

have been made. Prominent among these is the Huronian lode, where a practical test of milling six hundred tons has been made, showing a minimum yield of seven and a half dollars, and a maximum of over ten dollars a ton. The lode is practically inexhaustible, and the great bulk of the ore is free milling, and consequently capable of being developed at very moderate cost. Taking these conditions into consideration, this mine is one of the most valuable on the continent, and one which should attract the attention of capitalists. Numerous other gold finds have been reported of late, some of which will doubtless prove valuable ones.

Efforts to locate the area in which the greatest mining wealth of the region, can be found, go to show, that stretching northwest, west, and particularly southwest from Thunder Bay for about one hundred miles, embraces an area which has seldom been equalled by any country for mineral wealth. At the distance named in a southwesterly direction, the great Atikokan range is reached, and here lies a mine of valuable iron ore, such as cannot be excelled on this continent, and possibly in the whole world.

The Atikokan range has a practically inexhaustible supply of rich magnetic iron ore, which shows but light traces of sulphur, scarcely any trace of phosphorus, and not a trace of titanium. Iron manufacturers in Chicago and elsewhere have tested this Atikokan ore, and pronounce it a fine smelting ore, of a grade higher than any yet worked on the Lake Shores, and its development on a large scale is dependant entirely upon railway communication. A line of fifty miles in length either from the C.P.R. main line, running south, or one of the same length from the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western, running to the north, would open up this valuable iron range, and furnish a route to quite a number of the new gold veins recently discovered. That this road will be built at an early date is certain, and only the depressed and uncertain state of monetary affairs prevents the work of construction from going on this present season. Anyhow, the months will not be many, until mining affairs in the Thunder Bay district will be active and rushing once more.

#### WESTWARD HO !

LEAVING Port Arthur and Fort William on the westward journey, the traveller soon loses sight of Lake Superior and as the locomotive snorts up the valley of the Kaministiquia, the traveller views a succession of beautiful woodland scenery, with just enough hill and valley to take away every thought of monotony. Through brush and timber over gorge and along hillside the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway makes its tortuous winding way, leaving the traveller buried at one moment in a wooded gorge, then rushing out suddenly into a broad expansive valley, where a view of the winding river is had. At some points you see the broad placid pool, then at others the boiling rapid or roaring cataract. The falls of Kakabeka are passed, one of the most beautiful cataracts of the west, where the poet or lover of untutored nature could linger forever over the scene. Quite extensive patches of cultivated lands are to be seen in the valley also, and there are thousands of acres of good lands there which will yet be brought under the care of the agriculturalist. Such is the succession of ever changing views to be met going westward up

this beautiful valley. But there is more than rustic beauty in the surroundings for the rocks around are rich in deudetic veins of valuable mineral ore which will yet contribute to the wealth of Canada, while away to the south and north of the railway line are millions of acres of pine and spruce timber as yet comparatively untouched by the axe of the woodsman.

The Kaministiquia Valley is passed through in less than two hours, the last bridge over the same is crossed, then the Mattawan is crossed and the last patches of cultivated land are lost to view and the traveller finds himself in that vast stretch of rough and irregular country which stretches from the Lake Superior slope to the edge of the Red River Valley on the westward.

Although this vast stretch is comparatively valueless for agricultural purposes the resources of the country are valuable nevertheless. This is the great timber region from which the treeless prairie land of the west must draw its lumber supplies for generations to come, and already the lumberman has cut swarth after swarth in the places near to the railway line, while the great forests beyond are comparatively untouched. The rocks too are mineral bearing, and the mining prospector has located many a claim between the Kaministiquia and the Lake of the Woods.

The appearance of the country is rough and the geological formation, or rather the utter absence of any order in formation, speaks of an age of volcanic anarchy which has left the tantalising geological chaos of to-day.

Although rough in surface the country as you travel westward furnishes a panorama of rock, lake, stream and wood, that is ever changing and yet ever beautiful. Some of the lakescenery is enchanting. Hay Lake, Eagle Lake, Vermillion Lake and Hawk Lake all have fairy-like scenery and after over two hundred miles of such travel the Lake of the Woods, the Queen of American Lakes, with its thousands of islands is reached, and here the traveller had better rest for a few days at the thriving town of Rat Portage or the busy village of Keewatin.

#### THE LAKE OF THE WOODS.

IT is simply impossible to give in print anything like a clear idea of the natural beauty of this lake and its islands, bays and channels, and the engravings illustrating this work show only a few among thousands of views equally and even more attractive in beauty. Why pleasure seekers do not swarm here in thousands during the summer season, instead of to resorts where the hotel bill of fare is the main attraction, is a matter hard to understand. But then there is no accounting for taste, even in selecting a place of resort for the summer months.

Here the traveller will meet with the Indian in his native wilds, and those he will meet will be the descendants of the once fierce Chippewas or Ojibewas, as their nationality is sometimes termed.

Strange to say, these poor aborigines are less contaminated with the vices of the white races than any other tribe of Indians which have been brought so much into contact with the whites. Another notable feature is, that there are fewer of them who can be claimed as converts to the Christian faith. They have but a limited knowledge of religion of any kind, but what they have is unquestionably Pagan. They have their Manitou, the great good spirit, and their Mache