

that they considered the lands about Lake St. John of the very best quality and much superior to those in their own neighbourhood, but that the want of communication between Grande Baie and Lake St. John had prevented them from beginning to make clearings, and that if the Kinogami Road, now so far advanced, were completed, that they would return there next year with a large number of settlers.

"The population of the County of Chicoutimi is increasing rapidly. I perceive that by the last census this county has been placed in the first rank. I think it has made more progress than the Eastern Townships, although these latter are everywhere intersected by roads and traversed even by railways, whilst we have not as yet a single means of communication by land with the parishes on the shore of the St. Lawrence, nor with the valley of Lake St. John. Had this great highway been completed three years ago, the census would have shewn an increase in our population of from 6 to 7 thousand souls. \* \*

"Real property in the Lower Saguenay has doubled in value during the last five years; in the Upper Saguenay, its value is annually increasing from 75 to 80 per cent.

"The grain crops in the County of Chicoutimi are wheat (which has suffered no damage from the fly), barley, peas, and oats. Potatoes are grown in abundance, but in many places they have been attacked with the disease. Frost caused no damage to the crops during the past year. In the County of Chicoutimi we have had an abundant harvest, more than sufficient for the maintenance of the settlers.

"Three new Townships have been surveyed this year in the neighborhood of Lake St. John, and the surveyors tell me that all the land they traversed in their operations was of the finest quality.

"Twenty-four miles of this road have been verbalized by the Municipal authorities."

#### *Kinogami Road—Second Section.*

Conductor—THEOPHILE BOULLIANE.

Appropriation for 1861	-	-	-	-	-	\$100
Amount expended	-	-	-	-	-	100

The section of the Kinogami Road which extends from River au Sable to the Portage des Roches had had the timber upon it removed some years ago; the roots of the trees, however were left. Having been for some time left in this state, the brushwood had in many places attained a height of fifteen feet, so that it became necessary to do the work over again to open the road for winter travel.

This second clearing, I learn from the Report of Dr. Martin, has been done in a satisfactory manner by the contractor.

From the Portage des Roches to the Bridge of Beau Portage, now in course of construction, a winter road has been opened by Mr. Boulliane, on the north west side of the River Chicoutimi; four miles of this road are made through the forest, the remaining mile is through fine cleared land.

A good road may easily be made, there being only three inconsiderable hills. Mr. Martin reports that the lands are adapted for agricultural purposes.

#### *Bridge over the Riviere au Sable*

Contractor—EPHRAIM TREMBLAY.

Amount appropriated in 1860	-	-	-	-	\$500 00
" expended in 1861	-	-	-	-	500 00

Although the first appropriation of \$400 was not sufficient to build this bridge, it was decided to expend it in drawing the lumber necessary for its construction. A contract was entered into to that effect between the Municipal Council of Chicoutimi and Mr. E. Tremblay, and the timber has been delivered on the spot and accepted.

Another sum of \$100 was afterwards appropriated for drawing stone for the bridge.