

THE CLERGUE INDUSTRIES.

The great cause of the recent development and industrial prosperity of the town and surrounding district was the selection of this locality in 1894 by Mr. F. H. Clergue and a number of capitalists associated with him as the site for numerous inter-dependent manufacturing enterprises. The reasons which influenced this selection were the feasibility of securing enormous hydraulic power readily convertible into electric energy, and the quantity of raw material in the form of timber, pulp wood and minerals within easy access.

ALGOMA CENTRAL RAILWAY.

The Algoma Central Railway is one of the most important of the undertakings of Mr. Clergue and his associates so far as affects the opening up and populating of the district. It will run from Sault Ste. Marie to the Michipicoten mining district, and thence north to the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a distance of about 150 miles, with a branch line connecting it with Michipicoten Harbor. It will eventually be carried on through the Moose River country to Hudson's Bay. Its completion will give access to the extensive forests of Northern Algoma, which abound in spruce timber and the more valuable varieties of hardwoods. In the meantime its construction to Michipicoten will facilitate the transportation of ore from the Helen mine, situated 12 miles from Michipicoten Harbor on the northeast shore of Lake Superior, to the works at the Sault.

The land in the neighborhood of Sault Ste. Marie at Goulais Bay, along the Sault branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway and on St. Joseph's Island, has been largely taken up, but there remain a number of lots fit for settlement, though not of course equal in uniform fertility to those in occupation. They contain from 30 to 60 per cent. of fairly good arable soil. At Goulais Bay in Vankoughnet township a portion of the land belongs to the Dominion Government. About two-thirds of Vankoughnet, however, belonging to the Province, is open for settlement. The distance from Sault Ste. Marie is about 26 miles, and the town can be reached by a wagon road. The land about Goulais Bay is of variable character, and the country considerably broken. The valleys between the rocky heights have a soil of clay or sandy loam, the latter being the most productive and yielding well under judicious treatment.