

with. The farming lands, or what is commonly called the clay belt, borders upon the rocky strip of about one hundred miles or more to the north of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's transcontinental line and is reached by the Ontario Government Railway running north from North Bay. The clay is encountered at a point between Cobalt and Haileybury, and extends northward to James Bay.

An Incident on the Way.

While travelling eastward from Cochrane the writer was seated in the smoker and casually made a comment on the great amount of clearing that had been accomplished since the year previous. A man occupying the adjoining seat, who had been saying but little for some time, and was evidently much absorbed in everything he could see from the car windows, joined in the conversation. "This is a man's country," he began. "I have been up here only a month and I can eat pork now." He said later that he was a mechanic and had been engaged for several years with a large Toronto manufacturing firm. He and three of his fellow-workmen became dissatisfied with the progress they were making, and not having the best of health himself, decided to take a trip north to look the country over, all four of them.

"Well, what do you think of it now?" he was asked.

"What do I think of it? All four of us have located farms, and we have given up our jobs in Toronto, so I guess I don't think too badly of it, eh?"

All four of them proposed to spend three months at chopping and clearing their land this fall and to secure work at the mines in Cobalt during the winter months to apply to next year's expenses in making improvements.

Sir Wilfrid's Impressions.

During an address before an audience of over two thousand residents of Cochrane and Porcupine, on Saturday night, September 21st, Sir Wilfrid Laurier made reference to the great clay belt in a speech which his hearers knew came from his heart. He said in part: "How proud I am to-day of being here in the town of Cochrane and seeing with my own eyes the excellent clay lands. I know that we have here a section seven hundred miles in length by sixty miles at least in width of clay soil, equal in fertility to the Western provinces or the older sections of Ontario and Quebec. The valley that we have here I have found by my visit to Cochrane and along the Transcontinental Railway to-day is not surpassed in fertility by any in North America. The only difference between the West and here is that in New Ontario the settlers have the benefit of the wooded land, a great asset, while compared with older sections of Ontario and Quebec the