	2 50
f. If situate elsewhere in unsurveyed territory .	2 00

In any locality set apart by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, the price may be fixed at a greater sum.

Tenure of Locations.

The patentee, during the seven years following the issue of the patent, must spend in development \$1 per acre during the first two years, and \$1 per acre during each remaining year or the equivalent of this expenditure in less time.

Leases of Mining Lands.

Mining lands may be leased for ten years with right of renewal for another ten years. Rent for first year is \$1 per acre; succeeding years, 30, 25, 20 or 15 cents per acre according to distance from a line of railway and whether the land is situate in surveyed or unsurveyed territory.

Such lease can afterwards be renewed for ten and subsequently for successive terms of twenty years. A condition of the lease is that there shall be spent in development the same sum as is required to be spent in case of land sold.

Pine Reserved.

The pine on mineral lands is reserved from the sale or lease. It may, however, be cut for building, fencing and fuel on the land patented. As to lessees, they can only cut dry pine for fuel, and before entering upon clearing, they must give the timber licensee three months' notice in writing of the intention to clear. If lessees wish to cut other timber than pine except for use on the lot, application for permission to cut must be made to the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Mining Rights.

The owner of the surface rights has priority in respect of the mining rights under certain conditions.

The price of mining rights is 50 per cent. of the rates for the purchase or lease of mineral lands.

Rights of Discoverer of New Mine.

The discoverer of a vein or lode of ore or mineral distant at least five miles from the nearest known mine, lode, or deposit of the same metal, ore or mineral, is entitled to a free grant of one location of 40 acres.

Staking out Claims.

In any part of the Province set apart as a Mining Division claims of 22½ or 40 acres may be staked out under authority of a miner's license and may be held upon performing certain working conditions. Claims may also be staked out and held in unsurveyed territory not valuable for pine timber.

Royalties.

The following royalties are payable on all ores and minerals mined :

	On lands sold between 1st May, 1891, and 1st Jan., 1900.	On lands sold after 1st January, 1900.
Silver, nickel, or pickel and copper	2 per cent.	3½ per cent.
Iron ore, not exceeding	2 "	2 "
All other ores, not exceeding	2 "	3 "

The royalty is not to be imposed until after seven years from the date of the patent or lease, and in respect of lands sold or leased previous to 1st January, 1900, the charge is to be based on the value of the ore less the actual cost of raising the same to the surface and its subsequent treatment for the market.

Bounty on Pig Iron.

An "Iron Mining Fund" of \$125,000 has been formed, out of which there will be paid for every ton of iron produced from ore mined and smelted in the Province for a period of five years from 1st January, 1896, the sum of one dollar, to the amount of not more than \$25,000 in any year.

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