

THE TEMISCAMINGUE COUNTRY,

A proportion of the party were "well-fixed" farmers and merchants who were going up to look at the country as a place where their sons or nephews could make a start.

Taking it altogether it was hardly possible to imagine a party of men better fitted by education, nationality, and hard, active outdoor labor, for the work of building up a new province on the broad fields looking toward James Bay.

One of their chief concerns was the railway, and they earnestly debated the likelihood of its early going in and whether it would start north from North Bay or from Mattawa. The railway was looked upon as an absolute necessity, in that in no other way could a market for bulky articles be provided.

The land in this district is surveyed on what is known as the checker-board system, in "sections," a mile square. Each section is sub-divided into "quarter-sections" 160 acres each, and 35 sections (six miles each way) form a township. Each settler is allowed to purchase 160 acres for himself, and also for each son over 18 years old, but no more land than this will be sold to one man. The price is 50 cents per acre, and settlement duties, which consist of building a house 16 x 18, and of clearing at least two acres per year till sixteen acres are cleared, but titles may be obtained in four years, if all the settlement duties have been performed. It is to be noted that all the titles issued in these new districts are under the Torrens' system, which is the system which is steadily growing in favor all over the Anglo-Saxon world.

This opening up of New Ontario, while it attracts very little attention and seems a very prosaic undertaking, is yet one of those events which awakens in the heart of the Briton that feeling of initiating and constructing power that animated the founders of Virginia and Upper Canada and Queensland and Cape Colony; and another evidence of that colonizing spirit which has caused English to be spoken in every part of the globe, and made Great Britain the greatest colonizing power in the history of the world.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

The land-seekers' excursion arrived at New Liskeard in Temiscamingue district on the evening of May 29, after a journey in which the weather clerk did his best to set at naught the efforts of those who had the arrangements in hand, and who planned everything thoroughly in advance. Owing to the large excursion it was feared that to add the special cars to the regular westbound train from Carleton Junction would delay it, and consequently the C.P.R. very considerably sent out a special which left Carleton Junction at midnight and landed the party in Mattawa in time for breakfast. The train ran out at 9 o'clock, and in a few minutes the land-seekers had crossed the Ottawa River, and were traveling up along the Quebec bank of the same toward Lake Temiscamingue, which is really a widening of the same river. This was a run of 28 miles to Temiscamingue Station, and it was through a series of magnificent views of the Ottawa, with its series of rapids after rapids, its rushing branch streams, and its banks two hundred feet high clothed in green, generally the green of the forest trees, from top to bottom.

The scenery here surpasses any conception that the dwellers of Old Ontario have formed of it, and it is only natural to find that the Upper Ottawa, and the Temiscamingue and Temiscamingue country is becoming more and more the resort of tourists. There is every reason why it should be so, for there is the convenience of access, the completeness of railway and steamboat service,