

the old settlements has been opened at the expense of Mr. David Price, at which place a coramon dwelling is about being put up for the accommodation of fishing excursions. Apart from this spot and few very small patches lying here and there, along these lines the country adjoining, as seen on the heights as we proceeded, presents but an enchainment of barren mountains towards the interior for miles, deficient of timber and dotted with quantities of lakes, and several of larger size than those met with on the lines. Such parts along said lines as would have been more favorable are taken up by the lakes designated on the accompanying plan, only useful to quench the thirst of the few wild beasts frequenting that country; but towards the 'Bergeronnes' there seems to exist a fine extent of ground, well covered with timber and much less mountainous. When that part will be explored something good will likely turn out. It must not be understood that the remnant of this township will be unproductive; an immense tract of good ground lies between *Anse de la Passe Pierre* and *Anse de la Grosse Roche*. Several lots have been marked, and it will not be long before application will be made for subdividing it. Also a fine extent exists abutting East Branch range north, that being nearly cleared by fires.

"In conclusion, I would recommend for the prompt settlement of this township, as the attraction is very strong there, that the communication to it should be effected as early as possible. This is the only impediment; should that be realized there would be there a dense population in a very limited time. There is already the advantage of a winter road from *Anse à l'eau* to the first lake, and that just now used for drawing fuel, a distance of 2½ miles. At the angles of said outlines I have planted cedar posts, six inches square, with stone boundaries, duly inscribed A. T. and B. T."

TOWNSHIPS OF ASHUAPMOUCHOUAN AND DEMEULES.

These townships situate on the right bank or south west side of the river Chamouchouan which discharges into Lake St. John, in the County of Chicoutimi occupy the ground valley of the upper Saguenay, and are collectively bounded on the south east by the Indian Reserve of Oujatchouan, and on the north west and south west by the waste lands of the Crown. The Township of Ashuapmouchouan contains 45,379 acres, whereof 30,529 acres were subdivided into farm lots: and Demeules, the northernmost of the two townships, contains 32,401 acres, whereof 18,551 acres were laid out into farm lots by Mr. P. L. Surveyor P. A. Tremblay, who reports on those townships as follows:—

"From the nature of the reports which I have transmitted at different periods, as often as circumstances would permit me, you will have remarked the great amount of arable land contained in the townships of Ashuapmouchouan and Demeules. With regard to the quality of the soil, it is quite certain that no land is superior to that of the valley of the river Ashuapmouchouan. Clayey land predominates here as in all other parts of the Saguenay country; in many localities the clay is covered with a layer of sand, three or four inches in depth, which is of great value in the cultivation of wheat, which on this land appears to be especially exempt from the attacks of the fly. The great characteristic of this valley is, that the land though well watered, does not present any obstacles to cultivation, such as deep ravines and lofty rocks, which abound in other parts of the Saguenay. Three fine parishes at least might be formed in these two townships, and I trust they may very shortly, if the Government encourages the views of the numerous settlers, who are about to proceed there. Judging from the information I have received from different parties, and from an exploration which I made myself towards the north east of the River Ashuapmouchouan, I am inclined to believe that there is a considerable amount of fine land. As a proof of the excellence of the climate, I may cite the prosperous condition of the settlers, who are now inhabiting the township of Roberval, which borders on the Indian lands. Last autumn the thermometer descended for the first time to zero, on the 16th October, at the place where I was camped at the back of the 6th range of Ashuapmouchouan, the same rate was observed at the same time by the curate in the township of Roberval.