

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. Last fall and this spring being very dry until the second week in June, fall wheat and hay were not heavy crops, but the spring wheat, oats, barley, and turnips gave promise of large yields. The farm is surrounded by a substantial cedar post and wire fence. The farm buildings are across the railroad track and almost directly opposite the railway station. 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. 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. 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.

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

1. Cheap land and easily cleared (fifty cents per acre on easy terms).
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. The country is well watered with rivers, creeks and wells.