

winter-killed, and I have seen as fine specimens grown here as anywhere in the Province. Spring wheat, barley, oats, and peas are somewhat late in ripening, but are usually fairly abundant crops. The pea crop is noted for its fine sample, and is free from the weevil. Root crops are excellent.

"Hay is generally good and the country fairly adapted to grazing purposes. What I have said respecting the north shore will apply equally to the islands of Manitoulin, Barrie, Cockburn and St. Joseph, with the addition that they have a limestone formation rendering the soil warmer and producing a quicker and earlier growth. Small fruits abound and although a few apples have been produced in favorite localities, other large fruits are not attempted to be grown. Generally, with regard to the agricultural capabilities of the part of which I have spoken, I think it may fairly compare with the valley of the Ottawa from the Chats upwards.

"There are large tracts of good pine in this region and lumbering is carried on to a very considerable extent. Copper, iron, and argentiferous galena have been discovered in various places, but with the exception of Bruce Mines, where large quantities of copper have been extracted, its mining resources may be said to be undeveloped. It is hoped and reasonably believed that the completion of the C. P. Railway through the District, and of one to Sault Ste Marie, connecting with others on the south shore of Lake Superior, will give an impetus to the progress of the country which it has not before felt.

"With regard to the western portion of the district, I have but little personal knowledge, but in a general way, besides being on the highway to our Great North-West, I am led to believe that its chief national resources will be its lumbering and mining capabilities."

MR. E. BIGGINS, Editor and Publisher of the *Algoma Pioneer*, writes thus of Eastern Algoma, including the islands adjacent to the Canadian shore:

"For upwards of a quarter of a century the name 'Algoma District' has been a synonym for over one half of the Province of Ontario, and which has remained to a very great extent a veritable *terra incognita*. Until about fifteen years ago this extensive territory, embracing over 600 miles of coast line, if spoken of at all, was termed 'a God-forsaken country.' The Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald thought it such a worthless heritage that he seriously contemplated taking away our 'temporary judicial' organization and withdrawing all Government aid; and not until the year 1876, under Mr. Mowat's Administration, were any active steps taken by the Provincial