

nearly its entire length and trains are running regularly along a considerable portion of it. As a consequence of the aid thus given, American capitalists under the management of Mr. F. H. Clergue have invested at least twenty-two millions of money in the railway and other enterprises on the Canadian side of the river. A striking evidence of the result of this investment is the fact that the population of Sault Ste. Marie has increased from about 5,000 seven years ago to about 13,000.

### **THE TEMISKAMING RAILWAY**

In order to afford access to the fertile belt, said to contain 16,000,000 acres of good land, lying west of Lake Temiskaming, the Government proposed building a railway from North Bay a distance of about 110 miles to the west side of Lake Temiskaming. The construction of this road was to serve the double purpose of affording an entrance to the district, and of furnishing a guarantee for cheap transportation in the interest of the settler. When this road was projected, the Opposition declared it would never be built, and that the whole object of announcing its construction was for political effect. Our answer to that is that the road is now under construction, and that probably within a year, or certainly within eighteen months, it will be completed. The contractor has already graded a considerable distance northerly from North Bay, and the work will be carried on, where practicable, during the winter.

### **MINING DEVELOPMENT**

As the result of the policy of the Government in connection with the Algoma Central Railway, the iron mines on the east side of Lake Superior in the neighborhood of Michipicoten are now in full operation, and during the year 1902 at least 400,000 tons of iron ore will have been mined to supply the smelting furnaces of Ontario or to meet the demands of the smelting furnaces of the United States. These mines now employ 500 men, and a fleet of sixteen steamers on Lake Superior for transportation.

### **NICKEL MINES**

During the year the Victoria Nickel Mines have been worked to their full capacity. Three hundred men are now engaged in mining operations at this point, and \$1,000,000 have been invested in construction and development.

### **SUDBURY NICKEL MINES**

The International Copper Company, with a capital of \$11,000,000, and employing 2,200 men, are meeting with great