

The third section extending from Shoal Harbor to the head of Clode Sound, passes up through a picturesque gorge forming the narrow valley of Shoal Harbor River. The hill-ranges rise very steeply on either side of the gorge, but especially on the western side, where perpendicular cliffs form a wall-like parapet for several miles. Emerging from this gorge and crossing the river, the line comes out upon a more open country, fairly well wooded, and skirts around a pretty sheet of water called Thorburn Lake. The outlet from this lake flows in a small, rugged and short stream into the Southwest River of Clode Sound. The line now follows the valley of the latter on its south side down to the mouth of the river, which is crossed by a magnificent iron bridge resting upon solid granite piers, having two spans of 125 feet each. Thence it winds around the head of the Sound to Port Blandford, where a long pier some 700 feet is constructed, out to a deep water terminus, where large steamers can load and unload with ease. This section of the line is for the most part well wooded, except where fire has denuded the forest, as in the vicinity of Shoal Harbor and Clode Sound. In each case fearful devastation of fine timber has taken place, and large areas of country are swept clean. At Shoal Harbor much property, including several of the settlers' houses and the Methodist church, were demolished in 1892. There appears to be a very extensive tract of green timber of fair size still available further up the valley of Shoal Harbor River and to the westward of Thorburn Lake, also on the upper portion of the S. W. River of Clode Sound. The entire country around the head of Clode Sound and for many miles back has been overrun by the fiery element several times in succession. There is not much land fit for cultivation on this section. Some small patches along the margin of Shoal Harbor River would if cleared yield good hay crops; again near Thorburn Lake there is some fairly good soil. Much of the land along the lower reaches of S. W. River and around the head of Clode Sound might be reclaimed to advantage. The soil here is light and sandy and would require much manure, but I believe is capable of yielding fairly good crops. The importance of this place as a shipping port has already been recognized by the Messrs. Reid, who have frequently loaded and unloaded large steamers at the pier here. All the lumber from Suley's Brook and Glenwood mills has been ship-