

The country is readily accessible, the Canadian Pacific running through it from end to end, and this fact, together with its nearness to centers of population, and the cheapness of its land, ranging from 50 cents to \$2.50 per acre, render it an attractive field for settlement. There seems to be no doubt that it will one day become the seat of very large sheep raising, dairying and stock raising interests, for which purpose it is pre-eminently adapted.

Sault Ste. Marie is the central point of the Algoma district. The town is easily reached either from older Ontario or the United States. It is situated on the "Soo line," a branch of the Canadian Pacific, connecting with St. Paul and Minneapolis in the west and Boston in the east. In addition, several steamship lines call there.

Nature of the Country

The land while very rich is not in an unbroken, continuous stretch, as is the case in the southern portion of Ontario. Its physical characteristics and appearance are entirely different, and is adapted to special lines of agricultural production. As has been described, this region belongs to the Laurentian and Huronian formations of Canada, and consequently we find that the rocks of these systems break up and intersect the land in the form of ridges and masses ("bluffs" as they are locally called), while the fruitful land is found in the alluvial deposits contained in the valleys or depressions which lie between. Taken as a whole, the country may be described as an undulating plateau or table land, elevated some 600 or 1,000 feet above the sea level, covered for the most part by a vigorous growth of forest. Between the ridges and protected by them, stretches of arable land, often unbroken for thousands of acres, wind in and out. The broken nature of the land has certainly been a drawback to the development of the country, and its settlement has been slow in consequence, many failing to realize that so much good farm land exists there. But first appearances are in this case deceptive, and often when a settlement is established it turns out that the amount of land fit for cultivation is even greater than was at first supposed.

The country exhibits an endless variety of hill and dale, rapid and cascade, lake, river and forest. Its numerous lakes and rivers constitute one of its marked features, and no country could be more abundantly blessed in this respect. Water of crystal purity abounds everywhere. Moreover, it has been found that the soil is of surprising richness. It will grow to perfection as many varieties of grasses and grains as grow anywhere, and grow them well; and its root crops are of such uniform excellence and certainty as to put the district's future for stock raising beyond a doubt. In cereals and grasses, its virgin soil produces crops which exceed in yield and quality the most favored sections of the United States, and even the average of Ontario generally.

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