

As to the best mode of development: Probably a waggon road extending from the Long Sault to the head of the lake, with a short road from that to the lake region to the westward, would lead to the early occupation of these lands. But the construction of the projected railway from North Bay would be far better.

CIRCULAR LETTER FROM MR. JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Mr. John Armstrong, the Crown Lands agent for Lake Temiscamingue issued, in December, 1893, a circular from which the following extracts are taken:

I visited the District in October of 1893, and on my arrival there was glad to find that Mr. C. C. Farr had not exaggerated in his description of the new District and its possibilities, and in penning this circular I do not presume to add very much to what he has written, but rather to confirm and endorse, after a personal examination, what he says. I found that he knows the District well, and has a farm of eighty acres of as good clay land as can be found in Ontario, and is thoroughly qualified to write upon the subject. In calling attention to this new part of Ontario, I do not specially invite those who are comfortably settled on good lands in the Province to migrate to this new settlement, but my object is to recommend such a change to those who are living on rented farms, to young men (married or single) desirous of making a start in life, or to any who may be contemplating removal from the Province, or making a change, to first inspect these rich lands now open for sale at the small price of fifty cents per acre, payable in three payments, and subject to settlement duties. The District promises to be one of the best wheat-growing parts of the Province, as the soil is composed of rich clay, with a large percentage of lime and about nine inches of black muck on the surface, and is free from stones or rock. While in the District I had a good opportunity of seeing how the different cereals and roots had matured, and taking them as a whole, they compare favourably with any part of the Province. Summer frosts do not seem to injure the crops so much as I have noticed in other new countries. I was there on the 10th of October last, and the frost had not then injured the potato or tomato vines.

The District is also one of the greatest lumbering regions in the Dominion, thus creating a good market for all the farmers can produce and wages for all who require work in the winter months. The timber (apart from the pine lands) consists chiefly of large spruce and white wood, but there is money in it for the settlers, as pulp wood, which is now in great demand throughout the Districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound, selling at three dollars per cord for shipment to the United States. It does not need to be split but is shipped in the round. On account of the vast quantity of timber situated near the Lake and Rivers, some enterprising company will, no doubt, take advantage of it and establish a paper manufactory there and thus save the cost of shipping the wood to the United States. In that case the timber will be more valuable and will more than pay for clearing the lands.

The fare from Toronto to the head of Lake Temiscamingue by rail and steamboat is \$13.50. I will move to the District as soon as navigation opens next spring (1894) and will open a Crown Lands office there. In the meantime my Post Office address is Novar (District of Parry Sound), Ontario. Any communications or information respecting the sale and locating of lands for the District will be promptly attended to. In conclusion I might say that a number of people have already signified their intention of going up with me in the spring to take up land and form a colony. It is very desirable that as many as possible go at the same time. I should like to see at least 100 families locate in one settlement next spring. That number, with a little money and willing hands, would make a good settlement, and besides benefiting themselves, would hasten the settlement of the whole District. Come at least and see the country; the scenery on the way there, if nothing else, will compensate you for the outlay.