

sent a few years ago to Laval University at Quebec, and on examination it was declared that the tree might be three hundred years old.

Another story with more historical data, relates to the site of the present city of Sherbrooke. Rogers and his band, in 1759, seeking vengeance for attacks made on New England settlements, marched north through the Canadian forests to the Indian village of St. Francis, near the St. Lawrence, which they destroyed while the place was in the possession of the women and children, the warriors being absent on a hunting expedition. On their return the Indians pursued Rogers and his followers, overtaking them at the junction of the Magog and St. Francis rivers, the present site of the city of Sherbrooke. A bloody fight took place, in which Rogers won, only to lose most of his followers by starvation and exposure in the subsequent march through the forests to the southward. It is said that golden candlesticks and other spoil, taken from the church in the Indian village, were buried somewhere along the banks of the Magog river. Probably many, in years gone by, have searched for this treasure, but always in vain.

A Paragraph of Real History.

The pioneer settlers of the Eastern Townships entered this territory in the closing years of the eighteenth century and the opening years of the nineteenth. They were hardy, courageous men and women, coming principally from the New England States. Some were United Empire Loyalists, preferring the hardships of the forest beneath the British flag to the easier lot of another land beneath another flag. They found an unbroken wilderness, but, undaunted, they cleared their little farms, communities were formed, villages sprang up, and the foundation was laid for the prosperity enjoyed by their descendants and all whose lot has since been cast in this favoured territory.

Present Conditions.

The Eastern Townships is to-day probably one of the most prosperous sections of all Canada. The financial depression which has been so widespread, has not been seriously felt here. Manufacturing industries in the towns have experienced quiet times, but agriculture has prospered, lumbering has never been more profitable, mining continues with undiminished activity. Business may be at a standstill across the imaginary boundary line to the south, communities elsewhere in Canada may feel the weight of hard times, but business, commercial

and agricultural, goes on as before in the Eastern Townships, almost unaffected by the financial stress.

The principal industrial and commercial centres are the city of Sherbrooke, the metropolis of the Eastern Townships, with a population of 15,000; Granby, which easily takes the second place in commercial importance; Coaticook, Magog, Richmond, Cowansville, Knowlton, Rock Island, Stanstead, Cookshire, Windsor Mills, Lake Megantic, Waterloo, Sutton, Danville, Waterville, Bedford, East Angus, Farnham, etc. There are now in the Eastern Townships 750 miles of first-class railways, affording transportation facilities such as few territories of this extent possess. Each town and village has its financial and public institutions, all indicative of the activity and stability of the commercial life. The Eastern Townships Bank, which holds a place among the best banking organizations in the Dominion, has its headquarters in Sherbrooke and branches in almost every town and village in the surrounding country.

An idea of the extent of Eastern Townships industry of various kinds may be had from statistics which are available. A recent agricultural census, completed in 1907, shows that 57% of the total land is cleared, while 43% remains in woodland, and 32% of the total is actually employed in crop raising. These figures taken as a whole indicate well balanced farming, woodland, pasture and cultivated fields prevailing in very fair proportions. So many acres yet to be brought under cultivation, give effective answer to anyone who claims that the land of the Eastern Townships is worn out. Nearly half of it has never been turned by the plow. The dairy census shows over 200,000 cows yielding the farmers a revenue of over \$6,000,000 annually.


The last census shows in the Eastern Townships 887 manufacturing establishments, with an invested capital of \$15,178,295, turning out annually manufactured goods valued at \$16,387,300. There was in 1904 an output from the asbestos mines valued at \$1,225,000.

These figures will give some idea of the varied and extensive operations which are carried on in the Eastern Townships.

The Eastern Townships' Summer.

Now, in the month of May, when the ice has broken from the grasp of winter, and, donning its summer garb, a word may be said of the Eastern Townships in summer.

It is then that the pretty villages, the verdant hills, the many lakes and rivers stand out in



their picturesque "Canada" become from the cities in Lakes Memphremont and other Canadian south in the United comes a summer house entertains cousin" on their the fields and a dining Eastern Townships. A century old, pioneers; a fertility has yielded by a thrifty, honest the heritage that picturesque villages beauty and a climate briefly, such are Townships.